

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

FIELD OFFICE FILE
FOIPA PROCESSED

FEDERAL BUREAU

INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number

44-38861

"DO NOT DESTROY:
HISTORICAL VALUE,
NATIONAL ARCHIVES"

See also Nos.

SEE VOL 1
FOR LITIGATION

ENTIRE FILE REVIEWED
FOR HISTORICAL
DECLASSIFICATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/29/01 BY SP1-CEB/jdc

See Next Section

SHAW-WALKER 18-37972

44-1987-Sub E

CLASSIFICATION NO.

Volume Number

985 AA-1071

Serials

Miscellaneous
Suspects

DO NOT DESTROY
PENDING LITIGATION
2778 3/85 - conrad

DO NOT DESTROY
HISTORICAL VALUE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

of

See Next Section

WFO 44-703

JJM:psm

1

On April 13, 1968, Sergeant BERNARD F. KELLY, Homicide Squad, Metropolitan Police Department, telephonically advised SA JAMES J. MC CLOSKEY that JAMES K. BROWN, a cab driver, was in his office and had some information concerning the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING.

JAMES K. BROWN, 4811 Quarles Street, N.E., Apartment 1, telephone 397-2810, furnished the following information to SA MC CLOSKEY on April 13, 1968.

He drives Taxicab Number 264 for the Yellow Cab Company and normally drives between the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 or 2 a.m. He stated that he did not know if the following information is significant; however, after reading the local newspapers and noting that a suspect in the Dr. KING assassination was in the Merchant Marines, he decided he should relate his experience.

On Thursday evening, April 11, 1968, at about 6:30 p.m., he picked up three fares at the Grayhound Bus Depot. Two of the passengers were Negro males and the third was a white male. After delivering the two Negro males to their destination, he proceeded to the 100 block of 23rd Street, S.E., as requested by the white male, who was described as follows:

Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Age:	Mid 30s or late 20s
Height:	5 feet 9 inches - 5 feet 10 inches
Weight:	175 pounds
Build:	Slender
Hair:	Black and gray - bushy, unruly, uncombed

44-1987-Sub E-1049

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>h</i>	FILED <i>h</i>
JUN 10 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester *OK*

Other than the fact that this individual had a very firm chin, he was unable to recall any other physical characteristics. He assumed this individual was a fireman; however, when the passenger departed from the cab, he explained that he was in the Merchant Marines and had just flunked out of school and was returning home. This individual was attired in a new summer khaki uniform similar to the type worn by the Army and members of the fire department. His collar was open and he wore no tie or hat. He also wore a black waist-length jacket. He carried one brown suitcase and a soft back brown notebook. He said this individual appeared to be very relaxed and he does not recall him having any accent or brogue.

BROWN said this individual was apparently familiar with the area, as he attempted to direct BROWN to his residence on several occasions. He did not give a particular address, but BROWN recalls that he stopped near a post marked, 1616 23rd Street, S.E. The passenger, after leaving the cab, walked towards a group of apartments on the side of the street where the address post marked 1616 is located. He did not observe this individual in any particular apartment building, but recalls that there are three or four buildings in that location.

WFO 44-703

RWD:rwd

On April 22, 1968, JAMES K. BROWN, 4811 Quarles Street, Northeast, Washington, D. C., advised SA ROBERT W. DAMSON that the white male he picked up in his taxicab at the Greyhound Bus Depot and drove to the 2300 block of 23rd Street, Southeast, on April 11, 1968, did not resemble the photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, also known as Eric Starvo Galt.

44-1987-Sub E-1049A

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get

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DATE: 6/5/68

FROM : SAC, WFO (44-703) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Unknown White Male at Greyhound Bus
Depot, Washington, D. C., 4/11/68.

Enclosed for Memphis are 15 copies each of two report inserts relating to investigation of above matter.

WFO is not conducting further investigation in this incident.

2 - Memphis (Enc. 30)
1 - WFO
RWD
(3)



5010-108

44-1987-SUB E-1049B

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUN 10 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Buffalo, New York 14202
June 5, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY, Also known
as Eric Starvo Galt

ASSASSINATION OF REV. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR., MEMPHIS,
TENNESSEE, April 4, 1968

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Alleged Plot
In New York City, New York, to
Harm or Kill a Prominent
Negro Woman

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS,
November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

On June 4, 1968, there was received at the Buffalo, New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, a letter, dated May 31, 1968 from TAYLOR CALDWELL, 34 Audley End, Buffalo (26), New York, the contents of which will be set forth below.

TAYLOR CALDWELL is a world famous novelist, whose true name is Mrs. JANET T. C. REBACK. She is referred to from time to time in news articles as an outspoken foe of Communism. She is known as and admits to be an inveterate letter writer. She has frequently engaged in literary battles with persons who opposed her private and public statements. Close associates have described her imagination as vivid, and many of her statements as tending toward exaggeration.

On one occasion, Miss CALDWELL wrote an article which appeared in the October, 1960, issue of "The American Mercury," in which she alleged that an unnamed, American-born distinguished professor, in one of the large universities, was a Communist. When an attempt was made by a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to arrange an interview

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[Handwritten signature]

44-1987-Sub E-1050.

JAMES EARL RAY, Also known
as Eric Starvo Galt

ASSASSINATION OF PRES. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR., MEMPHIS,
TENNESSEE, 4/4/68

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Alleged Plot
In New York City, New York, to
Harm or Kill a Prominent
Negro Woman

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS,
November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

with Miss CALDWELL concerning this story, her husband, MARCUS
REBACK, a former official of the United States Immigration
and Naturalization Service, and who scheduled appointments
for Miss CALDWELL, stated it would serve no purpose for
the Federal Bureau of Investigation to interview Miss
CALDWELL regarding the article in "The American Mercury"
because the unnamed professor was non-existent, a figment
of Miss CALDWELL's imagination and a hypothetical situa-
tion employed by Miss CALDWELL to provoke public opinion.

On another occasion in September, 1968 when
Miss CALDWELL was being interviewed by a Special Agent
of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the presence
of her husband concerning an occurrence she had brought
to the attention of the Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Miss CALDWELL's husband flatly stated that the true cir-
cumstances of the occurrence were completely different
from the version given by Miss CALDWELL, after which the
latter materially modified her earlier statement.

The above mentioned letter received from Miss
CALDWELL on June 4, 1968, reads as follows:

"As I am always wary of giving you any
information which even vaguely sounds 'kooky'
to me, I now deeply regret that I did not

JAMES EARL RAY, Also known
as Eric Starvo Galt

ASSASSINATION OF REV. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR., MEMPHIS,
TENNESSEE, April 4, 1968

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Alleged Plot
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November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

inform you of something which my terrified Negro
businessman friend in New York wrote me last
October. It still disturbed me, however - though
it sounded very improbable - that I incorporated
it as a sort of warning in my article in the Buffalo
Evening News concerning events of 1968, earlier
this year, which you may have read, yourself. ESP
had nothing to do with that!

"He wrote me, if I remember accurately - as
I immediately destroy his letters at his urgent
request - that a meeting was held in New York
the latter part of last September, in which
plans were laid to 'throw the country into
chaos and revolution.' It was suggested that
a prominent Negro leader be assassinated, or at
least badly injured, in early 1968, 'as a start
to revolution.' He said that New York lawyer
and novelist, about whom I have written you
before, discussed this at length, and then re-
marked the matter would be given considerable
thought - later. My friend was not invited
'later,' for some reason or other which alarmed
him. But he was able to gether together a few
facts last October and write me about them.
He did not give me the source of his informa-
tion.

JAMES EARL RAY, Also known
as Eric Starvo Galt

ASSASSINATION OF REV. MARTIN
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TENNESSEE, April 4, 1968

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November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

"The man finally chosen was a white man, between the ages of 25 and 30, named Robert W---, some simple name such as Watson or Watkins or Wellock or Wilkins, from the vicinity of New Jersey, a crack shot, of fair complexion, light eyes either very light brown or blue-gray, medium brown hair, long thin face, very agile - and a 'Marxist.' My friends say you have had a dossier on him for several years in either New Jersey or New York. He followed Martin Luther King for several months before the assassination, which was scheduled for early March, not April, but the opportunity did not arise. 'They' wanted a larger city than Memphis, especially Washington. 'They' had thought of Carmichael or Brown, then settled on King. It was remarked that they had 'failed' with Mr. Kennedy, because they had thought to start nationwide riots against 'right wing extremists,' and a general blood-bath, and nothing happened. 'Only Oswald got caught,' they remarked, which led my friend to believe that others were implicated, too, in the Marxist assassination. Apparently 'they' don't believe in the Warren Commission Report, either, for good and sufficient reasons.

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November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

"Now he writes that 'something much worse' is
'going to happen soon.' He doesn't know what it
is, because he is being included less and less in
'conferences,' and is very frightened. He had
asked me to write you last October about the
planned assassination, and I did not, and he
now wonders 'if I can trust you.'

"He writes that a woman will be the focus-
point of the 'much worse,' and almost immediately,
but does not know who the woman is. She is a
Negro, however. He also writes that the man you
are looking for is working either in New Jersey or
'just outside of New York,' and is or was in the
Army and received a 'discharge without prejudice,'
whatever that means, though not an honorable dis-
charge. I thought they were the same. At any rate,
he is often in New York at 'conferences.' Then
it was decided to send him to Washington with the
'Poor People,' and is probably there now. (By the
way, he had accomplices in Memphis.)

"He never liked Martin Luther King, my friend
wrote last September, but reproaches me that if I
had written you in October you might have prevented
him from being murdered.

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November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

"This new information is also vague, but it may serve some purpose, though I don't see how. But remembering that letter of last October I thought it only right to let you know now. My friend also says that Mr. Johnson and Mr. Humphrey 'had better not' show themselves too openly in Washington, or be too available, in the very near future, but what threatens them he does not know. He just overheard 'hints.'"

"He fears, now, that he is suspected, so if you do any investigation on this information, don't try to find him or question him. He has a family. I know I will do all I can to protect him.

"Sincerely,

"(Miss) /s/ Taylor Caldwell

"P.S. My poor husband now lies at the point of death in the hospital - where he has been since March, 1967 - after he was attacked in our house by two of Earl Warren's pampered thugs. He is completely shattered in body and mind. He was a most brilliant man, and he has now become a confused, wandering, disoriented old shadow, and is unable even to feed himself or even to sit up, and is attended constantly

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November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

by private nurses. I brought a specialist from New York to see him recently, a Dr. Donald Louria; he told me frankly that my husband's destruction of mind and body had led to his present dying condition. If I knew who the thugs were I'd kill them, myself, so that some 'babe' of Earl Warren's would not set them free again to murder over and over.

"N.B. By the way, the Internal Revenue Service Center at Andover, Mass., has been opening letters addressed to me from all over the country, and then stamping the envelope: 'Opened by mistake.' I thought they were genuine 'mistakes,' and threw away all letters but one - and you may see it if you wish. For instance, how could a letter addressed to me by a fan from Syracuse, N.Y., find its way to Andover, Mass.? That was the one I kept. I can't imagine what the rascals are up to, but I have long had reason to suspect them, as files in your office will show."

In June 4, 1968, a telephone call was made to Miss CALDWELL by a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, requesting an interview with her for any additional details she might be able to furnish in connection with the contents of the above letter.

JAMES EARL RAY, Also known
as Eric Starvo Galt

ASSASSINATION OF REV. MARTIN
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Miss CALDWELL stated she is extremely busy and upset, that her husband is at the brink of death in the hospital, that she is in the midst of preparing two speeches for delivery in California later this month, and that she would have no time for a personal interview for at least two weeks or perhaps longer. She stated all the facts known to her are set forth in her letter. She pointed out that under no circumstances would she disclose the identity of the friend who had supplied her with the information set forth in the letter. She said she no longer has any of his letters because in keeping with a promise made to him, she burns them immediately after reading them.

When asked for the name of the New York lawyer she mentions in the second paragraph of her letter, Miss CALDWELL replied that this lawyer's name is WILLIAM KUNSTLER, adding she had previously advised the Federal Bureau of Investigation that KUNSTLER in her opinion is a Communist.

Miss CALDWELL was then asked if she could furnish any data on the source of her information which would aid in evaluating the reliability of this source. She then replied she has never met this source, but that he is a person who started writing to her about five years ago after reading one of her books. He has

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TENNESSEE, April 4, 1968

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in New York City, New York, to
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November 22, 1963

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described himself in his letters as a Negro businessman who owns a business in Harlem. He has written to Miss CALDWELL from four or five different addresses, which she states indicates to her that he has had to move around for fear of his life. She has written back to him on several occasions, and two or three of her letters were returned to her marked "Unknown at this address," but most of her letters were delivered. On several occasions when she knew she was going to be in New York City, she wrote to her friend requesting that he come to see her at her hotel, but he never came. She recalled that one address he had given her was somewhere on West 114th Street.

Miss CALDWELL added she believes her friend is a member of the John Birch Society, because he has made reference frequently to articles she has written for the publication of this society entitled "American Opinion." She added that when this man first started writing to her, the letters were merely friendly and pleasant, expressing admiration of her writing and dealing with general political observations of World War I and World War II. However, commencing in the Fall of 1967, he began writing about his knowledge of the assassination plot of a prominent Negro leader, ultimately designated as Rev. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

She said her first reaction was that his statements along this line sounded "kooky" so she ignored them, except for the fact that in a newspaper article she wrote in October, 1967, which was not published until February, 1968, and in which she made a predication of major events to occur in 1968, she did predict the assassination of a prominent Negro leader, being influenced in this predication by what her friend had written to her.

Miss CALDWELL was then asked whether she would suggest to her friend that he contact the Federal Bureau of Investigation in New York City. She replied she knows he would not do so, because he had written to her in the past that about four years ago he had contacted the Federal Bureau of Investigation to furnish information that "an FBI under-cover agent in an organization" was under suspicion. However, according to the friend, the Federal Bureau of Investigation wanted more and more information, so he broke off contact with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The friend also claimed that shortly after contacting the Federal Bureau of Investigation, he had begun to receive anonymous threatening letters, making him realize that his contacts with the Federal Bureau of Investigation had been observed. Miss CALDWELL stated that based on the letters received from her friend, she believes him to be a very intelligent man, but who is now completely terrified by the plot of which he is aware and also apparently by the fear that

JAMES EARL RAY, Also known
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ASSASSINATION OF REV. MARTIN
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TENNESSEE, April 4, 1968

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in New York City, New York, to
Harm or Kill a Prominent
Negro woman

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FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS,
November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

he himself is under suspicion, as indicated by a comment
in one of his letters that he was not even invited to
"Resurrection City" and cannot understand why, unless
it is because he is no longer trusted.

Miss CALDWELL stated at one point in the
conversation that she had just received another letter
from her friend "yesterday," but when questioned about
the contents, completely ignored the questions and
then reverted to a statement that the last letter from
her friend arrived a few days before her own letter
to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Miss CALDWELL then proceeded to state that
because of her husband's confinement, everything at
her residence is in a state of chaos and that she is
"simply going out of my mind." She said that pre-
viously her husband had taken care of all her business
affairs, that she is killing herself going back and
forth to the hospital, that she has had to give up
her whole career to take care of her husband, and that
"all this is too much for me." She said she herself
is under constant medical care and does not know why
she has "to put up with all of this mess."

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as Eric Starvo Galt

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TENNESSEE, April 4, 1968

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ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
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November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

Miss CALDWELL continued by stating her husband's
critical condition and the resultant "messing up" of her
own life is all the fault of "Warren of the Supreme Court
who let all those criminals loose," and made it possible
for them to viciously attack her husband and rob their
house.

In this connection, it is noted that according
to articles which appeared in the local press, two armed
men had broken into Miss CALDWELL's residence on March 20,
1967 when she, her husband, and their housekeeper were
all present, had demanded jewelry, and beaten and attempted
to smother Miss CALDWELL, but then had fled empty-handed.

On March 27, 1967, Miss CALDWELL had written
a letter to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in which
she related the circumstances of the above break-in,
and in which she stated that the man who had seized
her husband at the time of the break-in had forced
him down on the stairs with a gun at his back, but
"made no effort to otherwise hurt my husband." Miss
CALDWELL in the letter said she believed the objective
of the break-in had not been robbery, but an attempt
to kill her because of her anti-Communist activity.

This document contains neither recommendations
nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the
FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents
are not to be distributed outside your agency.

-12*-

F B I

Date: 6/5/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL - REGISTERED
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (44-374) (P)

MURKIN
(OO Memphis)UNSUBS; Alleged Plot in
New York City, New York,
to Harm or Kill a Prominent
Negro WomanASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS,
TEXAS, 11/22/63POCAM
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY

There are enclosed herewith for Bureau 10
copies of an LHM setting out a letter received at
Buffalo Office on 6/4/68 from TAYLOR CALDWELL which

- 6 - Bureau (Enc. 12) (RM)
 (1 - 62-10960) (ASSASSINATION OF PRES.
 J. F. KENNEDY)
 (1 - 100-106670) (WILLIAM MOSES KUNSTLER)
 (1 - 157-8428) (POCAM) *mzn*
 ② - Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 2) (RM)
 3 - New York (Enc. 3) (RM)
 (1 - 100-146994) (WILLIAM MOSES KUNSTLER)
 5 - Buffalo
 (1 - 62-1827) (ASSAS. OF PRES. J. F. KENNEDY)
 (1 - 62-1305) (Mrs. JANET REBACK)
 (1 - 157-623) (POCAM)

TJS:cah
(16)

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Hester

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
 Special Agent in Charge

BU 44-374

deals with all four captioned matters. Two copies of LHM are enclosed for Memphis as OO in MURKIN case, and three copies of LHM are enclosed for New York, since it is alleged locus of plots set forth, with one of these copies being for New York file on WILLIAM MOSES KUNSTLER.

For info of Bureau, information previously received on various matters from TAYLOR CALDWELL has been set forth in following communications to Bureau:

- (1) Buffalo let to Bureau, 7/23/62, captioned "AMERICAN NAZI PARTY, RM."
- (2) Buffalo let to Bureau, 8/15/63, captioned "MRS. JANET T. C. REBACK, aka, INFO CONCERNING."
- (3) Buffalo let to Bureau, 12/18/63, captioned "TAYLOR CALDWELL, aka, INFORMATION CONCERNING."
- (4) Buffalo let to Bureau, 9/16/64, captioned "WILLIAM KUNTZLER, aka, SM-C," (Bureau file 100-106670).
- (5) Buffalo let to Bureau, 4/30/65, captioned "TAYLOR CALDWELL, aka, INFO CONCERNING."
- (6) Buffalo let to Bureau, 10/27/65, captioned "TAYLOR CALDWELL, aka, INFO CONCERNING."
- (7) Buffalo airtel to Bureau, 11/18/66, captioned "ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY, 11/22/63, DALLAS, TEXAS."

These communications have been itemized so Bureau itself can better evaluate Miss CALDWELL and information furnished by her.

The above communications and a review of Buffalo Office files reflect that TAYLOR CALDWELL (whose true name is Mrs. JANET T. C. REBACK) is a world famous novelist, that she is an inveterate letter writer, possessed of a vivid imagination, and is inclined to intermingle fact with fiction indiscriminately; that she is prone to carry on literary battles through the mails and in publications

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with various and sundry persons throughout the world; and that she has a proclivity for furnishing information to other government agencies in addition to the FBI.

The information set forth in the LHM is being furnished to the Bureau and interested Offices, principally because of the serious nature of the charges, Miss CALDWELL's prominent position, and the possibility that she may at some future time claim she furnished pertinent information to the FBI, which received no attention.

Buffalo is making no local dissemination of the LHM, and whether or not any dissemination should be made at Washington, D.C., is being left to the discretion of the Bureau.

No action, other than possible dissemination at the Seat of Government to Secret Service because of intimation of threats of harm to President JOHNSON and Vice President HUMPHREY included in the material furnished by Miss CALDWELL, is recommended, on the basis that prior experience with Miss CALDWELL reflects she is unreliable and possibly demented. It would appear that a person in her position would place the welfare of the U.S. above an alleged loyalty to a correspondent, whom she has never met, and that she would disclose the identity of her correspondent so he could be located and questioned if he does, in fact, exist and if he did in fact send her the information she claims to have received.

It is pointed out that in the telephonic interview conducted with Miss CALDWELL by SA THADDEUS J. SZYMANSKI on 6/4/68, it was suggested to her that in the future she send any letters received from her friend to the FBI, deleting his signature if she feels so obligated, but so the FBI would have his exact wording for purposes of evaluation. She first replied this would be a violation of her promise to destroy her friend's letters. She then stated possibly she could Xerox the letters, and send the Xerox copies to the FBI, and then destroy the originals, which would mean she was honoring her promise. Finally, she stated that doing this would bother her conscience, and that anyway she felt her friend would not write anymore because he sounded

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so terrified in his last letter. Miss CALDWELL's responses throughout the telephonic interview of 6/4/68 emphasized her unwillingness to be interviewed in person concerning this matter, and reflected a desire on her part to go into great detail on extraneous matters rather than on the alleged plots.

It is acknowledged by the Buffalo Office that there is considerable detail in the LHM dealing with Miss CALDWELL herself and prior FBI experiences with her. It is felt this data is essential to an appropriate evaluation of the serious charges contained in her letter should the Bureau feel compelled to disseminate the LHM.

Unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau, the Buffalo Office will make no further effort to personally interview Miss CALDWELL re instant matters, and will simply acknowledge receipt of any further data from her in this matter without incorporating the information into LHMs for the Bureau.



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Buffalo, New York
June 7, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY, also known
as Eric Starvo Galt

ASSASSINATION OF REV. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR., MEMPHIS,
TENNESSEE, April 4, 1968

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Alleged Plot
In New York City, New York, to
Harm or Kill a Prominent Negro
Woman

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS,
November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

At 3:45 P. M., on June 6, 1968, a telephone call
was received at the Buffalo Office of the Federal Bureau
of Investigation from TAYLOR CALDWELL, an authoress, whose
true name is Mrs. JANET T. C. REBACK, and who resides at
34 Audley End, Buffalo (26), New York.

Miss CALDWELL immediately referred to a letter
she had recently mailed to the Buffalo Office of the Federal
Bureau of Investigation predicting "that something terrible
was going to happen," to the fact that on June 4, 1968, a
Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation had
telephonically discussed this letter with her, and she
stated she now wished to furnish additional developments.

She said that on the afternoon of June 4, 1968,
shortly after discussing her letter with a Special Agent of

44-1987-Sub E-1050B

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUN 10 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester JCH

JAMES EARL RAY, also known
as Eric Starvo Galt

ASSASSINATION OF REV. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR., MEMPHIS,
TENNESSEE, April 4, 1968

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Alleged Plot
In New York City, New York, to
Harm or Kill a Prominent Negro
Woman

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS,
November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

the Federal Bureau of Investigation, she had gone outside to plant some flowers in front of her home. While so engaged, she noticed a young man on a motor bike ride by in the street in front of her home several times. Finally, this young man stopped directly in front of her home and commenced speaking with her. She states she was surprised to see on close observation that this young man was a Negro, whereas when she had seen him from a slight distance, he appeared to be Caucasian.

According to Miss CALDWELL, the first thing this young Negro said to her was, "Do you know DONALD JACKSON?"

Miss CALDWELL said she replied, "I know him well." (Miss CALDWELL explained at this point that she knows a Negro in Buffalo named DONALD JACKSON, who is head of the Donald Jackson Foundation, the purpose of which is to raise money to provide educational scholarships for meritorious and needy Negro students. She stated that she has given financial and other assistance to DONALD JACKSON, and immediately assumed that this is the DONALD JACKSON the young man was inquiring about.)

Miss CALDWELL went on to state that the next thing the young Negro said to her was "Did you tell Secret Service what our friend in New York wanted you to tell them?"

JAMES EARL RAY, also known
as Eric Starvo Galt

ASSASSINATION OF REV. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR., MEMPHIS,
TENNESSEE, April 4, 1968

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Alleged Plot
In New York City, New York, to
Harm or Kill a Prominent Negro
Woman

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS,
November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

Miss CALDWELL said she replied, "You mean about
the Negro woman?"

The young man allegedly said, "No! No! You've got
that mixed up."

Miss CALDWELL allegedly replied, "I told the FBI."

The young Negro then allegedly replied, "You should
have told the Secret Service. Anyway, it's too late now."

Miss CALDWELL stated that almost immediately
thereafter, the young Negro drove away on his motor bike,
the entire conversation having lasted about one or two
minutes. She stated that she had never seen this young
Negro before, and described him as about 19 years of age,
wearing a dark sleeveless shirt, blue jean trousers, and
as being very well spoken. She conjectured he is a stu-
dent because strapped on the back seat of his motor bike
had been two or three text books.

Miss CALDWELL stated she had been completely
startled when she had heard the young Negro refer to
"our friend in New York," but had immediately assumed
that the reference made was to the Negro businessman in
New York City who had recently written to her that "some-
thing terrible is going to happen."

JAMES EARL RAY, also known
as Eric Starvo Galt

ASSASSINATION OF REV. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR., MEMPHIS,
TENNESSEE, April 4, 1968

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Alleged Plot
In New York City, New York, to
Harm or Kill a Prominent Negro
Woman

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS,
November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

Miss CALDWELL then made reference to the recent assassination in Los Angeles of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY and proceeded to speculate that perhaps this was the "terrible thing about to happen" that her Negro friend from New York City had written to her about, and which information she in turn had forwarded to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. She acknowledged that in her letter to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, she had described the incident about to occur as involving an unknown Negro woman, but now wondered whether she may possibly have misinterpreted the Negro businessman's letter. She speculated that perhaps what the Negro businessman had been trying to tell her was that a Negro woman was to be involved in the incident in some way, but not necessarily as the victim.

Miss CALDWELL concluded by stating she felt Senator KENNEDY's death was more than just a mere coincidence, that she is "not a believer in coincidence," and that there must definitely be some connection between the information she had previously received and Senator KENNEDY's death.

Attention is directed to the fact that Miss CALDWELL in her telephone call of June 6, 1968, to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, stated that her conversation with the unidentified young Negro occurred while

JAMES EARL RAY, also known
as Eric Starvo Galt

ASSASSINATION OF REV. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR., MEMPHIS,
TENNESSEE, April 4, 1968

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Alleged Plot
In New York City, New York, to
Harm or Kill a Prominent Negro
Woman

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS,
November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

she was planting flowers in front of her home on the afternoon of June 4, 1968, and that she also stated she had gone outside to plant these flowers shortly following a telephone conversation with a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, on June 4, 1968.

It is noted that a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation did, in fact, have a telephone conversation with Miss CALDWELL from about 4:35 P. M. to 4:50 P. M., on June 4, 1968. During an earlier telephone call to the CALDWELL residence on June 4, 1968, the Special Agent was told by a housekeeper, who answered the telephone, that Miss CALDWELL was asleep, that it is Miss CALDWELL's practice to work through the night and sleep during the day, and that Miss CALDWELL would be available to answer the telephone at about 4:30 P. M.

When the Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation did telephonically contact Miss CALDWELL at about 4:35 P. M., on June 4, 1968, he requested a personal interview with Miss CALDWELL concerning a letter which had been received from her earlier that day. Miss CALDWELL replied she was not available for interview then because she was hurrying to get ready to visit her husband, who is in the hospital on the brink of death, and that because of her busy schedule, she would have no time for a personal interview for at least two weeks or perhaps longer.

JAMES EARL RAY, also known
as Eric Starvo Galt

ASSASSINATION OF REV. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR., MEMPHIS,
TENNESSEE, April 4, 1968

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Alleged Plot
In New York City, New York, to
Harm or Kill a Prominent Negro
Woman

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS,
November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

This document contains neither recommendations nor
conclusions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It is the
property of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and is loaned
to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed
outside your agency.

FBI

Date: 6/7/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL - REGISTERED MAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (44-374) (P)

MURKIN
(OO: Memphis)

UNSUBS; Alleged Plot in
New York City, New York,
to Harm or Kill a Prominent
Negro Woman

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS,
TEXAS, 11/22/63

POCAM
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY

Re Buffalo airtel and LHM, dated 6/5/68, captioned
as above.

There are enclosed herewith for the Bureau ten
copies of an LHM, dated and captioned as above. Two copies
are enclosed for Memphis, as Office of Origin in MURKIN case;

- 6 - Bureau (Encs. 12) (RM)
 - (1 - 62-10960, ASSASSINATION OF PRES.
J. F. KENNEDY)
 - (1 - 100-106670, WILLIAM MOSES KUNSTLER)
 - (1 - 157-8428, POCAM)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Encs. 2) (RM)
- 3 - New York (Encs. 3) (RM)
 - (1 - 100-146994, WILLIAM MOSES KUNSTLER)
- 5 - Buffalo
 - (1 - 62-1827, ASSAS. OF PRES. J. F. KENNEDY)
 - (1 - 62-1305, Mrs. JANET REBACK)
 - (1 - 157-623, POCAM)

TJS:mfm
(16)

44-1987-SUB E-1050C

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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[Handwritten signature]

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

BU 44-374

and three copies of LHM are enclosed for New York, as alleged locus of plots mentioned in referenced LHM, with one copy for New York file on WILLIAM MOSES KUNSTLER.

Buffalo is making no local dissemination of instant LHM, and whether or not any dissemination should be made at SOG is being left to discretion of the Bureau.

The information set forth in instant LHM is being furnished to the Bureau and interested offices principally because of the serious nature of the alleged information furnished and Miss CALDWELL's prominent position as a world-famous novelist, although previous experience with Miss CALDWELL demonstrates she has a penchant for intermingling fact and fiction indiscriminately, and has, in the past, published an article bearing on the internal security of the United States representing it to be factual whereas it was completely fictional.

Miss CALDWELL is now attempting to twist information recently furnished by her as evidencing advance information concerning the death of Senator KENNEDY, despite available facts as set forth in referenced LHM definitely indicating otherwise.

Specific attention is directed to the fact as set forth in instant LHM that when SA THADDEUS J. SZYMANSKI telephoned Miss CALDWELL on June 4, 1968, she said she was unavailable for interview because she was hurrying to go to the hospital to see her husband who was on the brink of death. On June 6, 1968, she told SA SZYMANSKI that after talking with him on June 4, 1968, she had gone out to the front of her home to plant flowers.

Because of Miss CALDWELL's known unreliability, no action is recommended on the information being furnished by her, other than possible dissemination by the Bureau of this information because it is very possible Miss CALDWELL may proceed to furnish the same information to other governmental agencies, or may proceed to publish the information she has furnished.

WFO 44-703

KLP:mam

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA's ROBERT F. PETTY and KENNETH L. PLESS:

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

On April 16, 1968, MINNIE WRIGHT, Supervisor, Medical Records, Morris Cafritz Memorial Hospital, 1310 Southern Avenue, S. E., Washington, D. C., advised that Mr. CARROLL T. ANDERSON was admitted to the Psychiatric Ward of the hospital on April 5, 1968 and discharged April 13, 1968. His doctor was OSWALD TODD, Psychiatrist. She advised that GERALD HIRSHMAN was admitted March 22, 1968 and discharged April 6, 1968.

She advised that ANDERSON was a white male, age 41, born [redacted] address of 2405 Kenton Place, Hillcrest Heights, Maryland, and was married to BERNICE ANDERSON.

On April 17, 1968, Dr. OSWALD TODD, Psychiatrist, Morris Cafritz Memorial Hospital, 1310 Southern Avenue, S. E., was advised of the purpose of the interview. He advised, upon viewing Wanted Flyer Number 442 of ERIC STARVO GALT, that this was definitely not the same person as CARROLL T. ANDERSON or GERALD HIRSHMAN, who were both patients of his. He described HIRSHMAN as a lecherous S. O. B., and was a real psycho, who prefabricated stories for his own benefit. He stated that he knew HIRSHMAN was the person who must have said ANDERSON looked like GALT.

44-1987-Sub E-1051

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester

2

WFO 44-703

RWD:rwd

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

On April 13, 1968, GIRARD HIRSHMAN, advised SA WILLIAM R. MCCARTHY, that the artists sketch of the killer of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., which appeared in "The Washington Post", a Washington, D. C., newspaper, on April 13, 1968, closely resembled an individual in Ward 4-East of Cafritz Hospital. According to HIRSHMAN, who was also a patient in this ward (psychiatric), this person, whose last name he recalled as ANDERSON, had arrived at the hospital about three days after the death of Dr. KING.

HIRSHMAN stated he did not have an address in Washington, D. C., but was staying with friends at 13th and H Streets, Northeast, telephone LI3-8420.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DATE: 6/6/68

FROM : SAC, WFO (44-703) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re CARROLL T. ANDERSON

Enclosed for Memphis are 15 copies each of two report inserts reflecting investigation of ANDERSON.

WFO is conducting no further investigation concerning ANDERSON.

2 - Memphis (Enc 30)
1 - WFO
RWD
(3)

44-1987-Sub E-1051A

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
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FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester *qpk*



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/18/68

1

Mrs. HAROLD (ELEANOR) HILL, 3002 Pearl Drive, Suitland, Maryland said the photograph of ERNEST STARVO GALT which appeared in the "Washington Post" on 4/18/68 looks like a photograph of a person she met several times in the fall of 1967 at a hillbilly type night club, the "Surf Club" in the Colmar Manor area of Bladensburg, Maryland.

Mrs. HILL said this person asked her to dance several times and she refused as she is married. He also offered to buy her a beer which she declined. She added she met him in September, October or November, 1967 on Friday or Saturday evenings. The extent of her conversations with him were his asking her to dance and her refusal. She added her mother HELEN CHATLIN, 3002 Pearl Drive, Suitland, Maryland also saw this person but she has not discussed the photograph which appeared in the "Post" with her mother as her mother is a cab driver for the Washington Cab Company.

She said a person known as "NELLIE" works behind the bar at the Surf Club. The manager of the club is CHICK HILL who plays in the band there.

Mrs. HILL furnished the following description of the person she believes is ERNEST STARVO GALT:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5'6"
Weight	175-180 pounds
Build	Stocky
Age	Approximately 38

44-1987-Sub E-1052

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
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FBI - MEMPHIS	

[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]

On 4/18/68 at Washington, D. C. File # WFO 44-703

by SA ROGER D. ASHLAND:rda Date dictated 4/18/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

WFO 44-703

2

Hair

Brownish-

Black (Worn a little longer than
a crew cut)

She said he usually stood at the bar and she could not recall having ever seen him there with anyone accompanying him. He usually wore plaid short sleeve shirts with blue plaid or small checks design. She added he was a gentleman and talked very nice to her. Mrs. HILL said she believes this person was at the Surf Club the Friday or Saturday evening dances she attended during September, October or November, 1967. She said he was there about two or three times when she was there. He always appeared clean and neat. She said she does not know his name. She added he tried to get a date with her but she refused.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DATE: 6/6/68

FROM : SAC, WFO (44-703) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Unknown White Male Visitor at
Surf Club, Bladensburg, Maryland

Re WFOairtels to BA 4/18 & 19/68 (no copies to
Memphis) re interviews of ELEANOR HILL and HELEN MARIE
CHATLIN.

Enclosed for Memphis are 15 copies of IRF
reflecting interview of Mrs. HARLOD (ELEANOR) HILL.

For the information of Memphis, Mrs. HELEN MARIE
CHATLIN, who requested her identity protected, stated the
unknown individual described by her daughter, Hill, was a
truck driver or helper, apparently with North American Van
Lines, Tuxedo, Maryland.

Baltimore furnish results of investigation
to Memphis.

2 - Memphis (Enc. 15)
2 - Baltimore (44-669)
1 - WFO
RMD
(5)

44-1987-Sub E-1052A

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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Hester



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date May 3, 1968

JAMES TROY GOOCH, Jr. was contacted at the District of Columbia jail and consented to be interviewed after acknowledging the contents of the Waiver of Rights form, which he refused to sign.

He stated that he had arrived in Washington, D. C. from Richmond, Virginia, via Greyhound Bus, at approximately twelve noon on April 4, 1968. He stated that the bus fare was \$3.80, and that upon his arrival in Washington, D. C., he shipped his two suitcases back to his parents home at 5210 Crest Drive, Kansas City, Kansas. He stated that he had lunch near the terminal and then started drinking before looking for a job. He stated that he got drunk and then was arrested by the Metropolitan Police Department, but refused to discuss the reasons for his arrest.

He admitted having a .38 caliber snub nose revolver and forty-five rounds of ammunition in his possession. He denied knowing the gun was stolen, stating that he purchased it from a bum on Madison Street, in Chicago, in February, 1968. He stated that he purchased the gun for his personal protection, as he travels a good deal, and paid \$25.00 for it. He stated that he has never been in Denver, Colorado, and was working for Manpower, Incorporated, Cleveland, Ohio, in October, 1967.

He stated that he has never known anyone by the name of JAMES EARL RAY or ERIC STARBO GALT, and denied any complicity in the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING. He stated that he has never been in Memphis, Birmingham, or Atlanta. He stated that he had worked approximately three to four weeks in Richmond for Employers Overload Company.

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

On 4/26/68 at Washington, D. C.

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FBI - MEMPHIS	
File #	WFO 44-703

by SA WAYNE R. GILBERT:vlr

Date dictated 5/1/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

WFO 44-703

2

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Height:	Five Feet Two Inches
Weight:	One Hundred Fifty Pounds
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Brown
United States Marine	
Corp Number:	
Social Security Number:	
Scars or Marks:	USMC Tattooed on Left Arm Four-Inch Scar on Chest

WFO 44-703

RWD:rwd

1

The following investigation was conducted at Washington, D. C.:

On April 16, 1968, Sergeant MARFIZO, Central Cellblock, Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), advised SA JOHN F. CUNNINGHAM that one JAMES TROY GOOCH, JR., had been arrested by the MPD for unauthorized use of vehicle and carrying concealed weapon (.38 caliber pistol). He had on his person an airplane ticket indicating he had arrived in Washington at 10:12 p.m. on April 4, 1968, the point of origin of the flight was unknown. GOOCH also had a Kansas driver's license with address of 5210 Crest Drive, Kansas City, Kansas.

On April 23, 1968, SAs WAYNE R. GILBERT and JAMES W. NORMENT, JR., compared the MPD fingerprints for GOOCH with the fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY and were found not identical. GOOCH is assigned FBI number 206 076F. The physical description of GOOCH does not fit the description of the killer of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

44-1987-Sub E-1053A

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DATE: 6/7/68

FROM : SAC, WFO (44-703) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re JAMES TROY GOOCH, JR.

Enclosed for Memphis are 15 copies each of IRF and report insert reflecting investigation re GOOCH.

For the information of Memphis the gun in the possession of GOOCH at the time of his arrest was a .38 caliber S & W snubnose. NCIC advised that the gun, serial number 392784, had been reported stolen by the Denver PD as of 10/5/67. This information was furnished to Officer RICHARD DEANE, Metropolitan Police Department, WDC, on 4/24/68.

WFO is conducting no further investigation concerning GOOCH.

2 - Memphis (Enc. 30)
1 - WFO
RWD
(3)

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FBI - MEMPH	

[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

F B I

Date: 6/7/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (44-1609)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re GEORGE (LNU) at Oasis Bar and Terminal Hotel.

Re Atlanta TT to Bureau dated 6/5/68.

Investigation at The Oasis, 206 W. 23rd St., NYC,
and Terminal Hotel, 184 11th Ave., NYC, negative regarding
subject JAMES EARL RAY.

SUBJECT RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

2 - Memphis
1 - Atlanta (44-2386)
1 - New York

JFS:mbg
(5)

44-1987-Sub E-1054

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
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FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle

Approved: JFS
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

6/7/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, RICHMOND (44-651)

FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703) (P)

MURKIN

RONALD W. NEWMAN, 8300 15th Avenue, Adelphi, Md., home telephone 434-6076, telephonically advised that he was at the Tyson Restaurant and saw an individual who closely resembled the suspect in this case. He said the individual was buying a take-out order and when the suspect left he did so in a late model Buick Riviera, dark green body with ivory top. The suspect was wearing a light shirt and dark slacks and had medium length hair. The vehicle had no license plate on the front and caller was unable to see the rear of it, nor did he see which direction on Route 7 the suspect went.

This confirms telephonic advice to SA ARNOLD G. SCHULMAN of the Alexandria RA. Richmond attempt to identify.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

**2-Richmond
1-Baltimore (Info) (44-669)
2-Memphis (44-1987)
1-WFO**

**MLM:bap
(6)**

AIRTEL

44-1987-SUB E-1055

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUN 10 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle *RB*

PH

E

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 6/11/68

FROM : SA DON C. BIRDWELL

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re telephone call from Memphis night club to SA DON C. BIRDWELL 6/8/68 based on phone call from Supervisor PETERSON at Bureau same evening.

This investigation was based on the phone call from the Bureau to the Memphis Division on the evening of 6/7-8/68 in which it was learned that an individual who identified himself as R. W. TROTTER, Telephone No. 343-2129, Cunningham, Tennessee, telephoned the Pentagon in Washington, D. C., earlier that evening and reportedly said he was the killer of MARTIN LUTHER KING. He also said he was acquainted with the Sheriff PLUMMER of Montgomery County, Tennessee, and that he knew the girl in the polka dot dress who was observed at the scene of the shooting of Senator KENNEDY in Los Angeles.

On 6/8/68 Sheriff JOEL PLUMMER and Deputies BOBBY STANLEY and BOBBY HEATON, Montgomery County SO, advised that ROBERT WADE TROTTER, resident of Rural Route 1, Cunningham, Tenn., is a local painter who has in the past served a prison sentence but the charge was unknown to them. According to the Montgomery County SO records, TROTTER was arrested 5/3/67 and again on 7/17/67 for assault and battery. He was described in the records as follows:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
DOB:	
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	190 lbs.
Hair:	Red
Eyes:	Blue

DCB:gmh
(1)



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Plan

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ME 44-1987

Deputies STANLEY and HEATON advised that TROTTER has on approximately 6 occasions in recent months provided information to them reportedly regarding the sale of illegal drugs and the location of illegal whiskey stills in Montgomery County. Full investigations based on the complaints of TROTTER have proven the information supplied by TROTTER in each instance was inaccurate and unreliable.

Sheriff PLUMMER and the two abovementioned deputies all consider TROTTER completely unreliable, untrustworthy and an alcoholic.

Deputies STANLEY and HEATON accompanied the writer to TROTTER's residence on 6/8/68, at which time an attempt was made to interview him regarding the phone call made to Washington earlier that morning which resulted in an immediate denial by TROTTER. TROTTER indicated in the interview that he was a supporter of GEORGE WALLACE for President and claimed that if WALLACE is elected, he, TROTTER, will be a "big man."

When further efforts were made to interview TROTTER regarding the phone call made by a person using his name and telephone number to Washington, D. C., TROTTER again denied making the phone call and denied that he had any information concerning the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING or the murder of Senator ROBERT KENNEDY. He refused to be interviewed further and ordered the interviewing Agent and Deputies off his property, stating that if they wished to return to his property they had better have in their possession a warrant for the arrest of him.

In view of the attitude of TROTTER, the interview was concluded.

Deputy HEATON ascertained from Mrs. ELLIOTT, a Long-Distance Operator with the Bell Telephone Company in Clarksville, that a man who identified himself as R. W. TROTTER, Telephone No. 342-2129, Cunningham, Tenn., placed a Long-Distance telephone call to Governor GEORGE WALLACE at Montgomery, Alabama, at 12:48 a.m., 6/8/68, but the Office of the Governor refused the call. This same person at 12:52 a.m., telephoned the Pentagon, Washington, D. C., and talked for 8 minutes and 6 seconds, after which he hung up the phone. At 1:05 a.m., the same individual came back on the line and said he was cut off on his phone call to Washington. The connection was again made by the operator

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and this individual again talked to the Pentagon for a total of 15 additional minutes. The number he telephoned in Washington was Area Code 202, No. 545-6700.

Mrs. ELLIOTT advised Deputy HEATON that she was sitting next to the operator who handled the calls from TROTTER and it was their opinion that the individual calling was intoxicated. They could hear a woman's voice in the background who apparently was trying to keep this person from making the telephone call.

Inasmuch as Sheriff PLUMMER and his Deputies have provided information indicating that TROTTER is completely untrustworthy and in view of TROTTER's attitude when he was interviewed and further in view of the fact that it appears that TROTTER has no information pertinent to either the MURKIN or ROBERT KENNEDY murder, it is suggested that no further action be taken concerning investigation of TROTTER, or any information he might claim to have.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI SANDIEGO

4-30 PM URGENT 6-11-68 ATJ

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) MEMPHIS (44-1937) LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
(56-156) SEATTLE (44-371) AND RICHMOND
FROM SAN DIEGO 3P

*Teletype sent 6/11/68
Jaworski
go ahead
WACB
RV*

MURKIN. SAN DIEGO FILE FOUR FOUR DASH THREE EIGHT SEVEN.

KENSALT. SAN DIEGO FILE FOUR FOUR DASH THREE NINE FOUR.

MR. JOSEPH FERRER, ASSISTANT POSTMASTER, MAIN POST OFFICE,
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, ADVISED AS FOLLOWS JUNE ELEVEN INSTANT:

FOUND ON THE INCOMING MAIL BELT WAS A PIECE OF PAPER NOT
IN AN ENVELOPE IN GREEN INK ADDRESSED TO POST OFFICE, ATTENTION
POSTMASTER, WHICH READ AS FOLLOWS:

"IF THE FBI WANTS RAY'S BUDDY GO TO ONE TWO FOUR BROADWAY
METROPOLE HOTEL, NUMBER ONE ONE SEVEN. HE MAY BE UNDER THE
NAME 'GEORE' LETSINGER OR GEORGE ANDERSON. HE KNOWS ABOUT
KENNEDY AND ALSO KING'S DEATHS. HE MAY HAVE PART IN KING'S DEATH.
I KNOW HE WAS IN TENNESSEE BEFORE AND AFTER KING WAS KILLED.
END PAGE ONE

(3)

*Search
indices
& serial
Bureau
& SD
& ahead
& interview
RV*

44-1987-Sub E-1054

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 11 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle

SD 44-337

SD 44-394

PAGE TWO

I KNOW LETSINGER IS WANTED IN SEATTLE. ALSO IN BIT STONE GAP,
VIRGINIA, BY THE FBI."

ABOVE LETTER WAS UNSIGNED.

BUREAU AND ALL OFFICES REQUESTED TO FURNISH ANY INFORMATION
REGARDING "GEORE" LETSINGER OR GEORGE ANDERSON, PARTICULARLY
IF WANTED IN SEATTLE OR BIG STONE GAP, VIRGINIA.

NO ATTEMPT BEING MADE TO INTERVIEW LETSINGER, AKA ANDERSON
UNTIL RESULTS FROM BUREAU AND ALL OFFICES.

END

TSJ

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI RICHMOND

450PM URGENT 6-13-68 RJM

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), LOS ANGELES (44-1574), MEMPHIS (44-1987),
SAN DIEGO (44-367)(44-394)
FROM RICHMOND 3P

MURKIN. RICHMOND FILE FOUR FOUR DASH SIX FIVE SEVEN.

KENSALT. RICHMOND FILE SIX TWO DASH TWO TWO FOUR EIGHT.

RE SAN DIEGO TELETYPE TO BUREAU, JUNE ELEVEN LAST.

ON JUNE THIRTEEN INSTANT, CHILTON V. STEWART, CHIEF OF POLICE,
BIG STONE GAP, VA., ADVISED HE KNOWS GEORGE ROBERT LETSINGER
BUT LETSINGER IS NOT WANTED BY HIS DEPARTMENT.

SAME DATE, SHELCOY MULLINS, SHERIFF, WISE CO., VA., ADVISED
GEORGE LETSINGER OR GEORGE ANDERSON IS NOT WANTED BY HIS DEPART-
MENT.

SAME DATE, CORA BOLLING, E. FIFTH STREET, BIG STONE GAP,
VA., FORMER LANDLADY OF LETSINGER, ADVISED HE HAD LEFT HER HOME
AND BIG STONE GAP IN MID NINETEEN SIXTYFOUR. HE ADVISED HER
PRIOR TO LEAVING THAT HE WAS GOING TO MEXICO AND SHE FOUND OUT
LATER FROM THERE HE WENT TO MISSOURI. SHE STATED THAT LETSINGER
HAS TRAVELED THROUGHOUT THE U.S. SINCE SIXTYFOUR. SHE KNEW THIS
BECAUSE SHE HAD RECEIVED SEVERAL CARDS FROM HIM WHICH HAD BEEN
END PAGE ONE

44-1987-Sub E-1057A
Boyle GIB
E

PAGE TWO

RH 44-657 AND RH 62-2245

DESTROYED INDICATING VARIOUS PLACES IN THE U.S. WHICH HE HAD VISITED. SHE ADVISED THAT LETSINGER WAS A PROLIFIC LETTER WRITER IN THAT HE WROTE LETTERS CONSTANTLY, SOME TO PROMINENT PEOPLE IN THE WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA AND LETTERS TO FRIENDS AND RELATIVES THROUGHOUT THE U.S. SHE EXHIBITED COPIES OF SEVERAL LETTERS LEFT WITH HER BY LETSINGER WHICH LETSINGER SENT TO OFFICIALS AND A REVIEW OF THESE LETTERS REVEALED THEY WERE A SYMPATHETIC TYPE OF LETTER, NOT THREATENING IN NATURE. SHE ADVISED LETSINGER IS KNOWN TO HER AS GEORGE ROBERT LETSINGER, AKA BOBBY. SHE STATED THELMA MARRY, (EAST FIFTH ST., BIG STONE GAP, VA., AN AUNT OF LETSINGER, MIGHT KNOW THE LOCATION OF LETSINGER. SHE FURTHER ADVISED EARLY IN THE NINETEEN SIXTIES LETSINGER HAD PROBLEMS WITH ONE OF HIS HANDS AND HAD TO HAVE SKIN GRAFTED FROM UNDER HIS

ARM WHICH LEFT A SCAR. SHE ADVISED SHE HAD NOT SEEN NOR HEARD FROM LETSINGER IN OVER THREE YEARS TO THE BEST OF HER KNOWLEDGE. SHE STATED LETSINGER'S MOTHER, ETTA LEE LETSINGER, OF AVA, MO., HAD ADVISED LETSINGER PRIOR TO HIS LEAVING HER HOME IN NINETEEN SIXTYFOUR HE WAS Sired BY ONE RAYMOND FURGESON, NOW DECEASED, AND NOT BY THE HUSBAND OF ETTA LETSINGER. SHE ADVISED SHE DID

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

RH 44-657 AND RH 6. 2248

NOT KNOW THE NAME OF ETTA LETSINGER'S HUSBAND BUT INDICATED HE WAS DEAD. SHE FURTHER ADVISED AT ONE TIME LETSINGER HAD BEEN AT ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL, SPRINGFIELD, MO., FOR SOME TYPE OF OPERATION. SHE ADVISED DURING SIXTYFOUR, PRIOR TO HIS LEAVING FOR MEXICO, LETSINGER WAS JAILED AT WISE CO., VA., FOR ASSAULT FOR SEVENTEEN DAYS. SHE FURNISHED A PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN IN APRIL, SIXTYFOUR, OF LETSINGER WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE AT RICHMOND.

LETSINGER IS DESCRIBED AS A WHITE MALE, FIVE FEET SIX INCHES TO FIVE FEET SEVEN INCHES. ONE HUNDRED FIFTYFIVE TO ONE HUNDRED SIXTY LBS., MEDIUM BUILD, BLACK HAIR, INTELLIGENT SPEAKER, BOTH WALK AND TALK WERE VERY "SISSY" IN MANNER ALONG LINES OF HOMOSEXUAL.

SAN DIEGO - ADVISE IF ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATION DESIRED AT BIG STONE GAP, VA.

RICHMOND WILL CONTACT LETSINGER'S AUNT, THELMA MARRY, EAST FIFTH ST., BIG STONE GAP, VA., FOR FURTHER INFO RE LETSINGER. WILL ALSO CONTACT ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL, NORTON, VA., FOR ANY PERTINENT BACKGROUND INFO RE LETSINGER.

MAIL COPY FURNISHED SEATTLE.

-P-

END

VCP

FBI MEMPHIS