

1Date 4/29/68

Mrs. CARMEN RUBIO, 1530 St. Mary Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, advised that she is the grandmother of KIM and SHARON ROSA, who are the children of RITA STEIN and Mrs. RUBIO'S son, STAN ROSA, deceased.

Mrs. RUBIO stated that the children are wards of the New Orleans Welfare Bureau and that RITA STEIN had taken them to California some time in the middle or late summer of 1967. Mrs. RUBIO stated that she did not consider RITA STEIN as a suitable mother for the children and that after reading in the newspapers the considerable publicity that RITA had concerning the investigation of the man allegedly involved in the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING that she was apprehensive and concerned for the welfare of her grandchildren.

As a result of this apprehension she telephonically contacted the Los Angeles Police Department on Friday, April 26, 1968 endeavoring to obtain their assistance in regaining custody of the children. Mrs. RUBIO also advised she had contacted the New Orleans Welfare Department concerning this matter also.

Mrs. RUBIO observed two photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and she stated that she had never seen this individual before. She further advised that until she had read about her former daughter-in-law in the newspapers on April 25 and 26, 1968, that she was unaware of CHARLES STEIN'S trip to New Orleans in December, 1967.

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On 4/27/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SAs PAUL C. HENSEL & PHILLIP M. KING - PMK/cam Date dictated 4/29/68

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NO 157-10673 :epk

Miss MARY BREWER, Juvenile Court, Parish of Orleans, New Orleans, Louisiana, advised Special Agent PHILLIP M. KING on April 30, 1968, that she holds a warrant for the return of custody of [REDACTED] (born [REDACTED]) and [REDACTED] (born [REDACTED]). Said warrant was issued by Judge LEO B. BLESSING on January 9, 1968. She stated this warrant was issued after the above-named children's paternal grandmother, CARMEN RUBIO, advised them that the aforementioned children had been kidnapped from the residence of their maternal grandmother in December, 1967, and taken to Los Angeles, California, by CHARLES STEIN.

Miss BREWER exhibited a letter dated February 27, 1968, from the County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Social Services, regarding RITA ROSAS, ST Number 1930-134-5053. The letter in part states Mrs. ROSAS brought the children to the Department of Public Social Services in Los Angeles on December 21, 1967, at which time she stated her brother, CHARLES STEIN, had brought the children from her mother's home in New Orleans on December 15, 1967. The name of the social worker for Los Angeles was given as M. SLEVIN, number 1316. The letter further stated that Mrs. ROSAS gave an address of 5666 Franklin Avenue, and further reflected that a landlord named DAVIS had told the social worker that RITA STEIN was a good mother, kept a clean house and was a good tenant.

It is further noted that Miss BREWER informed the above-stated children were wards of the Welfare Department because their mother, RITA STEIN, had been declared unfit on a previous occasion.

Miss BREWER stated that in view of the aforementioned letter, she was instructed by the Welfare Department not to execute the warrant for the return of the ROSAS children and also because the expense to return them would be borne by the Parish of Orleans.

Miss BREWER stated she understood from CARMEN RUBIO, paternal grandmother of the children, had received a letter from

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the Los Angeles Department of Public Social Services within the past week in which they advised her they were unable to locate Mrs. RITA STEIN; further, that the Welfare Department advised Miss BREWER that the would wait until they had resolved the matter with the Los Angeles Bureau of Public Social Services before making a decision on executing the warrant for the return of the children.

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The following investigation was conducted on April 30, 1968, by Special Agent JAMES D. HILL at New Orleans, Louisiana:

Miss BARBARA COLLINS, Identification Bureau, New Orleans Police Department, made available the records of her office for review and the following items relating to CHARLES STEIN and/or CHARLES JOSEPH STEIN were noted:

CHARLES JOSEPH STEIN, 4101 Stephen Gerard, New Orleans, was arrested at 4:45 a.m., on April 14, 1962, by the Fifth District Station, Zone D, arrest number 333, Item D5829-62. He was charged with R.S. 14, Art. 84, rel. to Pandering; R.S. 14, Art. 83, rel. to Soliciting for Prostitution; R.S. 14, Art. 26, rel. to criminal conspiracy to pander. The arresting officers were Patrolmen G. CUNNINGHAM, J. SAHUGUE and V. FLYNN. His birth place was listed as New Orleans, on [redacted] he was a white male, 5' 11" tall, 220 pounds, brown eyes, bald-headed, fair complexion and his occupation was listed as salesman. This subject was implicated in the operation of a prostitution racket in association with MICKY MESSINA at 4101 Stephen Gerard. No disposition was shown.

CHARLES STEIN, 6228 Arts Street, New Orleans, was arrested at 10:00 p.m., February 16, 1963, by District 3, Zone O, arrest number 199, Item B 8555-63. He was charged with R.S. 14, Art. 83, rel. to Soliciting for prostitution; R.S. 40-1033, rel. to possession of barbiturates, under investigation. Arresting officer was Sergeant F. SOULE, SR., and he was arrested with MARIE WILSON. STEIN was described as having been born [redacted] at New Orleans, he was a white male, 33 years old, 5' 11" tall, 215 pounds, with brown hair and eyes, ruddy complexion and employed as a salesman. Indications were STEIN was arrested after undercover officers of the Vice and Narcotics Squads were solicited for prostitution. A search warrant was obtained and served. A

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search of the premises uncovered a quantity of barbiturates. No disposition was shown.

CHARLES STEIN, 1816 $\frac{1}{2}$  Ursuline Street, New Orleans, was arrested at the Silver Frolic, 427 Bourbon Street, at 1:50 a.m., on May 9, 1953. He was charged with Ord. 1436, rel. to no honest visible means of support on Complaint Number E 2951-53, arrest number 392. He was described as having been born [redacted], New Orleans, a white male, 5' 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ " tall, 210 pounds, brown hair and eyes, ruddy complexion and his occupation was listed as a doorman. The record indicated STEIN was arrested from 427 Bourbon Street, working as a doorman there and seen in company with unsavory characters on several occasions. On these occasions STEIN was warned to keep quiet, but creates disturbances there. He was discharged May 10, 1953.

CHARLES STEIN, 1907 Royal Street, New Orleans, was arrested at 2:25 a.m., October 26, 1955, at the rear of 539 Elysian Fields, under Complaint Number J-10199-55, arrest number 373. He was charged with R.S. 14, Art. 90, gambling; Ord. 16913, Conducting a vice game and Ord. 13974, vagrancy by loitering. He was arrested with ED RASAK, VIRGIL KROPP, JOHN KEIFER, LOUIS CHALAIRE, ED NECTOUX, CARLO MONTALBANO, ROY TATE, MYRIAL TOMASO, ROSE RODRIGUEZ and KATHLEEN BARRIOS. STEIN was described as a white male, born [redacted] at New Orleans, 5' 11" tall, 210 pounds, brown hair and eyes, ruddy complexion, self-employed. STEIN was arrested after a raid was conducted at 539 Elysian Fields and STEIN admitted he rented residence.

CHARLES JOSEPH STEIN, 4101 Stephen Gerard, New Orleans, was arrested at 4:30 p.m., July 14, 1961, at 4101 Stephen Gerard by District 3, under arrest number 242, Item Number G 6524-61. He was charged with R.S. 40, Art. 962, rel. to possession of narcotics; R. S. 14,

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Art. 69, possession of stolen property. Arresting officers were Lt. J. MUNCY, seven narcotics officers and three vice officers. He was arrested with ANGELINA JOSEPH and MERCEDES MIARANA. STEIN was described as a white male, born [REDACTED], New Orleans, 5' 11" tall, 225 pounds, brown hair and eyes, ruddy complexion and his occupation was listed as a booking agent. Remarks indicated this subject was found to be living in common-law status with MICKEY MEDINA, who is a well known narcotics violator and prostitute. The officers entered MEDINA's house, armed with a search warrant. There were a number of articles found on the premises which this subject claimed was his property. However, the officer believed the articles were stolen. The female, MEDINA, was suspected of disposing of a marijuana cigarette in the sewer while the officers were searching her house. The officers recovered one marijuana cigarette from this sewer.

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The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES D. HILL on April 30, 1968, at New Orleans, Louisiana:

The Chief Clerk of Court, Orleans Parish, Louisiana, furnished his Docket Books, which reflected the following actions and dispositions for arrests of CHARLES JOSEPH STEIN:

Docket Number 174-683 relating to arrest of STEIN on April 14, 1962, for pandering and soliciting for prostitution:

Section F

|                  |                               |
|------------------|-------------------------------|
| April 27, 1962   | Capias issued<br>Bond \$1,000 |
| April 27, 1962   | Filed \$500 bond              |
| May 3, 1962      | Information filed             |
| February 2, 1966 | Nolle pros                    |

Docket Number 174-691 relating to criminal conspiracy to pander:

Section E

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| April 27, 1962    | Bond set \$2,500   |
| April 27, 1962    | Bond filed \$1,000 |
| May 3, 1962       | Information filed  |
| December 14, 1965 | Nolle pros         |

Docket Number 178-749, Section H, relating to arrest of STEIN on February 16, 1963, for possession of barbiturates:

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|---|--|
| February 28, 1963   | Information filed<br>Capias issued<br>Bond set \$750                             |
| March 1, 1963   | Allotted   |
| November 6  | Alias capias issued<br>on STEIN<br>Bond \$1,500<br>Under advisement to<br>WILSON |
| November 12   | Bond filed \$1,500   |
| February 26   | Court sustained<br>motion for directed<br>verdict<br>Court ordered<br>discharge  |
| Docket Number 178-750, Section E, relating<br>to soliciting for prostitution arrest on<br>February 16, 1963 |  |
| February 28   | Information filed<br>Capias issued<br>Bond set \$500 each                        |
| March 1   | Allotted   |
| March 28  | Filed bond \$500   |
| April 15  | Alias capias issued  |
| June 10   | Court ordered<br>judgment of not<br>guilty - discharged                          |

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The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES D. HILL at New Orleans, Louisiana, on April 30, 1968:

Sergeant LLOYD ERDMANN, Alcohol and Beverage Control Unit, New Orleans Police Department, advised that the entry dated March 2, 1955, for CHARLES JOSEPH STEIN (#L-4362) on FBI Identification Sheet Number 881 534 B is in reference to STEIN's application for a liquor license.

Sergeant ERDMANN stated that STEIN operated Marie's Lounge, 539 Elysian Fields Avenue, from March to December, 1955. STEIN listed his address with the Alcohol and Beverage Control Unit as 1707 $\frac{1}{2}$  Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, and his date of birth as

Sergeant ERDMANN stated that STEIN, on his application, listed one employee, a CHARLES DE CARVALLA, as bartender.

Sergeant ERDMANN stated that his records reflected that STEIN failed to renew his liquor license after December 31, 1955.

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CHARLES JOSEPH STEIN  
ARREST RECORD

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The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent JAMES D. HILL at Gretna, Louisiana:

On May 2, 1968, Mr. MICHAEL KNOWLES, Cadet, Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office (JPSO), Ident Bureau, advised that a review of his records reflect that CHARLES JOSEPH STEIN was arrested on July 21, 1961, for possession of stolen property. STEIN, at the time of his arrest, gave an address of 4101 Stephen Girard Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana. KNOWLES advised that STEIN is described as follows:

|                |                                     |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Race           | White                               |
| Sex            | Male                                |
| Date of Birth  |                                     |
| Place of Birth | New Orleans, Louisiana              |
| Height         | Six feet                            |
| Weight         | 223 pounds                          |
| Hair           | Brown                               |
| Eyes           | Brown                               |
| Complexion     | Fair                                |
| Occupation     | listed occupation as booking agent. |

KNOWLES advised that on the bottom of the arrest sheet there is a notation which states "Lieutenant Vicknair arrested above subject upon word from Lieutenant Roy Jacobs that this subject will be charged with possession of stolen property and hold for investigation of burglary."

KNOWLES advised that no disposition is shown for this arrest.

On May 2, 1968, Lieutenant BILL SMITH, Records Division, JPSO, advised that his records failed to reflect that these charges against STEIN were ever filed with the Jefferson Parish District Attorney's Office. Lieutenant SMITH stated that in all probability this arrest was based upon a New Orleans Police Department arrest, and that his department did not conduct any investigation into this matter.

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Date 5/1/681

Mrs. CLOVINA OLONZO was interviewed and advised that she has made three trips to California in the past two years. She advised she made her first trip to California immediately following the death of her son-in-law, LINO ROSAS. She advised she stayed an unrecalled period of time and then returned to New Orleans for a short period of time, after which she again traveled to California.

She advised she made her last trip to California sometime in the Fall of 1967. She stated that on each trip to California she stayed with her daughter, RITA ROSAS, nee Stein, at their residence on Floyd Terrace.

She advised during her last visit to California she fell into a coma and as a result of this coma, her memory is extremely poor. She advised she recalled making three trips to California, but nothing else about the trips.

She stated that as far as she knew, LINO ROSAS sold used cars for a living and was not involved in the sale of narcotics. She said she did not see JAMES EARL RAY in California during any of these trips and knew nothing about the illegal narcotics traffic taking place from her daughter's home.

She advised she is going to travel to Los Angeles, California, on either May 4 or 5, 1968, to live with her daughter, RITA, until school is out, after which time she will return to New Orleans with RITA and RITA's children.

On 4/30/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SA THOMAS E. DU HADWAY :epk Date dictated 4/30/68

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Date 5/1/681

WILLIE OLONZO advised that LINO ROSAS died on August 30, 1966, and immediately following his death his wife, Mrs. CLOVINA OLONZO, traveled to Los Angeles, California, to stay with her daughter, RITA ROSAS, nee Stein. He advised she remained in California for an unrecalled period of time, after which she traveled back to New Orleans. After a short stay in New Orleans, Mrs. OLONZO again traveled to California for an unrecalled period of time.

Mrs. OLONZO stated that Mrs. OLONZO's last trip to California was made in either September or October, 1967. He stated Mrs. OLONZO remained in California two months after this trip due to the fact she fell into a coma due to the strain of the trip. Mr. OLONZO stated that Mrs. OLONZO returned to New Orleans with two of her daughter's children sometime in December, 1967.

Mr. OLONZO stated he had never heard that LINO ROSAS was involved in the sale of narcotics and he did not feel CHARLES STEIN would be involved in the sale of narcotics.

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On 4/30/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SA THOMAS E. DuHADWAY :epk Date dictated 4/30/68

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Date 5/1/68

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CHARLES de CARVELHO, 2006 Iowa Street, advised that when he observed the leather case in the trunk of the white Mustang driven by the individual introduced to him by CHARLIE STEIN as GALT, this observation took a total time of one minute or less. He stated this was a brown leather circular or oval case with a zipper. de CARVELHO stated he felt it was approximately the size of a golf bag. de CARVELHO stated it was not too heavy as he recalled GALT moved it easily in the trunk. de CARVELHO stated it was his impression and original thought that this case contained a surveyor's transit. de CARVELHO added that it conceivably could have been a camera tripod.

In addition to the above, de CARVELHO stated he noticed there was a brief case with rolled-up papers therein, possibly blueprints or like plans.

de CARVELHO stated that the total amount of time he saw this in a casual way precludes him from giving any more specific details regarding the true identity of whatever the object was.

de CARVELHO stated it was the impression that he received that STEIN, during the conversation with de CARVELHO, had said or implied that GALT was connected with an engineering or construction firm.

de CARVELHO stated it was also his impression STEIN was primarily interested in converting GALT to STEIN's cosmic philosophy. He further got the impression from talking to STEIN that GALT may possibly have been involved in politics in southern California. de CARVELHO stated that he did not know of any use of narcotics on the part of STEIN. de CARVELHO stated he thought STEIN may have smoked marijuana; however, added he had not actually seen this. de CARVELHO furnished the additional opinion that some of STEIN's friends may have

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On 4/30/68 at Kenner, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SA WILLIAM F. KUSCH and  
SA THOMAS E. DuHADWAY WFK:epk Date dictated 4/30/68

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been involved with narcotics and/or prostitution. In this latter regard, de CARVELHO stated he knew of no specific pimping activity on the part of STEIN.

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On May 1, 1968, LOUIS TRENT, Attorney, 822 Perdido Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, telephonically contacted the New Orleans Office of the FBI and provided the following information:

He has a client by the name of ROSE WILLIAMS, who may be able to provide information in regards to ERIC GALT and that he had persuaded WILLIAMS to be interviewed by the FBI. Mr. TRENT stated that Miss WILLIAMS would only consent to being interviewed in his office and in his presence.

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ROSE WILLIAMS advised she is a very close friend of MARIE LEE, nee Stein, and she had seen GALT when GALT was in New Orleans during the month of December, 1967. She stated she is acquainted with the entire STEIN family and considers herself a close friend of all members of the family.

WILLIAMS advised that Mrs. CARMEN ROSAS, the paternal grandmother of two sons of RITA ROSAS, nee Stein, somehow had RITA ROSAS' Social Security checks stopped and because of this, ROSAS had no money with which to support her four children. She stated because of this situation, RITA ROSAS' mother, Mrs. CLOVINA OLONZO, traveled to Los Angeles, California, in the Fall of 1967, exact date unrecalled, and returned to New Orleans with the two daughters of RITA ROSAS. She advised RITA ROSAS sent her two daughters with her mother, because she felt that Mrs. CARMEN ROSAS would not make any attempts to assume custody of the daughters, whereas she was certain that she would attempt to assume custody of her two sons.

WILLIAMS advised that Mrs. ROSAS attempted to have the two children living with Mrs. CLOVINA OLONZO declared wards of the State and placed in a juvenile home. She advised that these proceedings were instituted and the two children were even examined by a doctor from the New Orleans Welfare Board. WILLIAMS advised because of this situation she and MARIE LEE telephonically contacted RITA ROSAS and advised her that someone would have to return to New Orleans and take the children back to California or they would become wards of the State. She stated that ROSAS advised she could not make the trip as she did not have any money and she did not know what she would do about this situation.

WILLIAMS advised that several days later RITA ROSAS telephonically contacted MARIE LEE and advised her brother, CHARLES STEIN, had found a ride from Los Angeles, California, to New Orleans and that he would pick up the children and

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On 5/1/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673  
 by SA THOMAS E. DuHADWAY and  
SA WILLIAM F. KUSCH TED:epk Date dictated 5/1/68

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return them to Los Angeles, California.

WILLIAMS advised that MARIE LEE had informed her that STEIN's ride was to be with a man he had met several days before and that he knew nothing about him and this man was not a friend of the family.

WILLIAMS advised that shortly before Christmas, 1967, she received a telephone call from MARIE LEE stating that CHARLES STEIN had arrived in New Orleans and was staying at her residence. She advised she cannot recall the exact date that STEIN arrived in New Orleans, but after reading the newspapers she felt it was December 17, 1967. She advised that LEE informed her that STEIN was to return to Los Angeles with the two children the following day.

WILLIAMS stated she did not go to MARIE LEE's house that evening, but the next evening she and LEE prepared a dinner for CHARLES STEIN. She stated she arrived at LEE's house that evening at approximately 8:00 and shortly thereafter, their telephone rang and the caller was ERIC GALT. GALT explained on the telephone that he was lost and was trying to find LEE's apartment and that he was telephoning from an unknown restaurant at the corner of Elysian Fields Avenue and Burgundy Street. WILLIAMS advised that GALT was given directions as to how to find LEE's apartment and that CHARLES STEIN sent her to the front porch to watch for GALT's white Mustang. She advised after several moments she saw the white Mustang come down Burgundy Street and she hollered at this individual and he stopped, parked the car and walked back to this apartment. She advised that STEIN introduced her to this individual and called the individual ERIC GALT. She stated GALT did not acknowledge the introductions and did not say anything. She advised she was in his company about five minutes and she then left MARIE LEE's apartment.

She advised the next afternoon she tried to start her car, but it would not start and she decided to walk to LEE's

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apartment to use her car as she had to go to the bank and it was about 1:30 in the afternoon. She advised when she arrived at LEE's apartment, she saw a United Cab parked near LEE's residence and decided to take the cab to the bank, but she could not find the cab driver. In a few moments she observed CHARLES STEIN, RITA STEIN's two children, ERIC GALT and a small white male walking from LEE's apartment, carrying luggage and packages. She advised she recognized this unknown white male as CHARLES deCARVELHO and she approached them to say goodbye to CHARLES STEIN and the children. She stated she took a shopping bag from one of the children and placed it in the back seat of GALT's white Mustang and wished them on a safe trip. She then learned that deCARVELHO was the driver of the cab and she left with deCARVELHO in the cab to go to the bank after deCARVELHO had bid his farewell to CHARLES STEIN.

WILLIAMS advised that while she was in GALT's company GALT did not speak and merely stood around with his head hanging downwards. She described GALT as a neat dresser, but not wearing the current style of clothing. She stated the day GALT and STEIN left New Orleans, GALT was dressed in a grey suit with a white shirt and tie and appeared very neat.

She stated GALT seemed to be an average individual in his thirties with no outstanding or distinguishing characteristics with the exception of a long thin nose and a thin face.

She stated she did not recognize GALT from the photograph that was printed in the newspapers since his face was much thinner and his hair was shorter.

WILLIAMS advised that CHARLES STEIN is now a believer in the cosmic philosophy and "a true believer in God." She advised this is a complete change from the CHARLES STEIN she formerly knew and she held a long discussion with STEIN about this new philosophy on his trip to New Orleans. She was advised by STEIN that MARIE "MINNIE" MARTIN had :

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met an individual in a bar where she worked in Los Angeles and had heard this individual state he was coming to New Orleans on business and she arranged for STEIN to travel with this individual. She stated STEIN also informed her this individual, ERIC GALT, requested that he register for GEORGE WALLACE in California before they departed and STEIN did so. STEIN also informed her GALT paid for everything on the trip, including all food, gas and motel bills and, further, advised that STEIN showed her the twenty dollar bill he had in his possession when he left Los Angeles and still had in his possession when he arrived in New Orleans. She advised that she did not feel that MARIE LEE would lie to her about CHARLES STEIN's knowledge of or association with GALT and she believed both STEIN's and LEE's statements that STEIN did not know GALT and had only met him several days before the trip.

She stated she did not feel that STEIN and GALT would have been involved in any illicit drug activity in California and based this statement on the fact that STEIN claimed to have known GALT only several days before the trip.

She stated she did not know if STEIN had fixed GALT up with any women while they were in New Orleans. She stated CHARLES STEIN asked her if she would like to go out with GALT and show him the town, but she declined. She advised STEIN did not press the issue and if he had, she would have gone out with GALT as a favor to STEIN. She stated STEIN has been out of touch with the people of New Orleans for several years and did not know if he would have been able to fix GALT up with anyone in New Orleans. WILLIAMS advised there was no mention of sex when STEIN asked her if she would like to go out with GALT.

WILLIAMS again advised the individuals present when CHARLES STEIN departed from New Orleans were herself, ERIC GALT, RITA STEIN's two children, MARIE LEE and CHARLES deCARVELHO.

WILLIAMS advised she knew of no other trips made to New Orleans by GALT or STEIN and she did not know of any

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packages being delivered to relatives of MARIE MARTIN in New Orleans by GALT.

She stated she knew of no further information she could furnish concerning this matter and added she had not come forward sooner because of a request of MARIE LEE for her not to become involved as LEE did not feel she could furnish the FBI with any important information.

She stated if it should be necessary to recontact her, that Attorney LOUIS TRENT, who was present during the interview, should be contacted at his office at 822 Perdido Street and TRENT would contact her and make her available for interview.

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INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE IF JAMES EARL RAY  
MAY HAVE STAYED AT A MOTEL OR HOTEL  
IN NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, DURING  
THE PERIOD OF MARCH 17, 1968 - MARCH 24, 1968

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Registration cards for motels and hotels located in the New Orleans, Louisiana, French Quarter, as well as motels located along Tulane Avenue, which is adjacent to the downtown area of New Orleans and motels located along U. S. Highway 90 East, also known as the Chef Menteur Highway, were checked for the period March 17 through March 24, 1968. No registration card for JAMES EARL RAY under his true name or known aliases could be located. Individuals at these motels and hotels, upon observing photographs of RAY, could not recall RAY or anyone similar to RAY as having registered at their establishments.

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Re: RITA BATISTE

On April 30, 1968, information was received from the Los Angeles Office of the FBI that CHARLES STEIN had in his possession a 1963 New Orleans telephone book and on page 43 the name of RITA BATISTE, 2422 (street or avenue), TW 5-2672, was noted.

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The following investigation was conducted at New Orleans, Louisiana, on May 1 and 2, 1968:

On May 1, 1968, Mrs. ALICE DORAN, Clerk, Identification Bureau, New Orleans Police Department, and Mrs. BARBARA COLLINS, Clerk, Record Room, New Orleans Police Department, both advised IC CHARLES L. MURRAY that a review of their respective records contained no listing for a RITA BATISTE.

On May 1, 1968, B. T. KAYLOR, Credit Manager, New Orleans Credit Bureau, advised IC CHARLES L. MURRAY that he located a credit report dated December 30, 1949, for a RITA BATISTE, 2420 Second Street, New Orleans. It showed her occupation as being a domestic employee and a widow. Her age then was listed as 40 and she was a Negro female. Her previous address was 1248 South Galvez Street and a notation appeared she was formerly from Gramercy, Louisiana. Her credit was listed as satisfactory.

On May 1, 1968, several attempts were made to contact RITA BATISTE at 2420 Second Street, but with negative results.

On May 2, 1968, RITA BATISTE was contacted by Special Agent KEVIN J. HARRIGAN at 2420 Second Street, and she furnished the following information:

She advised that the names CHARLES and RITA STEIN were completely unknown to her. She viewed a photograph of CHARLES J. STEIN taken by the New Orleans Police Department on July 15, 1961, and upon viewing this photograph, again stated this person was totally unknown to her by either name or photograph.

She further advised that she has resided at her present address since 1950. She stated she works as a domestic employee and when not working, stays at home. She advised she has no daughter by the name of RITA BATISTE, nor any other relatives by this name. It was noted that she appeared to be approximately 60 years of age.

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When confronted with the information to the effect that the name RITA BATISTE, 2422 Street, TW 5-2672, appeared in a 1963 New Orleans telephone book belonging to CHARLES and/or RITA STEIN, she stated she could offer no explanation for this. She advised that her present telephone number is TW 5-2672.

BATISTE advised that a nephew of hers by the name of HAROLD BATISTE, Negro male, 35-40 years of age, formerly lived next door to her at 2418 Second Street; however, he moved to Los Angeles, California, approximately five years ago following the death of his parents. She described HAROLD as being somewhat on the strange side, who ran with persons of questionable reputation; however, she did not know any of these persons and stated she has had absolutely no contact whatsoever with HAROLD since he moved to Los Angeles, California. She stated she does not know his present address there.

BATISTE further advised that it was her opinion, although she could not substantiate this belief, that possibly HAROLD BATISTE knew CHARLES and/or RITA STEIN and somehow this explained her name and telephone number appearing in the STEINs telephone book.

BATISTE again emphatically denied ever meeting, hearing about or knowing either CHARLES or RITA STEIN.

Several photographs of JAMES EARL RAY were displayed to RITA BATISTE, but with negative results. She advised that the name JAMES EARL RAY and his photograph were totally unknown to her.

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INVESTIGATION AT ROOMING HOUSES  
LOCATED ON NAPOLEON AVENUE,  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

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NO 157-10673  
TED/kmt

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA THOMAS E. DU HADWAY at New Orleans, Louisiana, on  
April 15, 1968:

The following apartment houses and rooming  
houses on Napoleon Avenue were checked for any indication  
of prior residency of ERIC STARVO GALT, JOHN WILLARD, and  
HARVEY LOWMEYER and all variations of these names with  
negative results:

JOHN VAN VRANCKEN APARTMENTS  
500 Napoleon Avenue

Mrs. HOWARD BADE's Apartments,  
619 and 617 Napoleon Avenue

Good Samaritan Home  
1002 Napoleon Avenue

1034 Napoleon Avenue

1122 Napoleon Avenue

Mrs. ROGER REED  
1107 Napoleon Avenue

Mrs. HYMAN MITHOFF  
1201 Napoleon Avenue

BILL GRAD  
1204 Napoleon Avenue

JOHN D. BLEICHNER  
1212 Napoleon Avenue

1215 Napoleon Avenue

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1223 Napoleon Avenue

Mrs. A. B. GRIFFIN  
1301 Napoleon Avenue and  
2508 Napoleon Avenue

1401 Napoleon Avenue

ALFRED BARNES, JR.  
Colonial Court Apartments  
1407 Napoleon Avenue

Bella Villa Apartments  
1507 Napoleon Avenue

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Re: (First Name Unknown) COIN (phonetic)

On April 22, 1968, information was received from the Atlanta Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that allegedly JAMES EARL RAY had a friend in New Orleans, Louisiana, (first name unknown) COIN (phonetic), who apparently was a fence and well connected with the hoodlum element. COIN allegedly in 1955 was 55 to 65 years old and might harbor RAY.

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The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent L. M. SHEARER, JR.:

Former New Orleans Police Detective JOHN MEREDITH advised the only individual who could be considered a fence with a name similar to COIN is DAN COHEN. He said he had heard of no fence named COIN. He advised that COHEN is somewhat mentally unbalanced, possibly due to the use of narcotics, and spent some time in the Louisiana State Hospital. He advised that at one time COHEN was probably a millionaire. He operated the Crescent Cigarette Company, in the 1950's, on Esplanade Avenue, and was associated at that time with safe burglars and holdup men to the degree that he probably assisted them in an indirect manner and reportedly bought stolen property. MEREDITH advised that COHEN no longer has money and his present whereabouts and occupation are unknown. MEREDITH said subject was unknown to him by name or aliases.

JACK LACAZE, inmate, Orleans Parish Prison, with prior convictions for safe burglary and robbery, advised he was among several individuals who were quite friendly with DAN COHEN; however, he did not consider COHEN a fence, although he would help anyone, even those in illegal activity, so long as they were not being sought by the law. LACAZE said he knows of no one in the New Orleans area by the name of COIN, who has any association with criminal element and that DAN COHEN is the only one he can recall who has a similar name. He said COHEN no longer has money, that he just "gave it away." He said COHEN is probably living with his sister, whose husband is the local distributor for American Tobacco Company. He said he does not recall the sister's name. LACAZE observed photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and he advised he has never observed nor heard of this individual. LACAZE said he believed he knew most of those engaged in criminal activity in Southern Louisiana and Southern Mississippi.

Captain CHARLES NEWMAN, Commanding, Burglary Squad, New Orleans Police Department, advised he has never heard of

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a fence in New Orleans named COIN. He advised subject is not familiar by name, aliases or photographs.

Detectives LAWRENCE VIGUIRIE and JAMES MILLER could provide no information concerning a fence named COIN. They advised subject is unknown to them.

New Orleans Police Department, Bureau of Identification, records reflect DAN B. COHEN was fingerprinted August 13, 1953, for gun permit. Records also show he was born [redacted] at New Orleans, Louisiana, is 6' tall, weighs 210 pounds, has brown hair and eyes. No criminal record was located. His fingerprint classification is 19 11 U OOM  
8 W III 14.

DANIEL BERNARD COHEN, 1820 Napoleon Avenue, Apartment E, telephone number 891-2079, voluntarily contacted the New Orleans Office after inquiry was made of relatives concerning his whereabouts.

He advised that prior to 1956 he had money and at that time sold the Crescent Cigarette Company. He said he hired many ex-convicts with the thought that he could help them by giving them a job, as most businesses would not hire them because of their records. He said, however, that not one turn out good and some of them stole as much as \$6,000 in six months from him.

COHEN observed Identification Order of JAMES EARL RAY and he advised he does not recall this individual by photograph or names used. He said, however, that some of the facial features seem somewhat familiar, but the features are similar to those of numerous individuals.

He said he still associates with CHARLIE SMITH, CHARLES ADAM SMITH, FBI Number 131 865, who has in the past been incarcerated in the U. S. Penitentiary at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; however, he does not know whether or not SMITH knows

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RAY. He said SMITH lives on Hesoid Street in Metairie, Louisiana, works for himself installing false or lowered ceilings in buildings and he would locate SMITH and arrange to have him call the FBI, or would ascertain SMITH's street number.

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Re: Unidentified Male on Delta  
Airlines Flight 725, April 1, 1968,  
with Rifle Box Labeled "Mauser."

On April 22, 1968, information was received from the Richmond Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that information had been received from Mr. JOHN C. THOMAS that on April 1, 1968, he had flown to Atlanta, Georgia, on Delta Flight 725. During this flight Mr. THOMAS observed a box labeled "Mauser" carried aboard and stored in the cockpit until the termination of the flight and that Captain PEARL and First Officer JONES are based in New Orleans.

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NC 157-10673  
DFM:jah

DELTA AIRLINES FLIGHT 725  
ON APRIL 1, 1968

The following investigation was conducted on April 23, 1968, by SA DANIEL P. MC LAUGHLIN:

ROBERT CAMERON, Flight Schedules, Delta Airlines, New Orleans, Louisiana, advised that the following was the crew of Delta Flight 725 on April 1, 1968:

J. H. PEART, Captain, Box 132, Prairieville, Louisiana, who is currently out of town and will return on April 24, 1968;

M. K. JONES, First Officer, 6805 Veterans Highway, Metairie, Louisiana.

MAX K. JONES, 6805 Veterans Highway, Metairie, Louisiana, advised as follows:

He was assigned as First Officer on Delta Airlines Flight 725 on April 1, 1968. He said the flight originated from Newark, New Jersey, and travelled to New Orleans, Louisiana, with stops at Washington, Atlanta, Georgia, and Birmingham, Alabama. He said that he was on board this flight during the entire trip. He said that during this flight, he remembers that a stewardess brought a box containing a gun to the cabin of the plane. He said that he can only remember this box as being large enough in size to carry a rifle. He said he does not know the name of the stewardess who brought the box to the cabin nor does he remember when she brought it to the cabin or when it was removed from the cabin. He said that it is normal policy for Delta to put any weapons carried by passengers in the pilot's cabin. He was exhibited several photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and stated that he does not believe he ever saw this person before.

Date April 25, 19681

Captain JOHN A.R. PEART, Delta Airlines, was interviewed at New Orleans International Airport, and furnished the following information:

He recalls that approximately two to three weeks ago, exact date and flight unknown, that one of the stewardesses on board this particular flight, placed a weapon in the cockpit for safekeeping during this particular flight. Captain PEART commented that he believed this weapon was a shotgun, enwrapped in some type of a box. He stated he did not recall any specific markings or names on the box, and paid little attention to the incident, since it is routine to have various weapons placed in the cockpit during flights. Captain PEART further advised that he did not recall the name of the stewardess who placed the weapon in the cockpit, inasmuch as he is not certain of the particular flight involved or date.

Captain PEART was shown five photographs, including one of the subject, which he could not identify as anyone he had seen aboard his aircraft over the past several weeks. He further indicated that most of his time is spent in the cockpit and as such, he would have little opportunity to observe the passengers.

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On 4/24/68 at Kenner, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673  
by SA PATRICK J. DENTE - sjl Date dictated 4/25/68

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.

NO 157-10673 -epk

Re: Delta Airlines Flight Number 106  
Which Leaves New Orleans, Louisiana,  
for Frankfort, Germany, with Stops at  
Atlanta, Georgia, and Washington, D. C.

On April 22, 1968, information was received from the Atlanta Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that, according to Delta Airline officials at Atlanta, Georgia, the crews for Delta Airlines Flight Number 106 for April 5 and 6, 1968, are based in New Orleans, Louisiana.

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PJD:njc

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent PATRICK J. DENTE at New Orleans International Airport, Kenner, Louisiana:

Mr. ROBERT SPEAKS, Supervisor, Ticket Counter, Delta Airlines, advised that seats on Delta Flight Number 106 for April 5 and 6, 1968, are assigned according to the customer's preference and availability prior to boarding the craft; however, no record is maintained by the airline as to particular seat assignment. He explained that the customer chooses a seat number from a chart of the aircraft when checking in prior to departure, and this seat number is placed on the customer's ticket folder.

Mr. SPEAKS furnished a copy of the manifest for the above flights, indicating passengers who boarded these flights at New Orleans International Airport. A review of these manifests failed to reveal the subject under his true name or known aliases as being a passenger on either of these flights.

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NO 157-10673  
DPM:jah

DELTA AIRLINES FLIGHT 106  
ON APRIL 5 AND 6, 1968

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA DANIEL P. MC LAUGHLIN at New Orleans, Louisiana, on  
April 23, 1968:

ROBERT CAMERON, Flight Schedules, Delta Airlines,  
New Orleans, advised as follows:

The following is the list of crew members, including  
stewardesses, on Flight 106 on April 5, 1968:

D. T. MOHRMANN, Captain, 1621 Green Acres Road,  
Metairie, Louisiana

S. JURGELSKY, First Officer, 6200 Rosalie Court,  
Metairie, Louisiana

B. W. COSTILOW, Flight Engineer, 1601 Vegas Drive,  
Metairie, Louisiana

LENEA BAKER, 928 Dumaine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana,  
Stewardess

MAY FORD, Stewardess, 6805 Veterans Highway, Metairie,  
Louisiana

MOLLY NELSON, Stewardess, 626 Esplanade Avenue, New  
Orleans, Louisiana

ISABEL SHEPHERD, Stewardess, 6901 Veterans Highway,  
Metairie, Louisiana

He advised that the following is the list of crew  
members including stewardesses, of Delta Airlines Flight 106,  
on April 6, 1968:

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J. H. HARKNESS, Captain, 3612 Cleveland Drive,  
Metairie, Louisiana

R. F. LOWERY, First Officer, 4753 Yale Street,  
Metairie, Louisiana

J. UNVERZAGT, Flight Engineer, 2005 Illinois Street,  
Kenner, Louisiana

JAN HERSCHEDE, Stewardess, 6901 Veterans Highway,  
Metairie, Louisiana

PHYLLIS TATE, Stewardess, 930 Bourbon Street, New  
Orleans, Louisiana

SANDRA SULLIVAN, Stewardess, 6805 Veterans Highway,  
Metairie, Louisiana

RITA REHKOFF, Stewardess, 6805 Veterans Highway,  
Metairie, Louisiana

He stated that the following were working the flight  
and would not be home until later this evening or on April 24,  
1968:

JAN HERSCHEDE, SANDRA SULLIVAN, J. H. PEART, and  
MAY FORD

BOBBY W. CUSTLOW, 1601 Vegas Drive, Metairie,  
Louisiana, advised as follows:

He was flight engineer for Delta Airlines Flight 106  
on April 5, 1968. He was exhibited several photographs of JAMES  
EARL RAY and advised that he has not seen this man before.

ISABEL SHEPHERD, 6901 Veterans Highway, Metairie,  
Louisiana, advised as follows:

She was a stewardess aboard Delta Airlines Flight  
106 on April 5, 1968. She was exhibited several photographs of

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JAMES EARL RAY and advised she has not seen this man before.

JAMES H. HARKMESS, 3612 Cleveland Drive, Metairie, Louisiana, advised as follows:

He was captain of Delta Airlines Flight 106 on April 6, 1968. He was exhibited several photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and advised that he has not seen this man before.

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NO 157-10673 - mak

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA DANIEL P. MC LAUGHLIN on April 23, 1968:

RE: DELTA AIRLINES FLIGHT 106 ON APRIL 6, 1968

RITA REHKOPF, 6805 Veterans Highway, Metairie,  
Louisiana, advised as follows:

She was a stewardess aboard Delta Flight 106  
on April 6, 1968. She was exhibited a photograph of  
JAMES EARL RAY and advised that he appears similar to a  
passenger who sat in the last three rows on the right as  
one faces the front of the plane. She said this flight  
originated in New Orleans and was en route to Frankfurt,  
Germany, with stops at Atlanta, Georgia, and Washington,  
D.C. She said that she does not remember where this person  
got off the plane but she thinks he boarded the plane in  
New Orleans. She described this man as follows:

|                        |                                      |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Race                   | White                                |
| Sex                    | Male                                 |
| Age                    | 40-42 years old                      |
| Height                 | 5' 11"                               |
| Weight                 | 180 pounds                           |
| Build                  | Medium                               |
| Complexion             | Medium                               |
| Hair                   | Dark; slightly curly,<br>combed back |
| Clothing<br>Appearance | Wearing casual clothes<br>Dirty.     |

She said she is unable to further describe this  
individual.

The following investigation was conducted by  
SAs DANIEL P. MC LAUGHLIN and PATRICK J. DENTE on April  
23, 1968:

RE: DELTA FLIGHT 106 ON APRIL 6, 1968

ROBERT R. LOWRY, 4753 Yale Street, Metairie,  
Louisiana, advised as follows:

He was co-pilot of Delta Flight 106 on April 6,  
1968. He was exhibited a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and

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he advised that he has never seen this person before other than his photograph in the newspapers.

PHYLLIS TATE, 700 St. Philip Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, advised as follows:

She was a stewardess on Delta Flight 106 on April 6, 1968.

She was exhibited a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and she advised that she has never seen this person before.

JANET HERSCHEDE, 6901 Veterans Highway, Metairie, Louisiana, was unavailable for interview.

SANDRA SULLIVAN, 6805 Veterans Highway, Metairie, Louisiana, was unavailable for interview.

RE: DELTA AIRLINES FLIGHT 106 on APRIL 5, 1968

D. T. MOHRMANN, 1621 Green Acres Road, Metairie, Louisiana, advised as follows:

He was Captain of Delta Flight 106 on April 5, 1968. He was exhibited a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and he stated that he never saw this person before except that he recalls seeing his photograph in the newspapers.

STANLEY JURGELSHY, 6200 Rosalie Court, Metairie, Louisiana, advised as follows:

He was co-pilot of Delta Flight 106 on April 5, 1968. He was exhibited a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and advised that he never saw this person before except that he recalls seeing his photograph in the newspapers.

MOLLY NELSON, 626 Esplanade Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, advised as follows:

She was a stewardess on Delta Flight 106 on April 5, 1968. She was exhibited a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and advised that she has never seen this person before.

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LANEA BAKER, 928 Dumaine Street, New Orleans,  
Louisiana, was unavailable for interview.

MAY FORD, 6805 Veterans Highway, Metairie,  
Louisiana, was unavailable for interview.

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The following investigation was conducted at New Orleans International Airport at Kenner, Louisiana, on April 24, 1968 by SA PATRICK DENTE:

The following stewardesses of Delta Flight 106, of April 5, 1968, were shown five photographs, including one of the subject and could not identify the subject as being a passenger on that particular flight: Miss LANEA BAKER, Miss MAY FORD.

Mr. JOHN G. UNVERZACT, crew member, Delta Flight 106, April 6, 1968, was shown five photographs, including one of the subject, and was unable to identify the subject as any individual who was on board Flight 106.

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NO 157-10673  
PJD:njc

The following investigation was conducted at Metairie, Louisiana, on April 25, 1968; by Special Agent PATRICK J. DENTE:

The following stewardesses of Delta Airlines Flight 106 on April 6, 1968, were shown five photographs, including that of the subject, JAMES EARL RAY, which they could not identify as any individual they had observed on that flight:

Miss JAN HERSCHEDE, 6901 Veterans Memorial Highway;

Miss SANDRA SULLIVAN, 6805 Veterans Memorial Highway.

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NO 157-10673 -epk

Re: Telephone Call to Lake Charles,  
Louisiana, Telephone Number 318, 477-0616

On April 26, 1968, the Houston Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation provided information that a telephone call was made on the evening of December 17, 1967, from a pay telephone booth located in an area described by CHARLES STEIN to telephone number 318, 477-0616, Lake Charles, Louisiana.

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Date 4/26/681

Mrs. MARGIE GRIFFITH, Manager, Hertz Rent-A-Car, Municipal Airport, Lake Charles, Louisiana, advised she keeps a log of all incoming and outgoing telephone calls in her office. She advised of the following:

A review of her telephone log for the period December 15-17, 1967, failed to show any calls to or from Houston, Texas. It is possible that she or Mrs. PEGGY SYLVIA, who also worked in the office during the period of December 15-17, 1967, might have missed logging some calls. A review of records of her office for the period December 15-17, 1967, showed cars checked in and checked out of her office only to persons of local companies whom she knows. None of the cars checked in or out during this period were in the names of any strangers.

Mrs. GRIFFITH examined photographs of JAMES EARL RAY. She stated the photographs were not those of anyone to whom she had ever rented or had returned one of their cars.

Mrs. GRIFFITH added that the area telephone code for Lake Charles, Louisiana, is 318. She added that her company is the subscriber to Lake Charles telephone number 477-0616 and has had this number for over three years.

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On 4/26/68 at Lake Charles, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673  
by SA GEORGE M. CAMPBELL - jah Date dictated 4/26/68

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Date 4/26/681

PEGGY SYLVIA, Assistant Manager, Hertz Rent-A-Car, Lake Charles Municipal Airport, was shown photos of JAMES EARL RAY.

She stated the photos were not familiar to her as being that of anyone to whom she has rented or who has returned a Hertz car to her.

On 4/26/68 at Lake Charles, Louisiana File # NO 157 10673

by SA GEORGE M. CAMPBELL - jah Date dictated 4/26/68

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Date 5/2/681

Miss BRENDA CONOVER, 208 West Spring Street, Lake Charles, Louisiana, advised she is employed part-time at the Hertz Rent-A-Car Office at Lake Charles Municipal Airport. She stated the manager checked the records and determined that she was working on the night of December 17, 1967.

She stated that she does not recall having received a telephone call from Houston, Texas, at 7:49 PM on December 17, 1967, and she checked the office telephone log and found that no such call was recorded on that date.

Miss CONOVER examined photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI number 409 942G. She stated that the photographs did not look like anyone she has ever seen.

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On 5/2/68 at Lake Charles, Louisiana File # NO 157-10573  
by SA GEORGE M. CAMPBELL/cst Date dictated 5/2/68

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NO 157-10673 -epk

Re Telephone Call from Yuma, Arizona,  
December 15, 1967, to Shreveport, Louisiana,  
telephone number 318, 746-9200

On April 29, 1968, the Phoenix Office of the FBI advised that on December 15, 1967, a telephone call had been made from a pay telephone at Yuma, Arizona, to Shreveport, Louisiana, telephone number 318, 746-9200.

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