

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DATE: 5/24/68

FROM : SA JOHN W. BAUER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Albany airtel to Atlanta, 5/13/68 (44-1987-SUB-764).

The following investigation was conducted on 5/21/68 at Memphis by SA BAUER:

Mrs. ROBERT F. NORTON, 3330 Highland Park Place, advised that her son, ROBERT B. NORTON, who is an instructor at Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York, is the owner of a 1959 brown Dodge sedan, bearing a Tennessee license. She stated that her son is presently living in Syracuse.

She said that recently she received a letter from the Syracuse PD addressed to ROBERT B. NORTON, 3330 Highland Park Place, advising that a 1959 Dodge sedan, bearing 1967 Tennessee license BW 6177, had been impounded by the Syracuse PD. Upon receiving this letter, Mrs. NORTON stated she forwarded the letter to her son at Syracuse and contacted him concerning this matter. Her son told her that the drive shaft in the car had broken and he had to leave the car on the street. When he came back to the car, he found that it was missing. He told Mrs. NORTON that the reason he had not taken any immediate action on the car was because the car had been purchased for only \$100 and he did not feel it was worth much effort to look into the matter. Upon being advised of the letter from the Syracuse PD, NORTON told Mrs. NORTON that he would pay for the towing charges on the car, but he did not want the car and intended to leave it impounded at the Syracuse PD.

JWB:PEH  
(2)

44-1987-Sub E-106

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*BB*



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

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI DENVER

1156PM DEFERRED 5-24-68 JRW

TO DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS

FROM DENVER (157-203)

MURKIN

DURING DETAILED INTERVIEW ON MAY TWO FOUR LAST, MRS. HOMER LANE BIGELOW, FOUR THREE THREE ONE EAST MEXICO ST., DENVER, A FIVE TIMES MARRIED WIDOW AND MOTHER OF THREE TEENAGERS, TOLD A LENGTHY, RAMBLING AND APPARENTLY HIGHLY IMAGINATIVE STORY ABOUT MEETING A YEAR AGO, FALLING IN LOVE WITH, AND SLEEPING WITH ONE ROBERT EDWARD BYRNE, A DENVER OIL PROMOTER, WHO SHE SAYS BECAME INVOLVED IN A CONSPIRACY TO KILL KING. SHE CLAIMED SHE WOULD NOT HAVE FURNISHED THE INFORMATION EXCEPT THAT BYRNE RECENTLY TOLD HER HE WAS GOING TO MARRY ANOTHER WOMAN.

SHE DESCRIBED HIM AS A HEAVY AND CONSISTENT DRINKER WHO FREQUENTLY CONSORTED WITH OTHER WOMEN IN DENVER AND A MEMBER OF A HEAVY DRINKIN GROUP WHICH INCLUDED FORMER AUSA JAMES W. HEYER, AND OTHER PERSONS, MOSTLY NEIGHBORS, WITH WHOM SHE BECAME AVQUAINTED WHEN ONE OF THE GROUP, MRS. KATHRYN RAHEL, A DIVORCEE, MOVED INTO THE APT. NEXT DOOR. SHE MET BYRNE AT A PARTY GIVEN BY RAHEL IN MARCH OR APRIL LAST YEAR BUT DID NOT START DATING HIM "HOT AND HEAVY" UNTIL LAST SEPTEMBER. THROUGH  
END PAGE ONE

*E*  
*Teletype sent to  
Bu and Denver  
5/25 JH*

44-1987-Sub E-1243

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*Hester*  
*Boyer BB*

PAGE TWO

DENVER 157-203

BYRNE SHE MET DENVER AND LOS ANGELES OILPROMOTER H. D. "HAL" HALE, A CLOSE FRIEND OF BYRNE'S AND A HEAVY DRINKER, ALSO.

IN ABOUT OCTOBER LAST YEAR, BYRNE BEGAN INTIMATING HE WAS IN SOME TYPE OF ORGANIZED CRIME SYNDICATE, BUT NEVER BECAME SPECIFIC AS TO MEMBERS OR ACTIVITIES. ALSO TOLD WAR STORIES ABOUT HIS LIFE IN THE MARINE CORP DURING COMBAT. HE CLAIMED HE HAD KILLED MANY MEN. SHE WAS NEVER SURE WHETHER KILLINGS WERE WHILE IN MARINES OR IN CONNECTION WITH SYNDICATE, BUT LATER WAS TOLD HE WAS NEVER IN COMBAT. SHE SAID MAJORITY OF TALKING DONE AFTER BYRNE HAD BEEN DRINKING AND HE WAS CAPABLE OF DRINKING ONE TO TWO BOTTLES A DAY FOR FOUR OR FIVE DAYS. HE CLAIMED TO BE AN MARINE CORPS PILOT WHO ONCE CRASHED INTO A SCHOOL AND WHO LATER FLEW GUNS TO CASTRO IN CUBA BEFORE CAASTRO TOOK OVER, WHILE IN THE EMPLOY OF ONE RAY RYAN, WHO HE DESCRIBED AS "MR. BIG" AND WHO SPENT PART OF HIS TIME IN KENYA, AFRICA WHERE HE IS A MEMBER OF THE MT. KENYA SAFARI CLUB. RAY RYAN SUPPOSEDLY CANNOT RETURN TO U.S. AS BYRNE SAYS THERE IS CONTRACT OUT ON HIM AND WOULD BE KILLED THE MINUTE HE ENTERED. BYRNE ALSO REFERRED TO HAL HALE AS A "MR. BIG" AND INFERRED HALE WAS INVOLVED IN THE CRIMINAL ACTIVITY.

IN LATE NOVEMBER LAST, BYRNE TOLD HER HE HAD BEEN INVITED TO ACAPULCO, MEXICO, BY HALE AND HIS WIFE, DEE, AND SHE WAS INVITED, TOO. SAID IT WAS BUSINESS TRIP BUT NOT CONNECTED WITH OIL. SHE PAID FOR TRIP FOR THE TWO OF THE,. LEFT DENVER DECEMBER TWENTYEIGHT AND ARRIVED ACAPULCO SAME NIGHT. RETURNED TO DENVER JANUARY TWELVE LAST.

EDN PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

DENVER 157-203

MET HALES THERE AT HOUSE, CASA JOSETTE, IN LAS BRISAS AREA OF TOWN. HALES ACCOMPANIED BY BILLYE AND LOUIS FAWCETT OF ASHDOWN, ARK, WHERE HALE HAS RELATIVES. HALES AND FAWCETTS LEFT ACAPULCO TWO OR THREE DAYS BEFORE SHE AND BYRNE DID.

MRS BIGELOW GAINED IMPRESSION THE THREE MEN ATTENDED MEETINGS DURING MORNINGS, THOUGH NO ONE SAID SO, AND THAT MEETINGS RELATED TO CRIMINAL PLANS. SHE DID NOT KNOW WHO ELSE MIGHT HAVE BEEN PRESENT AT THE MEETINGS, ALTHOUGH HALE ONCE SAID HE HAD SEEN RAY RYAN ON THE STREET. SHE SAID BYRNE RETURNED TO THE HOUSE ONE DAY UPSET. AFTER DINNER HE AND SHE WENT TO PLACE CALLED LE CLUB AND STARTED DRINKING. CLAIMED BYRNE WAS SOBER, THOUGH, WHEN SHE TRIED TO DRAW HIM OUT. ASKED HIM WHAT IT WAS ALL ABOUT AND CLAIMED TO KNOW HE WAS SUPPOSED TO MEET RAY RYAN. BYRNE SAID "THEY WANT ME TO DO A JOB. I DON'T WANT TO DO IT. AS YOU KNOW, I'VE BEEN TRYING TO GET OUT OF THIS FOR THREE YEARS, BUT THEY NEED A TECHNICIAN." BYRNE CLAIMED THAT "THEY" HAD THREATENED HARM TO MRS. BIGELOW'S CHILDREN: THAT "THIS IS ONLY WAY THEY COULD GET TO ME." BYRNE CLAIMED TO BE FRIGHTENED, SAID HE WAS NOT GOING TO DO "IT", AND FOR HER NOT TO WORRY. HE WAS NOT GOING TO LET "THEM" HURT HER OR CHILDREN.

SHORTLY AFTER GROUPS ARRIVAL IN ACAPULCO, YACHT, ULTIMA II, IN HARBOR. THEY LEARNED IT BELONGED TO CHARLES REVSON, HEAD OF REVLOX COSMETIC COMPANY. SHE HAD IMPRESSION REVSON NOT ABOARD. AFTER LUNCH ONE DAY BYRNE WANTED TO TAKE SMALL SAIL BOAT OUR, SO HE AND SHE DID. CIRCLED THE YACHT AND TOOK PICTURES OF IT AND SOME CREWMEN AT RAIL. THEY

END PAGE THREE

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WAVED AND CREWMAN WAVED BACK. SHE HAD HEARD THAT RAY RYAN WAS ABOARD. THINKS HALE MENTIONED IT. FELT BYRNE WANTED TO CIRCLE IT BECAUSE OF THAT BYRNE LATER TOLD HER HE RENTED SAIL BOAT BECAUSE HE WAS SUPPOSED TO IDENTIFY A CREWMAN AND THE CREWMAN WAS SUPPOSED TO IDENTIFY HIM.

NEXT DAY ALL SIX TOOK SPEED BOAT TRIP AND ON TRIP AGAIN CIRCLED YACHT. TOOK MORE PICTURES OF YACHT AND CREWMEN. ON TRIP TO ACAPULCO MRS. BIGELOW TOOK SEVEN ROLL PICTURES TWENTY PICTURES TO ROLL. WHEN GOT BACK, HAD THEM DEVELOPED AT NEARBY DRUGSTORE IN DENVER. BYRNE PICKED THEM UP, PAYING ABOUT THIRTYFIVE DOLLARS. SHE SAW THEM AND BELIEVES ALL WERE THERE. BYRNE SAID WAS GOING TO KEEP AND WOULD HAVE PRINTS MADE FOR HER. RECALLS THEY SHOWED THEM TO JAMES HEYER.

IN MARCH WHILE AT BYRNE'S APR, BYRNE PASSED OUT DRUNK. SHE TOOK THE PICTURES AND NEGATIVES AND LEFT. THINKS HE MUST HAVE LOST THE NEGATIVES AND SOME AIRLINE TICKETS FOR HER AND HER CHILDREN OUT OF HER PURSE WHEN GOT OUT OF CAR AT HER APR. NEXT MORNING DISCOVERED LOSS AND LATER NOTICED THAT ALL PICTURES OF CREWMEN OF YACHT WERE MISSING.

AFTER RETURN TO DENVER, SHE TRIED TO DISCUSS BYRNE'S COMMENTS IN ACAPULCO WITH HIM. HE TOLD HER "FOR GOD'S SAKE DON'T BRING THAT UP." THEY EVENTUALLY HAD WORDS AND DID NOT SEE EACH OTHER FROM JANUARY TWENTYSIX TO FEBRUARY NINE.

SHE SAID DUE TO NEED TO TALK TO SOMEONE SHE WENT TO HER ATTORNEY TODD BAKER SHORTLY AFTER THEIR RETURN AND DISCUSSED THE MATTER BRIEFLY WITH HIM. SHE SAID HE LAUGHED AND SAID IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE, BUT IF SHE WAS WORRIED HE WOULD MAKE ONE TELEPHONE CALL AND WOULD FIND OUT WHAT IT WAS ALL ABOUT. SHE SAID BYRNE KNEW THAT SHE HAD SEEN HER ATTORNEY THE VERY NEXT DAY AND TOLD HER SHE WAS IN DEEP TROUBLE. THAT SAME DAY BYRNE PICKED UP THE PICTURES AND THEY TOOK THEM OVER TO HEYER'S

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PAGE FIVE

DENVER 157-203

TO SHOW. THEY ALL DRANK A LOT BUT NO ONE WAS DRUNK. AFTER HEYER'S WIFE WENT TO BED, BOTH BYRNE AND HEYER STARTED IN ON HER ASKING WHY SHE WENT TO "TODD" AND TELLING HER SHE WAS GOING TO GET HERSELF, HER KIDS KILLED. HEYERS CLAIMED HER HOUSE WAS "BUGGED" AND THAT THEY KNOW OF ALL HER CONVERSATIONS. HE SAID HE AND BYRNE HAD TO MAKE A CALL TO DALLAS AND GET BYRNE OUT OF TROUBLE. THEY ASKED HER TO GO TO THE CAR AND WAIT WHICH SHE DID FOR AWHILE. WHEN SHE CAME BACK IN THEY BOTH LECTURED HER SOME MORE AND GOT HER TO PROMISE SHE WOULD NOT TALK FURTHER. AFTERWARDS HEYER AGAIN CALLED DALLAS AND GAVE THE TELEPHONE TO BYRNE WHO TOOK IT INTO THE NEXT ROOM OUT OF EARSHOT AND TALKED FOR ABOUT FIVE MINUTES. BYRNE LATER TOOK HER HOME STILL LECTURING HER.

MRS. BIGELOW SAID AFTER THEIR FIGHT ON JANUARY TWENTYSIX SHE NEXT SAW BYRNE ON FEBRUARY NINE LAST AT A PARTY GIVEN BY KATHY RAHEL. SHE AND BYRNE MADE UP AND NO MENTION WAS MADE OF PAST EVENTS UNTIL AFTER BYRNE RETURNED FROM LUBBOCK, TEXAS, IN EARLY MARCH WHERE HE HAD GONE TO BE WITH HIS MOTHER WHO WAS HAVING AN OPERATION. HE WAS TENSE WHEN HE RETURNED AND WHEN ASKED WHAT WAS WRONG, TOLD HER THAT HE HAD HIS PROBLEMS AND DID NOT KNOW WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT. HE SAID CRIPTICALLY THAT HE HAD TO DO IT AND HEDID NOT WANT TO. HE WOULD NOT SAY WHAT IT WAS BUT IN RESPONSE TO HER PROBING SAID THAT IT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN SOON, WOULD MAKE NATIONAL HEADLINES AND WOULD BE JUST ABOUT AS BIG AS KENNEDY'S DEATH.

END PAGE FIVE

PAGE SIX

SHE SAID THAT ON MARCH TEN, BYRNE'S MOTHER DIED AND HE WAS GETTING READY TO GO TO NEW YORK WHERE FUNERAL WAS TO BE WHEN ON MARCH THIRTEEN, HIS SISTER IN LAW, GENEVIEVE, CALLED FROM LUBBOCK, TEXAS, TO TELL HIM THAT HIS TWIN BROTHER, HER HUSBAND, HAD BEEN KILLED IN VIET NAM. HE WENT TO LUBBOCK. MRS BIGELOW CALLED HIM FREQUENTLY ASKING WHEN HE WAS RETURNING TO DENVER. DURING THE CALLS SHE LEARNED HE AND GENEVIEVE HAD GONE OFF SOMEWHERE FOR A WEEK. THE NIGHT OF THE DAY ON WHICH MARTIN LUTHER KING WAS ASSINATED, WHILE OTHERS WERE AT HER HOUSE SHE AGAIN CALLED HIM. SHE SAID HE WAS AT HIS SISTER IN LAWS AND WAS "ABSOLUTELY, OUT OF HIS MIND, DRUNK." SHE SAID HE SCREAMED AT HER FOR HAVING A NASTY MIND REGARDING GENEVIEVE AND HIM. IN SUBSEQUENT CALLS HE WAS CALMER INDICATING HE HAD A LOT TO DO IN CONNECTION WITH THE ESTATES.

SHE SAID BYRNE RETURNED TO DENVER ON MAY FOURTEEN LAST AND WAS AT HER PLACE THAT NIGHT "FAIRLY WELL DRUNK" BY NINE O'CLOCK. BEFORE 11 THEY RETIRED SHE TOLD HIM SHE WAS SCARED AND ASKED HIM IF HE HAD A HAND IN KING'S DEATH. SHE SAID HE REPLIED "WHAT DO YOU THINK, OF COURSE." SHE ASKED HIM IF JAMES EARL RAY DID THE SHOOTING AND HE REPLIED ASKING HER WHAT MADE HER THINK RAY DID IT. SHE SAID SHE INDICATED RAY WAS PROBABLY DEAD AND BYRNE SAID HE WAS NOT. SHE ASKED HIM IF THAT HAD BEEN A PICTURE OF RAY ON THE YACHT SHE HAD TAKEN. HE REPLIED IT WAS. SHE ASKED WHERE THE PICTURES WERE. HE REPLIED, "YOU DON'T THINK I WOULD LEAVE THEM AROUND, DO YOU?" HE ENDED THE CONVERSATION BY SAYING HE WOULD NEVER LET "THEM" HURT HER.

THE NEXT NIGHT WHILE THEY WERE OUT WITH RAHEL AND HER BOY

END PAGE SIX

PAGE SEVEN

FRIEND, BYRNE TOLD MRS. BIGELOW THAT HE WAS GOING TO MARRY GENEVIEVE, THAT HE THOUGHT HE OUGHT TO BE A FATHER TO HER SIX CHILDREN. MRS. BIGELOW SAID SHE WALKED OUT AND WENT HOME, BUT THAT SHE HAS SEEN BYRNE A FEW TIMES SINCE. SHE SAID THAT ON MAY TWENTYTWO SHE RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL FROM JAMES HEYER WHO WANTED TO CONTACT BYRNE. HE ASKED HER TO TRY TO LOCATE BYRNE AS IT WAS AN EMERGENCY. SHE WAS TO TELL BYRNE THE FOLLOWING, "EMERGENCY TEACUP" AND BYRNE WOULD KNOW WHAT IT MEANT. BYRNE CALLED LATER AND SHE GAVE HIM THE MESSAGE. HE HAD HER REPEAT IT THREE TIMES, SWORE AND COMMENTED "WONDER IF MINE WILL BE AS BIG AS THE OTHER." SHE FELT THE MESSAGE FRIGHTENED BYRNE AND SHE HAS NOT SEEN OR HEARD FROM HIM SINCE. EARLIER SHE HAD ADVISED THAT JAMES HEYER HAS BEEN REPRESENTING BYRNE IN A COURT MATTER INVOLVING THE ADOPTION OF THE CHILDREN OF BYRNE BY BYRNE'S EX-WIFE AND HER PRESENT HUSBAND.

CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE FILES OF DENVER OFFICE CONTAIN NO INFORMATION HALE, BYRNE, OR HEYER CONNECTED WITH ORGANIZED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY. SOURCE OF DENVER OFFICE IDENTIFIES BYRNE AND HALE AS INDEPENDENT OIL OPERATORS. RAY RYAN MAY BE IDENTICAL WITH PERSON SAME NAME WHO DURING PAST TEN YEARS HAS RECEIVED NATIONWIDE PUBLICITY AS MILLIONAIRE SPORTSMAN AND OILMAN WHO WAS ONE OF FOUNDERS OF INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN MR. KENYA SAFARI CLUB IN AFRICA. MEMBERSHIP OF

END PAGE SEVEN

PAGE EIGHT

DENVER 157-203

CLUB REPORTEDLY INCLUDES MANY PROMINATE FIGURES SUCH AS WINSTON CHURCHILL AND PRESIDENT JOHNSON.

IN ORDER TO BETTER EVALUATE VALIDITY OF INFORMATION MEMPHIS REQUESTED TO ADVISE WHETHER OR NOT RAY, USING NAME GALT, WAS ACTUALLY ATTENDING BARTENDING SCHOOL IN CALIFORNIA DURING THE PERIOD DECEMBER TWENTYEIGHT TO JANUARY TWELVE LAST.

DETAILED FD THREE ZERO TWO FOLLOWS.

END

DGB

FBI MEMPHIS

TU

*1/19-3/2/68  
12/22 203 444 70*

F B I

Date: 5/25/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT  
(Priority)TO: DIRECTOR, FBI AND  
SAC, DENVER

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

MURKIN.

RE DENVER TELETYPE MAY TWENTYFOUR LAST.

FOR INFO OF DENVER SUBJECT KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN IN PUERTO VALLARTA, MEXICO, FROM ABOUT OCTOBER NINETEEN LAST UNTIL ABOUT NOVEMBER THIRTEEN LAST AT WHICH TIME HE RETURNED TO LOS ANGELES. HE IS BELIEVED TO HAVE RESIDED CONTINUOUSLY AT LOS ANGELES FROM NOVEMBER THIRTEEN UNTIL ABOUT MARCH SEVENTEEN EXCEPT FOR THE PERIOD DECEMBER SEVENTEEN - TWENTYTWO LAST, DURING WHICH PERIOD HE TRAVELED TO NEW ORLEANS AND RETURNED TO LOS ANGELES.

INASMUCH AS ROBERT EDWARD BYRNE HAS INDICATED HE IS INVOLVED IN THE MURDER OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, DENVER SHOULD INTERVIEW BYRNE, SET OUT APPROPRIATE LEADS, AND CONDUCT WHATEVER INVESTIGATION IS NECESSARY TO COMPLETELY RESOLVE THIS MATTER.

44-1987-Sub E-109A

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P END.

JCH/acp  
(1) *awp*Approved: *RLG*  
Special Agent in ChargeSent *12:08 PM*  
*12:12 PM* M Per *llh*

5/29/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, DENVER (157-203)

MURKIN

Re: ROBERT EDWARD BYRNE, Denver, Colorado.

Enclosed for Little Rock are two copies of Denver teletype to Director and Memphis dated 5/24/68, which summarizes interview with Mrs. HOMER LANE BIGELOW, Denver, Colorado.

ROBERT EDWARD BYRNE located and interviewed 5/28/68. Categorizedly denies any involvement in or knowledge of MARTIN LUTHER KING's assassination. He claims Mrs. HOMER LANE BIGELOW is mentally a "very sick person," who was merely trying to keep him from marrying GENEVIEVE BYRNE. He stated that at least most of the events described by Mrs. BIGELOW did take place, such as their trip to Acapulco, Mexico, his trip to Lubbock, Texas, and their visit with JAMES HEYER, but she added to what took place when she claimed he indicated he was involved in a conspiracy to kill KING.

He said the trip to Acapulco was for pleasure only, but, naturally, he and HAL HALE discussed oil deals since they are associates in several oil ventures. He recalled a conversation with Mrs. BIGELOW in Acapulco wherein he mentioned in vague terms an oil deal in Kansas he was working on with HALE, but no connection with a criminal syndicate was even implied. He stated that he avoided talking business with her because she fancied herself as an investor and a business woman, which she was not, and he did not want her becoming involved in any of his dealings. He recalled that she again brought up the subject of marriage during this conversation and that if he did not marry her, her daughter, JENNIFER, would be hurt. He said he told her that he did not want to hurt JENNIFER, but that he was not going to marry her.

3-Bureau  
2-Little Rock (157-1215) (Encls-2)  
1-Memphis (44-1987)  
1-Denver  
BDA:hg  
(7)

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BOYLE GB

DN 157-203

He stated that after she learned he was going to marry GENEVIEVE, she came over to his apartment and threatened to kill him and herself rather than let him marry GENEVIEVE. She left three of the pictures taken in Acapulco, which were taken of him, her and a sailfish he caught. He stated these are the only three pictures of the trip that he has. He recalled that only two shots of the yacht, Ultima II, were taken; one a full shot of the vessel, and the other a close-up of a red speed boat tied up to it. Neither shot contained any crewmen. It is noted that these two shots were among the pictures Mrs. BIGELOW showed interviewing Agents on 5/24/68.

BYRNE stated RAY RYAN is in oil business and he worked in affiliation with him and HAL HALE when they (RYAN and HALE) were partners in New Drilling Company, Denver, Colorado, a few years ago. He understood from HALE, RYAN was in Acapulco at the time they were and was supposed to have arrived aboard the yacht. He said he had no arrangement to identify himself to any crewman or to RYAN on the yacht. He stated neither RYAN nor HALE involved in any criminal activity so far as he knows.

Little Rock, at Ashdown, Arkansas, is requested to interview Mr. and Mrs. LOUIS FAWCETT, banker, to determine if activities of the group or any of its members while in Acapulco had anything to do with planning the death of KING.

Investigation Denver continuing.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

LR 157-1215

Mr. and Mrs. FAWCETT arrived at a motel called Casa Josette which is about five miles out of the City of Acapulco and up the mountain and along the bay. They arrived on December 26, 1968. On or about December 28, 1967, BYRNE arrived with a woman whose name Mr. FAWCETT recalled only as Mrs. BIGELOW. On January 9, 1968, Mr. and Mrs. FAWCETT flew out of Acapulco direct to Dallas, Texas, where those two got their automobile and drove directly to Ashdown, Arkansas. When Mr. and Mrs. FAWCETT left the Casa Josette, they left BYRNE and Mrs. BIGELOW there.

During the period Mr. and Mrs. FAWCETT, Mr. and Mrs. HALE, and BYRNE and Mrs. BIGELOW were at the Casa Josette together all six took rides in the bay in rented motor boats and took drives through the mountains in rented jeeps, two of which they rented. On two occasions the six saw a yacht in the bay below Acapulco which they "guessed" belonged to the owner of the Revlon Cosmetic Company although no one in the party had any definite knowledge of the ownership of the yacht and no one made contact with crew members or the party on the yacht. On those two occasions they sailed around the yacht at which time Mr. FAWCETT and probably others made pictures of the yacht and waved at the crew members. It was merely a greeting to the members of the crew. Mr. FAWCETT stated he and Mrs. FAWCETT made no trips in a sailing ship although they saw one on one occasion sailing around their motor boat.

The balance of the time was spent sitting around the motel, eating, drinking, and talking. Mr. FAWCETT made no contact with any persons other than those in his party although he spoke to several persons and thinks the same applies to Mr. BYRNE. BYRNE and Mrs. BIGELOW slept until noon each day as did Mr. and Mrs. FAWCETT and Mr. and Mrs. HALE. Mr. and Mrs. FAWCETT's room was next to that occupied by Mr. BYRNE and Mrs. BIGELOW and at no time during the period did

LR 157-1215

Mr. FAWCETT see a stranger or a person not in their party visit or talk with Mr. BYRNE or Mrs. BIGELOW. Although Mr. FAWCETT was not with BYRNE at all times during the afternoons and evenings he was never known to make contact with any persons outside their party. It definitely seemed to Mr. FAWCETT that BYRNE was there to have a good time only and to drink as was his constant habit. There was no indication he sent any messages or received any messages from persons on the yacht or other vessels in the bay.

Mr. FAWCETT considers it inconceivable that BYRNE is associated with or had contact with any criminal element while in Acapulco or in fact has any interest in matters political or criminal. Mr. FAWCETT insisted in referring to BYRNE as a "well-educated drunken bum." He claimed BYRNE has been drunk every time FAWCETT saw him and in fact seldom saw him that he did not have a drink in his hand. He began drinking during the mornings or at noon when he got up and continued drinking throughout the afternoon and evening while FAWCETT was with him.

Mr. FAWCETT advised his wife, BILLYE, was visiting friends out of town and would not return for several weeks. For that reason, and for the reason of the information furnished by Mr. FAWCETT concerning BYRNE, Little Rock is not interviewing Mrs. FAWCETT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

*Sub E-785P2*  
FBI

Date: 5/23/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT  
(Type in plaintext or code)  
TELETYPE URGENT  
Via \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO DIRECTOR, EL PASO, DALLAS, LOS ANGELES, MEMPHIS (AIRMAIL)  
FROM PHOENIX (44-371)

MURKIN.

RE LA TEL TO PX , DALLAS, AND EL PASO, AND EL PASO TEL  
TO BUREAU, DALLAS AND LA INSTANT DATE.

GREYHOUND BUS NUMBER ONE THREE NINE FOUR, ENROUTE FROM  
DALLAS TO LOS ANGELES, MET AT PHOENIX GREYHOUND STATION AT NINE  
THIRTYFIVE PM INSTANT AT WHICH TIME NO ONE FITTING UNSUB'S  
DESCRIPTION ON BUS. GREYHOUND DRIVER G.R. RULE ADVISED NO ONE  
FITTING UNSUB'S DESCRIPTION ON BUS WHEN HE BECAME DRIVER FOUR H  
HUNDRED FIFTY MILES EAST OF PHOENIX. PASSENGER LESLIE WHITMORE,

GREYHOUND BAGGAGE COLLECTOR, WHO BOARDED ABOVE BUS AT DALLAS, ADVISED  
NO PESON ON BUS WHO FITTED UNSUB'S DESCRIPTION FROM DALLAS TO  
PHOENIX. PASSENGER JAMES D. STOREY, WHO BOARDED ABOVE BUS AT  
MAGNOLIA, ARKANSAS, PRIOR TO DALLAS STOP, ADVISED NO PERSON ON  
BUS WHO FITTED UNSUB'S DESCRIPTION FROM MAGNOLIA, ARKANSAS TO  
PHOENIX. DRIVER RULE FURTHER ADVISED MANY BUSES DEPART DALLAS  
AT APPROXIMATELY ELEVEN TEN PM, MAY TWENTYTWO LAST.

END PAGE ONE

**AIR MAIL**

CMD/JDD

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

*44-1987-Sub E-1680*

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*Boyle RB*

PAGE TWO

DALLAS DIVISION WILL CHECK WITH GREYHOUND OFFICIALS AT DALLAS AND DETERMINE OTHER BUSES WHICH MAY HAVE DEPARTED TERMINAL AT ELEVEN TEN PM, MAY TWENTYTWO LAST, SPECIFICALLY IF BUS NUMBER ONE NINE THREE FOUR, MENTIONED IN RE LA TEL, HAD DEPARTED THAT TIME.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

5/22/68

AIRTEL

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM : SAC, PITTSBURGH (44-578) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Philadelphia airtel to Bureau dated 5/9/68.

On 5/20/68, Mrs. ESTHER RAYMOND, Epworth Manner Nursing Home, Tyrone, Pa., advised that she had written no letters to anyone concerning the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., nor did she possess any information on that matter.

She advised that she was originally from Genesee, Pa., and had many relatives with the last name of RAYMOND residing in the vicinity of Coudersport, but she was not aware of any of them who used the first initial of E. She also advised that the Coudersport area was frequented by many migrant Negro workers from Florida.

2-Bureau  
1-Memphis (44-1987) (Info)  
2-Pittsburgh

EWG/alb  
(6)

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

44-1987-Sub E-1021

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 7161294                                                                                                                                                                                               |                 | Broadwater Beach 23-121                              |           | (1) STATION                                                   | MILEAGE DETERMINED BY READING<br>FACTORY INSTALLED ODOMETER |                                              | (16) TIME USED |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                 | MUNICIPAL AIRPORT<br>GULFPORT, MISS.<br>601-864-7132 |           |                                                               | (19) MILES IN                                               | 0553                                         | (17) TIME IN   |
| (47)                                                                                                                                                                                                  | (2) CAR NUMBER  | (3) CAR LICENSE NO.                                  | (4) STATE |                                                               | (20) MILES OUT                                              | 2844                                         | (18) TIME OUT  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 2410            | E-23030                                              | Miss      |                                                               | (21) MILES DRIVEN                                           | 39                                           | 3-31 5:15 PM   |
| (2A) CAR MAKE                                                                                                                                                                                         | (5) OWNING CITY |                                                      |           | (22)                                                          | HOURS @                                                     |                                              |                |
| Cummins                                                                                                                                                                                               | Gulfport        |                                                      |           |                                                               | \$ 2.50                                                     |                                              |                |
| RENTAL WILL BE PAID BY                                                                                                                                                                                |                 |                                                      |           | (23)                                                          | DAYS @                                                      |                                              |                |
| 041 113 637 7/                                                                                                                                                                                        |                 |                                                      |           |                                                               | \$ 10.00                                                    |                                              |                |
| James E. Ray                                                                                                                                                                                          |                 |                                                      |           | (24)                                                          | WEEKS @                                                     |                                              |                |
| A fine charge on unit                                                                                                                                                                                 |                 |                                                      |           | (25)                                                          | @                                                           |                                              |                |
| 246 because of car trouble                                                                                                                                                                            |                 |                                                      |           |                                                               |                                                             |                                              |                |
| (7) IDENTIFICATION                                                                                                                                                                                    |                 |                                                      |           | (26) SUB TOTAL                                                |                                                             | 5.07                                         |                |
| CENTRAL BILLING <input type="checkbox"/> AVIS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AMEX <input type="checkbox"/> DIN <input type="checkbox"/> CB <input type="checkbox"/> ATC <input type="checkbox"/> |                 |                                                      |           | (27) TRAVEL AGENT COMMISSION                                  |                                                             | (27a)                                        |                |
| OTHER                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                 |                                                      |           | YES <input type="checkbox"/>                                  |                                                             |                                              |                |
| (9) CAR WILL BE RETURNED TO                                                                                                                                                                           |                 |                                                      |           | (28) TIME AND MILEAGE CHARGE                                  |                                                             | 5.07                                         |                |
| 3-1-67                                                                                                                                                                                                |                 |                                                      |           | (29) INTERCITY FEE QUOTED                                     |                                                             | \$ NONE                                      |                |
| (8) CAR WILL BE RETURNED TO                                                                                                                                                                           |                 |                                                      |           | (30) MISC.                                                    |                                                             |                                              |                |
| J. E. Ray                                                                                                                                                                                             |                 |                                                      |           | (31) ACCEPTS                                                  |                                                             | DECLINES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                |
| (10) UNEXPIRED DRIVER'S LICENSE PRESENTED                                                                                                                                                             |                 |                                                      |           | (32) PRE-TAX TOTAL                                            |                                                             | 5.07                                         |                |
| YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0811218                                                                                                                                                       |                 |                                                      |           | (33) TAX                                                      |                                                             | 4 1/2 %                                      |                |
| (11) LOCAL CONTACT/ ADDITIONAL INFO                                                                                                                                                                   |                 |                                                      |           | (34) OTHER                                                    |                                                             | 23                                           |                |
| Truck Winder                                                                                                                                                                                          |                 |                                                      |           | (35) TOTAL CHARGE                                             |                                                             | 5.30                                         |                |
| (12) I HAVE READ THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS ON BOTH SIDES OF THIS RENTAL AGREEMENT AND AGREE THERETO.                                                                                                   |                 |                                                      |           | (36) LESS: GAS, ETC.                                          |                                                             |                                              |                |
| X James E. Ray                                                                                                                                                                                        |                 |                                                      |           | (37) NET CHARGE                                               |                                                             | 5.30                                         |                |
| (13)                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                 |                                                      |           | (43) METHOD OF PAYMENT                                        |                                                             | (38) AMOUNT DUE (U.S.\$)                     |                |
| CORRECTED BILLING NAME AND ADDRESS                                                                                                                                                                    |                 |                                                      |           | CASH <input type="checkbox"/> CHK. <input type="checkbox"/>   |                                                             | 5.30                                         |                |
| 4124 E. Ridge Dr.                                                                                                                                                                                     |                 |                                                      |           | (39) REFUND REC'D                                             |                                                             | X                                            |                |
| Chattanooga, Tenn.                                                                                                                                                                                    |                 |                                                      |           | (40) OUT BY (NO.)                                             |                                                             | (41) IN BY (NO.)                             |                |
| PO Box 1081                                                                                                                                                                                           |                 |                                                      |           | 2-11-68                                                       |                                                             | 6-11-68                                      |                |
| (1081)                                                                                                                                                                                                |                 |                                                      |           | (42) CHECK IN STATION (NO.)                                   |                                                             | 6-11-68                                      |                |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                 |                                                      |           | RENTAL AGREEMENT NO.                                          |                                                             | 7161294                                      |                |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                 |                                                      |           | THIS NUMBER MUST APPEAR ON ALL CORRESPONDENCE AND REMITTANCES |                                                             |                                              |                |



44-1987-Sub E-1022

CONTROL COPY

SEARCHED INDEXED

SERIALIZED FILED

MAY 27 1968

FBI - MEMPHIS

Boyle BB

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                             |                                                                                 |                                                                                         |                     |                                                              |                      |                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 7161294                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                             | Broadwater Beach 23-12L<br>MUNICIPAL AIRPORT<br>GULFPORT, MISS.<br>601-864-7132 |                                                                                         | (1) STATION         | MILEAGE DETERMINED BY READING<br>FACTORY INSTALLED ODOMETER  |                      | (16) TIME USED<br>39 miles          |
| (47)                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | (2) CAR NUMBER<br>340       | (3) CAR LICENSE NO.<br>C-23030                                                  | (4) STATE<br>Miss.                                                                      | (19) MILES IN<br>28 | (17) TIME IN<br>4-1                                          | (20) MILES OUT<br>44 | (18) TIME OUT<br>3-31 5:15 PM       |
| (2A) CAR MAKE<br>Cruiser                                                                                                                                                                                                          | (5) OWNING CITY<br>Gulfport |                                                                                 | (21) MILES DRIVEN<br>39                                                                 |                     | (22) HOURS @<br>\$ 7.50                                      |                      |                                     |
| RENTAL WILL BE PAID BY<br>041 113 637 7<br>James E. Ray<br>Some charge on card<br>246 because of car trouble                                                                                                                      |                             |                                                                                 | (23) DAYS @<br>\$ 16.00                                                                 |                     | (24) WEEKS @<br>\$                                           |                      |                                     |
| (7) IDENTIFICATION<br>CENTRAL BILLING <input type="checkbox"/> AVIS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AMEX <input type="checkbox"/> DIN <input type="checkbox"/> CB <input type="checkbox"/> ATC <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER |                             |                                                                                 | (25) @<br>\$                                                                            |                     | (26) SUB TOTAL<br>\$ 1.07                                    |                      |                                     |
| (9) CAR WILL BE RETURNED ON<br>4-1-67                                                                                                                                                                                             |                             |                                                                                 | (8) CAR WILL BE RETURNED TO<br>GULFPORT                                                 |                     | (27) TRAVEL AGENT COMMISSION<br>YES <input type="checkbox"/> |                      |                                     |
| (10) UNEXPIRED DRIVER'S LICENSE PRESENTED<br>YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0811218                                                                                                                                      |                             |                                                                                 | (11) LOCAL CONTACT/ ADDITIONAL INFO<br>Theresa Winters                                  |                     | (28) TIME AND MILEAGE CHARGE<br>\$ 1.07                      |                      |                                     |
| (12) I HAVE READ THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS ON BOTH SIDES OF THIS RENTAL AGREEMENT AND AGREE THERETO.<br>X James E. Ray                                                                                                             |                             |                                                                                 | (15) DEPOSIT<br>CASH <input type="checkbox"/> CHK. <input type="checkbox"/>             |                     | (29) INTERCITY FEE QUOTED<br>\$ NONE                         |                      |                                     |
| (13) CORRECTED BILLING NAME AND ADDRESS<br>4124 E. Ridge Dr.<br>Chattanooga, Tenn.<br>PO Box 1081<br>(1081)                                                                                                                       |                             |                                                                                 | (30) MISC.                                                                              |                     | (31) ACCEPTS DECLINES<br>X                                   |                      |                                     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                             |                                                                                 | (32) PRE-TAX TOTAL<br>\$ 1.07                                                           |                     | (33) TAX<br>4 1/2 %                                          |                      | 23                                  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                             |                                                                                 | (34) OTHER                                                                              |                     | (35) TOTAL CHARGE<br>\$ 3.0                                  |                      |                                     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                             |                                                                                 | (36) LESS: GAS, ETC.                                                                    |                     | (37) NET CHARGE<br>\$ 3.0                                    |                      |                                     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                             |                                                                                 | (43) METHOD OF PAYMENT<br>CASH <input type="checkbox"/> CHARGE <input type="checkbox"/> |                     | (38) AMOUNT DUE (U.S.\$)<br>\$ 3.0                           |                      |                                     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                             |                                                                                 | (40) OUT BY (NO.)<br>21                                                                 |                     | (41) IN BY (NO.)<br>31                                       |                      | (42) CHECK-IN STATION (NO.)<br>M115 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                             |                                                                                 | GULFPORT MISS.                                                                          |                     | RENTAL AGREEMENT NO.<br>7161294                              |                      |                                     |

F B I

Date: 5/23/68

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

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)  
FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)

MURKIN  
CR

Enclosed for Memphis and Knoxville are two Avis Rent-A-Car contracts, two enclosures for Memphis, two enclosures for Knoxville, concerning JAMES E. RAY, home address 4124 East Ridge Drive, Chattanooga, Tenn., P. O. Box 1081.

The following investigation was conducted by SA LEON ROSS GRABEN on 5/20/68, at Gulfport, Miss.:

Mr. D. F. LIONBERGER, Manager, Avis Rent-A-Car, Biloxi-Gulfport Airport, advised that his office is presently under an audit and during the course of examination of rental agreements executed during the year 1967, two agreements were located in the name of JAMES E. RAY. Mr. LIONBERGER said he desired to bring this to the attention of the FBI due to the similarity of names. He advised that he has photos of the wanted man known as JAMES EARL RAY and is familiar with the background in the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING. He said he has no reason to believe the person represented on the rental agreements is identical to the RAY who killed Dr. KING.

Mr. LIONBERGER pointed out that on the rental agreement number 7161294, the time out is listed as

- ② - Memphis (Encs. 2) (RM)  
2 - Knoxville (Encs. 2) (RM)  
2 - Jackson

JLP/pac

(6)

Approved: RKM  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

44-1987-Sub E-1029A

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| SERIALIZED..... | FILED.....   |
| MAY 27 1968     |              |
| FBI - MEMPHIS   |              |

Boyle GB

JN 157-9586

3/31/67, at 5:15 p.m., and that the indicated time of return is 3/1/67. He advised this latter date, 3/1/67, should have been 4/1/67.

It is noted that these two rental agreements were executed in March, 1967, at a time when subject JAMES EARL RAY was allegedly in the Mississippi State Penitentiary.

In the event JAMES E. RAY of Chattanooga, Tenn., has not been located and eliminated, the Knoxville Division should locate and interview RAY.

LEAD

KNOXVILLE

AT CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE

If not already done, JAMES E. RAY of 4124 East Ridge Drive, Chattanooga, should be located and thoroughly interviewed.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

F B I

Date: 5/23/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT  
(Type in plain text or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND  
SAC, DALLAS (44-1574) AND  
SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

FROM: SAC, EL PASO (157-186)

MURKIN.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE ON GREYHOUND BUS EN ROUTE FROM TULSA,  
OKLA. TO DALLAS, MAY TWENTY TWO, LAST, WHO IMPLICATED SELF  
ALONG WITH GROUP OF TWENTY IN KING ASSASSINATION.

MRS. NORMA KIRKPATRICK (PROTECT IDENTITY), ONE ZERO  
ZERO SEVEN W. GRIFFIN ST., MIDLAND, TEXAS, ADVISED TODAY THAT  
WHEN SHE BOARDED GREYHOUND BUS, TULSA, OKLAHOMA, MAY TWENTY  
TWO, LAST, A WHITE MALE WHOM SHE DESCRIBED TO BE AGE THIRTY  
FIVE TO THIRTY EIGHT, SIX FEET, ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY FIVE TO  
ONE HUNDRED NINETY POUNDS, WHO HAD SMALL BROWN SPECK MARKS  
ON FACE, SLIGHTLY SLANTED EYES AND MOUTH, ONE AND ONE HALF  
INCH V SHAPED SCAR BACK OF HEAD, BROWN CREWCUT HAIR, BROWN  
EYES, WEARING OLD BROWN SUIT, BROWN KNIT SWEATER, DARK BLUE  
SPORT SHIRT, WAS SITTING IN AISLE SEAT ABOUT TWO THIRDS OF  
THE WAY BACK IN THE BUS ON THE LEFT SIDE AS ONE WALKS TO  
THE REAR. SHE STATES THAT ABOUT ONE HOUR EN ROUTE FROM TULSA

1 - El Paso  
① Memphis (44-1987) (AM)

PDS/bad  
(2)

44-1987-SUB E-1023

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| SERIALIZED..... | FILED.....   |
| MAY 27 1968     |              |
| FBI - MEMPHIS   |              |

*Boyle RB*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

EP 157-186

PAGE TWO.

TO DALLAS THIS INDIVIDUAL MADE THE REMARK IN A LOUD MANNER WHERE OTHER BUS PASSENGERS COULD HEAR "I KILLED ONE MAN. I AM WANTED IN FORTY EIGHT STATES BUT THEY WILL NEVER CATCH ME. I'LL TELL YOU ABOUT MARTIN LUTHER KING. THERE ARE TWENTY OF US IN ON THAT. WE ARE IN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND WHO WOULD SUSPECT US." INDIVIDUAL STATED "I AM GOING BACK TO OLD LA." INDIVIDUAL ALSO DISCUSSED PRESIDENTIAL HISTORY. MRS. KIRKPATRICK STATED THIS INDIVIDUAL LEFT THE BUS AT DALLAS AND BOARDED GREYHOUND BUS AT DALLAS ABOUT ELEVEN TEN PM, MAY TWENTY TWO, LAST. MRS. KIRKPATRICK KNEW NO OTHER INDIVIDUALS ON BUS FROM TULSA TO DALLAS. SHE STATES WANTED FLYER OF JAMES EARL RAY DEFINITELY NOT IDENTICAL WITH INDIVIDUAL ON BUS AND COULD IDENTIFY NO ADDITIONAL TOP TEN PHOTOS OR IDENTIFICATION ORDERS SHOWN TO HER.

DALLAS AT DALLAS: WILL AT GREYHOUND BUS DEPOT DETERMINE IDENTITY OF DRIVER OF GREYHOUND BUS WHICH LEFT DALLAS APPROXIMATELY ELEVEN TEN PM, MAY TWENTY TWO, LAST, IN EFFORT TO FURTHER IDENTIFY INDIVIDUAL MENTIONED BY MRS. KIRKPATRICK. WILL ALSO ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY DRIVER OF BUS WHICH ARRIVED

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

EP 157-186

PAGE THREE.

DALLAS FROM TULSA ABOUT TEN THIRTY PM, MAY TWENTY TWO, LAST,  
IN ORDER TO FURTHER CORROBORATE INFORMATION GIVEN BY MRS.  
KIRKPATRICK.

LOS ANGELES AT LOS ANGELES: WILL COVER ARRIVAL OF  
GREYHOUND BUS, NUMBER NOT KNOWN, WHICH LEFT DALLAS, ELEVEN  
TEN PM, MAY TWENTY TWO, LAST, IN EFFORT TO IDENTIFY INDIVIDUAL  
REFERRED TO BY MRS. KIRKPATRICK AND ELIMINATE THIS INDIVIDUAL  
OR ESTABLISH HIM AS POSSIBLE SUSPECT IN MURKIN.

Rm CC TO MR.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

5/27/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, DALLAS (44-2649) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

OO-MEMPHIS

Re El Paso teletype, 5/23/68; Phoenix teletype, 5/23/68;  
and Los Angeles teletype to Phoenix, Dallas and El Paso, 5/23/68.

RE: Suspect on Greyhound Bus from Tulsa, Oklahoma,  
to Dallas, Texas, 5/22/68

HAROLD ST. CLAIR, home address 7303 East 7th Street,  
Tulsa, Oklahoma, telephone TE 5-5168, was interviewed by SA  
WILLIAM B. HOLLOMAN at Dallas, Texas, on 5/24/68. He stated he  
was the driver of Greyhound Bus No. 1314 which arrived at Dallas,  
Texas, from Tulsa, Oklahoma, at about 9:35 PM, 5/22/68. He  
stated he believes he had about 20 passengers that night and  
he does not recall anyone fitting the description given by  
MRS. NORMA KIRKPATRICK. He said there were no incidents that  
he can recall during the trip, no one was loud or unruly, and  
no one called to his attention anyone making any unusual  
statements.

3 - Bureau  
② - Memphis (44-1987)  
1 - El Paso (157-186) (Info)  
1 - Los Angeles (44-1574) (Info)  
1 - Phoenix (44-371)  
2 - Dallas  
WBH/jc  
(10)

44-1987-Sub E-1023A

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| SEARCHED.....   | INDEXED..... |
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| MAY 28 1968     |              |
| FBI - MEMPHIS   |              |

BOYLE RB

DL 44-2649

On 5/24/68, TOMMIE LEE THOMAS, 4223 Huckleberry Circle, Dallas, advised SA JAMES J. SHERMAN he is a relief Greyhound Bus driver and on 5/22/68, he took Bus No. 1314 scheduled to leave Dallas at 11:01 PM from Dallas to San Antonio. The final destination of this bus is Laredo, Texas. The bus that night was delayed in departure because of mechanical difficulties until 11:30 PM and was the only section of that schedule to be operated. THOMAS stated he did not recall anyone fitting the description of person described by MRS. KIRKPATRICK on the bus that night. There were no unusual incidents and he recalls nothing out of the ordinary about the trip.

On 5/24/68, A. E. GRACEY, 1905 Sussex, Garland, Texas, advised SA SHERMAN that on 5/22/68, he drove Greyhound Bus No. 1394 which departed Dallas at about 11:15 PM en route to Abilene, Texas. The final destination of this bus was Los Angeles, California. GRACEY stated he is positive he did not have a passenger fitting the description of the person described by MRS. KIRKPATRICK. He stated he had about 18 passengers leaving Dallas and during the trip there were no unusual incidents or any trouble with any passenger.



In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

San Diego, California  
May 23, 1968

POSSIBLE THREAT AGAINST ROBERT  
F. KENNEDY, PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE,  
SPEECH AT CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA,  
MAY 20, 1968

On May 20, 1968, THOMAS F. JOHNSON, San Diego County Sheriff's Office, El Cajon Substation, telephonically contacted the San Diego Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and furnished the following information:

JOHNSON advised that he had been contacted by a fourteen-year-old boy named KEITH KING, 781 Monserate Avenue, Chula Vista, California. KING told him that while he was getting ready to leave the area in front of the Chula Vista library where ROBERT F. KENNEDY had just spoke, he was approached by a man who resembled JAMES EARL RAY. This man asked KEITH where and when KENNEDY was to speak again. When told that he did not know where and when KENNEDY was to speak, this individual then asked him the location of a good place to eat with a telephone. KING felt that the man with whom he spoke looked very similar to a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY appearing in a recent issue of the Chula Vista "Star News."

Mr. WILLIAM DOBREVIR, "Citizens for Kennedy," KENNEDY Campaign Headquarters, San Diego, California, was contacted on May 20, 1968, at which time he advised that ROBERT F. KENNEDY had departed the San Diego, California, area en route to Los Angeles, California.

Mr. DOBREVIR was advised of the information furnished by KEITH KING and he stated that he would relay this information to the KENNEDY Campaign Headquarters at Los Angeles, California.

44-1987-Sub E-1024

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| MAY 23 1968     |         |
| FBI - SAN DIEGO |         |

Hester

POSSIBLE THREAT AGAINST ROBERT  
F. KENNEDY, PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE,  
SPEECH AT CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA,  
MAY 20, 1968

Deputy Sheriff THOMAS E. JOHNSON, San Diego County Sheriff's Office, El Cajon Substation, El Cajon, California, was recontacted on May 21, 1968 and advised that he had no further information to relate concerning information furnished to him by KEITH KING, except to state that KING resides in his immediate neighborhood and considers him a highly reliable young man.

KEITH KING, 781 Monserate Avenue, Chula Vista, California, was interviewed on May 21, 1968 and he advised as follows:

KING had occasion to be present at the campaign speech of ROBERT F. KENNEDY at the Civic Center, Chula Vista, California, on May 20, 1968. A short time after the speech by Mr. KENNEDY ended, which was then approximately 5:20 to 5:30 p.m., an individual closely resembling JAMES EARL RAY approached him and asked him if KENNEDY had made his speech yet. When told that he had, this individual appeared surprised and then asked where KENNEDY was going to speak next.

KING stated that he had a schedule of Mr. KENNEDY's appearances in the San Diego area and told this individual that his next appearance would be at San Ysidro, California.

This individual asked KING where there was a good place to eat where he could obtain a telephone. He also asked him if there was a telegraph office in San Ysidro, to which KING replied he could not furnish this information as he did not know.

KING described this individual as approximately forty years of age, white, male, American, five feet eight inches to five feet nine inches, 160 to 170 pounds, hair medium brown, complexion fair to medium, wearing a blue coat, light-colored slacks and brown shoes.

KING advised that prior to seeing this individual he had read an article in the Chula Vista "Star News"

POSSIBLE THREAT AGAINST ROBERT  
F. KENNEDY, PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE,  
SPEECH AT CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA,  
MAY 20, 1968

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concerning JAMES EARL RAY, which also had a photograph of RAY in the paper. According to KING, the individual who contacted him at Chula Vista closely resembled JAMES EARL RAY.

On May 21, 1968, Mrs. ELSIE ZUNIGA, Manager, Western Union Office, San Ysidro, California, advised she usually closes the Western Union office at 5:00 p.m. on a daily basis; however, on May 20, 1968 she closed the office at 4:45 p.m. in order to go to the campaign speech of ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

Photographs of JAMES EARL RAY were displayed to Mrs. ZUNIGA and she advised that she has not seen anyone fitting his description in the San Ysidro, California, area.

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.

5/23/68

A I R T E L

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
FROM: SAC, SAN DIEGO (175-8) (P)

POSSIBLE THREAT AGAINST ROBERT  
F. KENNEDY, PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE,  
SPEECH AT CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA  
MAY 20, 1968  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

MURKIN

ReSDtel to Bureau, Los Angeles, and Memphis, 5/20/68,  
and SDtel to Bureau and WFO 5/21/68.

Enclosed for the Bureau are fifteen (15) copies of a  
letterhead memorandum relating to a possible threat against  
Presidential candidate ROBERT F. KENNEDY and his speech at Chula  
Vista, California, 5/20/68. Additional copies of this enclosure  
are being submitted to the Bureau in view of the MURKIN angle.

Enclosed for the Los Angeles and Memphis Divisions  
are two (2) copies and three (3) copies, respectively, for  
information.

- 4 - Bureau (Encs. 15)  
(1 - 44-38861)
- 2 - Los Angeles (Encs. 2)
- 3 - Memphis (Encs. 3)
- 3 - San Diego  
(1 - 44-387)

AWO:mel  
(12)

44-1987-Sub E-1024A

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| MAY 27 1968         |                |
| FBI - MEMPHIS       |                |

*Hester*



In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Miami, Florida  
May 24, 1968

Re: THREATS AGAINST SEN. ROBERT F.  
KENNEDY, MIAMI, FLORIDA, FOLLOWING  
ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER  
KING, JR. BY ROLAND CHESLEY TALBOTT, JR.  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

On May 23, 1968, a confidential source advised the Cleveland Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that his wife had recently returned from Miami, Florida, where she had worked in a bar. During her stay in Miami she met a man named Roland (last name unknown), who stated he was a Ku Klux Klan Grand Dragon and who drove a white Mustang. Roland stated to her after King's death that he had knowledge of it, and that Adam Clayton Powell, Stokely Carmichael, and H. Rap Brown were also scheduled for assassination and that "we will take care of Bobby Kennedy so he will never become president."

Roland reportedly carries weapons in his car and is accompanied by a large, vicious Doberman pinscher dog.

Roland was identified by the Miami Office of the FBI as Roland Chesley Talbott, Jr. Talbott operates a white Mustang and breeds Doberman pinscher dogs. He is a former member of Klavern #6, United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, and last attended a meeting of Klavern #6 on September 11, 1967.

A characterization of the United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, is contained in the appendix section of this memorandum.

Talbott is described as follows:

|                |                             |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Name           | Roland Chesley Talbott, Jr. |
| Race           | White                       |
| Sex            | Male                        |
| Date of birth  |                             |
| Place of birth | Richmond, Virginia          |
| Height         | 6'                          |
| Weight         | 170 pounds                  |

44-1987-Sub E-1025  
1025

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| SEARCHED.....   | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED..... | FILED.....   |
| FBI - MIAMI     |              |

Boyle BTB

Re: THREATS AGAINST SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY,  
MIAMI, FLORIDA, FOLLOWING ASSASSINATION  
OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BY  
ROLAND CHESLEY TALBOTT, JR.

|              |                                          |
|--------------|------------------------------------------|
| Hair         | Brown                                    |
| Eyes         | Blue                                     |
| Occupation   | Auto mechanic                            |
| Home address | 525 N. E. 129th Street<br>Miami, Florida |
| Wife         | Louise                                   |

Talbott was interviewed on May 24, 1968, at his place of employment, McGahey Chrysler-Plymouth, 1930 N. E. 2nd Avenue, Miami, Florida. He stated he has been "shooting his mouth off" sympathizing with individuals responsible for or connected with the shooting of Martin Luther King, Jr. ever since April 4, 1968.

Talbott further stated that he is of the opinion that Adam Clayton Powell, H. Rap Brown, and Stokely Carmichael should also be assassinated and that Bobby Kennedy should be stopped by non-violent means so he can never become president. Talbott believes Kennedy is responsible for all the current racial unrest in this country.

Talbott advised that he believes in the supremacy of the white race and stated that he is a former Klansman. Talbott stated even though he makes many controversial statements, he has no intention of perpetrating any such act such as shooting a Negro or political leader and is not acquainted with anyone who would do so.

Talbott advised that on occasion he carries firearms in his automobile but not for the purpose of shooting anyone.

The employment records of McGahey Chrysler-Plymouth were reviewed with reference to Roland Talbott and these records indicate that Talbott was at work at McGahey, Miami, Florida, on April 4, 1968.

The above information was immediately furnished by telephone to the 111th M. I. Group, Miami, Florida, U. S. Secret Service, Miami, Florida, United States Attorney,

Re: THREATS AGAINST SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY,  
MIAMI, FLORIDA, FOLLOWING ASSASSINATION  
OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BY  
ROLAND CHESLEY TALBOTT, JR.

Miami, Florida, and the Intelligence Units of the Miami  
Police Department and the Dade County Department of Public  
Safety.

Copies of this memorandum are being furnished  
locally to the 111th M. I. Group, Miami and Orlando,  
Florida, the U. S. Secret Service, Miami, and the  
United States Attorney, Miami, Florida.

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.

**UNITED KLANS OF AMERICA, INC.  
KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN**

Records of Superior Court of Fulton County, Georgia, reflect that this Klan organization was granted a corporate charter on February 21, 1961, at Atlanta, Georgia, under the name United Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of America, Inc.

A source advised on February 27, 1961, that United Klans was formed as a result of a split in U. S. Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc. According to the source, the split resulted from a leadership dispute and United Klans has the same aims and objectives as the parent group. These are the promotion of Americanism, white supremacy, and segregation of the races.

The first source and a second source advised on July, 1961, that United Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of America, Inc., merged with Alabama Knights, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. The merged organization established headquarters in Suite 401, Alston Building, Tuscaloosa, Alabama. (The organization is directed by ROBERT SHELTON, Imperial Wizard, and is the dominant Klan group in the South, with units in several southern states.)

Second source advised that at a meeting in Prattville, Alabama, on October 22, 1961, the U. S. Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, merged with the United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

Third source advised on May 25, 1966, that the UKA is currently an active organization, with Klaverns in several states. This source said that ROBERT M. SHELTON is the Imperial Wizard of this organization and was elected to this position on September 5, 1964, at a National Klonvocation in Birmingham, Alabama. Source stated that during April, 1966, the National office was moved from Suite 401, Alston Building, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, to the carport of SHELTON's residence, #18 Lake Sherwood, Star Route, Northport, Alabama, which space he had converted into a room.

4\*



*In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Miami, Florida  
May 24, 1968

|           |                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Title     | THREATS AGAINST SEN. ROBERT F.<br>KENNEDY, MIAMI, FLORIDA, FOLLOWING<br>ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER<br>KING, JR. BY ROLAND CHESLEY<br>TALBOTT, JR. |
| Character | INFORMATION CONCERNING                                                                                                                                    |
| Reference | Memorandum dated and captioned<br>as above at Miami, Florida.                                                                                             |

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

F B I

Date: 5/24/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
 FROM: SAC, MIAMI (44-1854) (P)  
 SUBJECT: MURKIN  
 CR

(OO: Memphis)

THREATS AGAINST SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY  
MIAMI, FLORIDA, FOLLOWING ASSASSINATION  
OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BY  
ROLAND CHESLEY TALBOTT, JR.  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Re Cleveland teletypes (2) to Miami dated 5/23/68,  
 and Miami teletype to Bureau dated 5/24/68.

Enclosed for the Bureau are 11 copies of an LHM  
 suitable for dissemination. Four copies of this LHM are  
 being furnished to Washington Field and Atlanta. Two  
 copies of this LHM are being furnished to Cleveland,  
 Memphis and Richmond.

Miami will furnish Memphis investigative inserts  
 concerning captioned matter under separate cover.

3 - Bureau (Enc. 11) (RM)  
 2 - Washington Field (Enc. 4) (RM)  
 2 - Atlanta (44-2386) (Enc. 4) (RM)  
 2 - Cleveland (Enc. 2) (RM)  
 ② - Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 2) (RM)  
 2 - Richmond (Enc. 2) (RM)  
 2 - Miami (1 - 44-1854) (1 - 157-1993)  
 DNJ:vc  
 (15)

E

44-1987-Sub E-1025A  
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| SEARCHED.....   | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED..... | FILED.....   |
| MAY 27 1968     |              |
| FBI - MEMPHIS   |              |

Bayer RB

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Agent in Charge

**MM 44-1854**

**Source referred to in LHM is CV 346-C, whose identity is known to the Bureau.**

**SINCE TALBOTT OFTEN CARRIES FIREARMS IN HIS AUTOMOBILE, HE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.**

MM 44-1854

JJM:vc

1.

AT MIAMI, FLORIDA

On May 16, 1968, the Jacksonville Office advised that a late model Buick bearing Florida license 1W 194103 was observed traveling on New York Avenue, Washington, D. C. on May 16, 1968, by an individual resembling subject.

On May 17, 1968, ALBERTO VADIA, Executive, Pan American Land Development Corporation, 2300 Coral Way, Miami, Florida, advised SA JOHN J. MC BREEN that the above license was issued for a 1968 Pontiac GTO which is owned by him. The car is presently being used by his son, ALBERT VADIA, JR., 1831 Belmont Road, N.W., Apartment 301, Washington, D. C. His son is a Freshman student at Catholic University, Washington, D. C.

44-1987-Sub E-1025B

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| SEARCHED.....   | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED..... | FILED.....   |
| MAY 24 1968     |              |
| FBI — MEMPHIS   |              |

101

MM 44-1854

ME 44-1987

DNJ:vc

1.

The following investigation was conducted  
by SA DAVID N. JELLISON at McGahey Chrysler Plymouth,  
1930 N. E. 2nd Avenue, Miami, Florida, on May 24, 1968:

The employment records at McGahey Chrysler  
Plymouth were reviewed with reference to ROLAND CHESLEY  
TALBOTT, JR. These records were furnished by BEN MC GAHEY,  
owner. These records indicate that TALBOTT was at work at  
McGahey Chrysler Plymouth on April 4, 1968.

44-1987-Sub E-1625C  
~~44-1987-Sub~~

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| SEARCHED.....     | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED...5... | FILED...5... |
| MAY 29 1968       |              |
| FBI — MEMPHIS     |              |

*Dexter* *[Signature]*

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1.

5/27/68

Date

ROLAND CHESLEY TALBOTT, JR. was interviewed at his place of employment, McGahey Chrysler Plymouth, 1930 N. E. 2nd Avenue, Miami, Florida.

TALBOTT advised that he has been "shooting his mouth off" sympathizing with the person or persons responsible for shooting MARTIN LUTHER KING ever since April 4, 1968. TALBOTT stated further that he is of the opinion that ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, STOKELY CARMICHAEL and H. RAP BROWN should also be assassinated.

TALBOTT is of the opinion that BOBBY KENNEDY is responsible for all the racial unrest in the country and he believes that KENNEDY should be stopped by non-violent means so that he can never become president.

TALBOTT advised that he believes in the supremacy of the white race. TALBOTT stated he was a former member of Klavern Number 6, United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, but has not attended any meetings of Klavern Number 6, since last fall.

TALBOTT advised that even though he makes many controversial statements, he has no intention of perpetrating any such act such as shooting a Negro or a political leader and is not acquainted with anyone who would do so.

TALBOTT advised that occasionally he carries firearms in his automobile but not for the purpose of shooting anyone.

TALBOTT advised that he knows nothing of the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING other than what he has heard through the news media, and has no knowledge of those responsible for the assassination.

On 5/24/68 at Miami, Florida

by SA DAVID N. JELLISON:vc

File #

44-1987-Sub E-1625D

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| SEARCHED.....   | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED..... | FILED.....   |
| MAY 28 1968     |              |
| MIAMI           |              |

Hester

Date dictated

5/27/68

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.

**File - Serial Charge Out**  
FD-5 (Rev. 12 60)

File 44-1987-SUB-E Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Class. Case No. Last Serial

☐ Pending

 Closed

| Serial No. | Description of Serial | Date Charged |
|------------|-----------------------|--------------|
|------------|-----------------------|--------------|

~~SERIAL 1025E IS SAME AS 1025F~~

Employee

## RECHARGE

Date \_\_\_\_\_

To \_\_\_\_\_ From \_\_\_\_\_

Date charged

Employee

**Location**

F B I

Date: 5/27/68

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

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)  
FROM: SAC, MIAMI (44-1854) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
(OO: Memphis)

*Sub E-1025*

Re Memphis letter to Miami dated 5/24/68, and Miami airtel and LHM to Bureau dated 5/24/68, regarding ROLAND CHESLEY TALBOTT, JR.

Enclosed for the Memphis Division are 15 copies of an investigative insert concerning ALBERTO VADIA, 15 copies of an investigative insert dealing with employment checks at McGahey Chrysler Plymouth, Miami, concerning ROLAND CHESLEY TALBOTT, JR., and 15 copies of an FD-302 covering interview with ROLAND C. TALBOTT, JR.

Referenced Memphis letter apparently crossed Miami MURKIN report in the mail and the inserts dealing with ALBERTO VADIA are being re-submitted to the Memphis Office for possible inclusion in an investigative report.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

② - Memphis (Enc. 45) (RM)  
2 - Miami  
DNJ:vc  
(4)

*lf*

*44-1987-Sub E-1025*

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| SEARCHED.....   | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED..... | FILED.....   |
| MAY 29 1968     |              |
| FBI - MEMPHIS   |              |

*Hester*

Approved: *JK* \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS

DATE: 6/5/68

FROM : SAC, WFO (62-9769) (RUC)

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
(OO:ME)

THREATS AGAINST SENATOR  
ROBERT F. KENNEDY,  
MIAMI, FLORIDA, FOLLOWING  
ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN  
LUTHER KING, JR. BY ROLAND  
CHESLEY TALBOTT, JR. — Sub E - 1025  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

ReMtel, 5/24/68, to the Bureau and Mairtel to  
the Bureau, 5/24/68.

On 5/24/68, the following agencies were advised of  
the information contained in referenced communications:

1. R.N. JONES, Duty Agent, U.S. Secret Service,  
Washington Field Office, Washington, D.C. (WDC).
2. Lieutenant J. T. TROLLINGER, U.S. Capitol Police,  
Department, WDC.
3. Detective Sergeant R. FORD, Intelligence Division,  
MPD, WDC.

2 - Memphis  
1 - Miami (47-1854)  
2 - WFO  
(1-44-703)

JFC:sas  
(5)

DATE FILE STRIPPED 6/5/87  
INITIALS mas  
RE: BU AIRTEL DTD 11/3/86



5010-108

44-1987-Sub E-1025E

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| SEARCHED.....   | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED..... | FILED.....   |
| JUN 10 1968     |              |
| FBI — MEMPHIS   |              |

*Ronan*

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

5/24/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, JACKSONVILLE (44-769) (P)  
SUBJ: MURKIN  
(OO:Memphis)

Re Bureau radiogram dated 5/21/68 regarding Drivers License Bureau checks for all drivers licenses applications for months of April and May, 1968.

Major C. W. KEITH, Department of Public Safety (DPS), Florida Highway Patrol, Tallahassee, Florida, advised on 5/23/68 that approximately nine hundred thousand new Florida drivers licenses were issued in the State each year. For the months of April and May there would be approximately 150 thousand new drivers licenses issued.

The following is the procedure for the issuance of new drivers licenses in the State of Florida:

There are 110 examining points in the State. An applicant appears at one of these examining points and is furnished an application, a xerox copy of which is attached. After an applicant has successfully passed his tests, the application and the fee go to the County Judge's Office. At the County Judge's Office, the Florida drivers license is issued. There is an original and two copies of this license. The applicant receives the original and a copy with the application is forwarded to the DPS at Tallahassee. The third copy is filed at the County Judge's Office.

3 - Bureau (Enc. 1)  
2 - Tampa (Enc. 1)  
2 - Miami (Enc. 1)  
1 - Memphis (Enc. 1)  
2 - Jacksonville  
TJW:jep

(10)

44-1987-Sub E-1026

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| SEARCHED.....   | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED..... | FILED.....   |
| MAY 27 1968     |              |
| FBI - MEMPHIS   |              |

Boyle BTB

The County Judge's Office forwards the copy of the license and application about every thirty days; some of the larger counties are more prompt, others go as long as two months before forwarding same. The licenses at the County Judge's Office, as are those at the DPS in Tallahassee, are filed alphabetically and there is no numerical order of the record. The Department of Public Safety examining points file once a month, usually on the 5th, Form DL 16, which report lists the name of the applicants for drivers licenses for the previous month and if the fee has been paid. There is no other information on this DL 16. A copy of this form remains at the examining point. At this time, the only possible reasonable check that could be made would be as follows:

1. Contact made with the senior examiner, who is an employee of the DPS, at the 110 examining points throughout the State of Florida.
2. With the senior examiner, go to the County Judge's Office and examine all Florida drivers licenses that they have not as yet forwarded to Tallahassee.
3. With a copy of the DL 16 kept on file at the examining point, check the names alphabetically with the drivers licenses on file at the County Judge's Office. For the month of April the DL 16 would be complete, while the month of May would only be partially completed and not complete until around 6/3/68.

Each FBI Field Division in Florida, if the above system is practical, could cover their own leads after checking out the drivers licenses, which would save considerable paper work by one Division.

The above procedure is the only way that a complete search could be made at this time since it will be the end of June or the middle of July before such a search can be made at the DPS at Tallahassee.

JK 44-769

In addition, it is to be pointed out that a search of the names of the DL 16 in the County Judge's Office would be much faster than a search at DPS, Tallahassee, as it would mean fewer licenses to be checked.

It should be noted that not all the names on the DL 16 will be found to have drivers licenses as many applicants file and don't return, while others fail to pass.

Major KEITH advises the following counties have not forwarded their license returns for April:

Bradford, Citrus, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas and Taylor.

The following counties have already made returns through 5/13/68:

Broward, Dade and St. Johns

Major KEITH advised because of the present work load at the drivers license division of the DPS, it would be impossible for them to pull that many files during the regular work day. The Major explained that their personnel would have to be the ones to pull the files because of their new mechanical and electrical filing system although the FBI personnel could review the licenses.

The Major explained that some plan would have to be worked out to have their personnel work nights, which would mean time and a half or double time, as far as pay is concerned.

He was unable to estimate the length of time, the number of personnel, or cost involved to review these licenses.

Due to the above, and since most counties still have their applications for May, it is suggested that necessary

JK 44-769

information be obtained through examining points and County Judge's Offices rather than attempt to handle the review at the State Capitol, Tallahassee.

For the Bureau's information, both Major KEITH and HOMER SMOTHERMAN, Senior Drivers License Examiner, Jacksonville, Florida, have advised no identification is necessary to obtain a license and therefore a great number of licenses are issued using false names and addresses for faulty identification purposes. Duval County alone had between 3,000 and 5,000 applications submitted for the month of April according to Mr. SMOTHERMAN.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- 4 -

F B I

Date: 5/24/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL  
(Priority)

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1989)  
 FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) P  
 SUBJECT: MURKIN  
 (OO: MEMPHIS)

Re Columbia airtel to Memphis, 5/14/68.

On 5/23/68, Mrs. BETTY CHAMBERS, employee of the United Airlines, Atlanta, Georgia, presently working at the Ticket Counter at the In-Town Motor Hotel, Atlanta, was interviewed with regard to data she furnished previously to this office concerning an individual named GENE HUDSON, thought by her to resemble JAMES EARL RAY.

Mrs. CHAMBERS advised that HUDSON first checked in at the hotel approximately 3/29/68, but she did not observe him at this time. On 4/12/68, he again checked in at the hotel without any luggage, and paid for his room a day in advance. On each succeeding day, from 4/13-14/68, he again appeared at the counter and paid an additional day's room rent. On 4/15/68, he left the hotel, carrying what appeared to be all his possessions wrapped in a newspaper.

Mrs. CHAMBERS said this individual wore a bright orange turtleneck sweater and white levis the entire time he was at the hotel, and while she could furnish no reasonable explanation for her opinion, she thought he reminded her of the photograph she had observed in the newspaper following the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING at Memphis, Tennessee.

The more recent photograph of subject, RAY, was exhibited to Mrs. CHAMBERS, and she immediately said she is absolutely certain that this is not the man she saw checking into the hotel who was using the name HUDSON. Mrs. CHAMBERS then said she thought HUDSON was a homosexual, that he gave her that impression through his manner, his speech, and his actions generally, and his conduct while at the hotel was questionable.

②-Memphis  
 2-Atlanta  
 HLL:mcc

Approved: [Signature]  
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M

44-1987-Sub E-1027

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| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| MAY 27 1968   |         |
| FBI - MEMPHIS |         |

13

AT 44-2386

Mrs. CHAMBERS said she could say positively that the more recent photograph of RAY in no way resembled HUDSON.

No additional investigation is being conducted regarding this inquiry concerning GENE HUDSON in view of the statements made by Mrs. CHAMBERS.

ARMED & DANGEROUS.

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI ST LOUIS

108 PM URGENT 5-27-68 GMC

TO: DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS AND SPRINGFIELD  
FROM ST. LOUIS 44-775

MURKIN.

WALTER ELLSWORTH NOLAN, SIX EIGHT, CLAIMS TO BE SUBJECT'S  
CLOSEST ASSOCIATE AT MSP PRIOR TO SUBJECT'S ESCAPE.

SW BELL TELE. CO (PROTECT) ADVISED FOLLOWING PHONE CALL  
CHARGED TO CARMEN PATTON, FIVE TWO ZERO SIX WASH., SLMO, NOLAN'S  
LANDLADY: OCT. TWENTYNINE, SIXTYSEVEN (AREA CODE SIX ONE EIGHT),  
TWO SEVEN FIVE DASH FOUR FOUR SEVEN EIGHT, LEAMINGTON, ILL.  
POSTAL GUIDE AND HIGHWAY MAP FAILS TO LIST LEAMINGTON. PHONE CO.  
SAYS TOWN IN SOUTH CENTRAL, ILL.

SPRINGFIELD IDENTIFY LEAMINGTON SUBSCRIBER.

A & D. P

END

MCP

FBI MEMPHIS

E

44-1987-Sub E-1028  
INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
MAY 27 1968  
FBI - MEMPHIS  
Ronan