

SL: 44-775

VIII. LOOK ALIKES
(OTHER OFFICES INVOLVED)

189

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SL: 44-775

MJW:CSD:jmb

RE: LOOK ALIKE - JOHN FLAVEY

The following investigation was conducted by SAs CHARLES S. DUKE and MARTIN JOHN WEBER at St. Louis County, Missouri, on May 13, 1968:

ANN MENKE, Switchboard Operator, Holiday Inn North, advised that she was on duty at approximately 3:00 p.m., May 12, 1968, when ROBERT HULL, Busman for Holiday Inn North, mentioned a suspicious individual whom he had waited on in Room 213 who did not want to go out of his room. Shortly thereafter a girl called into Room 213. MENKE stated that this was a local call, and she heard a portion of it including the fact the individual in Room 213 would be in his room all evening, and that this girl would call back if she would be able to come over and see him. She mentioned Las Vegas and asked him how long it took him to get there. She stated that her girl friend made it in two days.

MENKE advised that the occupant of Room 213 also made several long distance telephone calls, and she believed that they were all to Louisville, Kentucky, however, no record of these calls were made and no calls were recorded because this individual used a telephone credit card and went directly through the telephone operator. MENKE advised that she never observed the occupant in Room 213 and observed Wanted Flyer 442-A stating she does not know this individual and has not seen anyone resembling him.

The following employees of the Holiday Inn North were contacted, shown photographs of JAMES RAY and could provide no positive information:

HARRY POLK, Busman

JOYCE KETTENHOFEN, 36C Parc-Twaine, St. Louis

STEVEN R. NAUMANN, 2500 Green Briar Drive, Florissant

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GORDON JOHNSON, Assistant Manager, Holiday Inn North, provided Guest Registration #13333, dated May 11, 1968, and provided the following information:

JOHN FLAVEY, 7917 Columbine Drive, Louisville, Kentucky, for Room 213, having party of one, notes Gulf Credit Card # [REDACTED] used for identification.

He also furnished a copy of the Innkeeper's Form used for Gulf Credit Card purchases. The form #0781149 indicated that service was sold to CONSTANCE Y. JOHNSON on May 12, 1968, for the amount of \$9.78. The credit card number appearing on the form was [REDACTED].

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SL: 44-775 RE: LOOK ALIKE - JOHN FLAVEY
MJW:jmb

The following investigation was conducted by SAs CHARLES S. DUKE and MARTIN JOHN WEBER at St. Louis County, Missouri, on May 13, 1968:

MILLIE RIDDLE, 11930 Missouri Bottom Road, St. Louis, Missouri, advised that she is presently employed as a maid for Holiday Inn North, St. Louis County, Missouri, and has been so employed for approximately ten years. RIDDLE stated that on May 12, 1968, she and ROBERT HULL were in Room 217 of the Holiday Inn North, and that HULL was discussing with her the peculiar activities of a guest in Room 213 when they heard the occupant of Room 213 out in front of his room and she looked up and saw this individual and jumped back in surprise immediately thinking that this was the same person she had seen a number of times as MARTIN LUTHER KING's killer.

RIDDLE advised that thereafter she discussed this person's possible likeness to JAMES RAY with employees at Holiday Inn North and after carefully considering what she saw in viewing Wanted Flyer 442-A and St. Louis Police Department photograph of RAY, October 10, 1959, she feels that the individual she saw closely resembles the above photographs.

RIDDLE stated that the person she saw and that occupied Room 213 was a white male; five feet, ten inches to six feet; medium, stocky build; 170; middle 30s.

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SL: 44-775

MJW:jmb

RE: LOOK ALIKE - JOHN FLAVEY

The following investigation was conducted by SAs CHARLES S. DUKE and MARTIN JOHN WEBER at St. Louis County, Missouri, on May 13, 1968:

JANET WILLIAMS, Desk Clerk, Holiday Inn North, advised that her hours are 3:00 to 11:00 p.m., and at approximately 9:00 p.m. on May 12, 1968, two white males approached the office desk and one of these men asked her if he could check out. WILLIAMS advised that she does not check people out asked this individual to go down to JACK SEDIVY, who is the regular person who checks guests out.

WILLIAMS advised as he went down to the other end of the counter, she got a good look at the individual who she talked to and observed his profile. After the individual got finished checking out, both individuals went out of the office and got into a large car which had a Kentucky license tag. WILLIAMS could provide no further description of the car.

WILLIAMS stated that she was suspicious of this individual because of his wise-cracking and general appearance, and for this reason paid particular attention to him and watched him leave. After he left, she checked his name on the guest registration list. WILLIAMS provided the following description of the individual who checked out:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5 feet, 8 inches to 5 feet, 9 inches
Weight	170 to 180
Build	Stocky
Appearance	Good looking
Age	30s
Peculiarities	Had a "smirky grin" on face

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SL: 44-775

WILLIAMS viewed Wanted Flyer 442-A and stated this individual looked very much like the one who had checked out. WILLIAMS was then shown a photograph of subject taken by the St. Louis Police Department, dated October 10, 1959, and WILLIAMS immediately advised that "This is the man." She stated that the side view of RAY was identical to the individual who she saw the day before.

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SL: 44-775 RE: LOOK ALIKE - JOHN FLAVEY
CSD:jmb

The following investigation was conducted by SAs CHARLES S. DUKE and MARTIN JOHN WEBER at St. Louis County, Missouri on May 13, 1968:

ROBERT LEE HULL, Bus driver, (Bellman), residing at 4726 Page, St. Louis, Missouri, and employed at the Holiday Inn North, North Lindberg, St. Louis County, Missouri, advised on May 13, 1968, that approximately 3:00 p.m., Saturday afternoon, May 11, 1968, a man in Room 213 called for a Bellman requesting room service.

HULL stated that when he arrived at Room 213, the door was ajar and as he stepped into the room, a man who was laying on the bed stated, "Don't get close". He said that he had that he had just come in off the road from California, and that he intended to take a couple of hours of sleep. HULL stated that he asked for his name and said he may be needing him again. HULL replied, "What for?", and the man responded by requesting to get him a pint of Old Crow, some ice, two cokes, and some hair spray.

HULL further advised that the man said, "Look, I'll show you something" and he took him outside to where a 1966-1967 Lincoln Continental was parked and said that he had somewhere around \$1,000 worth of clothing in the trunk. The man then opened the trunk and HULL advised that he saw what he considered well over \$1,000 worth of fine clothing.

HULL described the car as a Lincoln Continental, in very good condition, light green with a black convertible top, bearing Kentucky tags. It had a numerical figure 4 in the tag number, which HULL thought to be the second digit. HULL also stated that he saw in the back seat of the car a dark leather golf bag with wheels and a lot of golf clubs.

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SL: 44-775

After the man closed the trunk, HULL then went to Walgreens, located at the Plaza Shopping Center, and made the purchases requested by the man.

HULL further advised that on Sunday, May 12, 1968, at about 3:00 p.m., he saw the man again at Room 213 when he again called for room service. HULL stated that the following conversation took place:

The man said, "Look here, I want you to get me something to eat. Is there someplace you can get me some sandwiches?" HULL answered by stating that he could go to the Steak and Shake or Mc Donald's. The man responded, "Is that something where you can get hamburgers?" To this HULL answered "Yes". The man stated "I want two cheeseburgers, one Coke and some ice." The man gave HULL \$5 at that time and HULL went to the Steak and Shake to make the purchases. Upon returning, the man in Room 213 gave him a \$1.70 tip.

HULL stated that he did not see the man again until late Sunday night, May 12, 1968. He said that he was in Room 217 talking with one of the maids by the name of MILLIE RIDDLE, about the man in Room 213. The door of that room was open at that time. They both heard a noise somewhat similar to that of an electric motor and upon looking out of the doorway, they both saw the man in Room 213 by the Lincoln Continental. As the man turned toward Room 217, MILLIE jumped back in surprise or fright and told HULL that was the man who shot MARTIN LUTHER KING.

HULL described the man resembling RAY is a man who was medium built, who had brown hair, and who had a small or what appeared to be a small spot or white colored mark on

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the upper lip. He was wearing light colored trousers, probably white, a black turtle neck T-shirt or a sweater with short sleeves, and tan cloth-type shoes.

HULL viewed Wanted Flyer 442-A and stated that the photograph taken in 1968 of subject RAY was very similiar to the man in Room 213.

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SL: 44-775 RE: LOOK ALIKE - JOHN FLAVEY
CSD:jmb

The following investigation was conducted by SAs CHARLES S. DUKE and MARTIN JOHN WEBER at St. Louis County, Missouri, on May 13, 1968:

JACK J. SEDIVY, 3328 Krem Avenue, St. Ann, Missouri, Desk Clerk for the Holiday Inn North, advised on May 13, 1968, that he saw the occupant of Room 213 come into the office with another man. He remembered JANET WILLIAMS asked the men if they were together. SEDIVY stated that he heard a remark similiar to "We're not married".

SEDIVY stated that JANET sent the occupant of Room 213 down to him and he stated that he did not pay attention to the occupant of Room 213 or the man that came in with him because he was in the process of checking the occupant out. He said as he looked up he remembered seeing the man at about eye level, which made him believe that the man was probably about five feet, seven inches. SEDIVY stated that the man had black hair which was shiny; he had dark blue eyes; little bit better than medium build; had straight teeth when he smiled; and had no visible scars or marks. He described the other man that came into the room with the occupant as being approximately six feet, one inch; about 30 years old; light brown hair; smartly styled hair; 180 to 190 pounds.

Upon viewing Wanted Flyer 442-A and police photograph dated October 10, 1959, SEDIVY advised that the occupant that checked out of Room 213 looked more like the police photograph taken October 10, 1959. He stated, "I could almost swear it was him."

SEDIVY stated that after the men left the office, he saw a car pull around to the vending machines at the side of the building and then take off. He said that was the last time he saw both men and the car.

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SL: 44-775 RE: LOOK ALIKE - JOHN FLAVEY
CSD:jmb

The following investigation was conducted by SAs CHARLES S. DUKE and MARTIN JOHN WEBER at St. Louis County, Missouri, on May 13, 1968:

ROBERT LEE HULL, 4726 Page, St. Louis, Missouri, the Bus driver at the Holiday Inn North, furnished six \$1 bills for fingerprint examination in that one of the bills was part of a tip received by him from the occupant in Room 213, denomination and serial numbers are as follows:

\$1	H39396048B
\$1	H57803563B
\$1	L66481462D
\$1	H08926805
\$1	H44290303B
\$1	G12997632C

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SL: 44-775 RE: LOOK ALIKE - JOHN FLAVEY
OSD:jmb

The following investigation was conducted by SAs CHARLES S. DUKE and MARTIN JOHN WEBER at St. Louis County, Missouri, on May 13, 1968:

FRANK BROMMELHORST, 2445 Cheshire Drive, Florissant, Missouri, Auditor for the Holiday Inn North, advised that he is employed at the Holiday Inn North and that he had worked from 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 11, until 3:00 p.m. that same date. He stated that he checked a man in at about 1:38 p.m. on May 11, 1968, and assigned him Room 213. He stated that he did not remember what the man looked like nor did he see anyone else with him.

He advised that he questioned the man's signature on the check-in card because it was different from that on a credit card which he presented. The man replied that he was using his sister's-in-law credit card.

BROMMELHORST stated that he checked to see if the credit card was on a list of bad credit cards; he found out that it did not appear. He then rented the room to the man.

BROMMELHORST viewed Wanted Flyer 442-A and photograph taken at St. Louis Police Department October 10, 1959, and stated that he could not recall whether or not the man resembled the photographs.

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A-P-P-E-N-D-I-X

NATIONAL KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, INC.
(NKKKK)

A source advised that on May 22, 1960, the National Grand Council of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan met at Atlanta, Georgia, to discuss consolidation of the Klan's unit of effort and activities to establish a National Fund and a National Secretary and to design a new flag. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Federation of Ku Klux Klan, Alabama; Association of Arkansas Klans, Arkansas; Florida Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Florida; Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Florida; Association of Georgia Klans, Georgia; Knights of the Klans, South Carolina; Dixie Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Tennessee; and Kyksos Klan, Texas.

This source advised that at a consolidation meeting at Atlanta, Georgia, September 2-5, 1960, at which the North Carolina and Texas Klans were not represented, it was resolved and passed that their name be changed to National Ku Klux Klan.

A second source advised in March, 1964, that several meetings of Klan groups were held during the period 1960 to 1963 in an effort to unite the Klan groups under a single leadership.

The organization was granted a charter in DeKalb County, Georgia, November 1, 1963, under the name National Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc., as a "patriotic, secret, social, and benevolent order".

A third source advised in December, 1963, that the organization had issued a statement of its program which indicated the organization to be anti-Negro, anti-Jewish, anti-Catholic, and anti-foreign born.

The third source advised in August, 1964, that the organization has a headquarters in Tucker, Georgia, and the day-to-day operations are under the direction of JAMES R. VENABLE, Chairman.

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A-P-P-E-N-D-I-X

NATIONAL KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN,
KLAVERN #14,
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

A source advised that on October 25, 1965, at a meeting of the National States Rights Party of Missouri, a speaker identified himself as a member of, and organizer for, the Klan and requested all persons interested in joining the Klan to see him after the meeting; that on November 30, 1965, the first organizational meeting of Klavern #14 was held at 2806 North Grand Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri; that on January 14, 1966, William Lon Lockhart announced at a meeting held at El Monti Tavern, 5201 Southwest Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri, that he had been commissioned by the Grand Dragon of the State of Missouri, and was granted a charter to institute a new klavern in St. Louis, Missouri by James R. Venable, Imperial Wizard of the National Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. On August 9, 1967, source advised that the klavern was called Klavern #14 and currently holds its initiations and meetings at rented halls in St. Louis, Missouri.

202*

F B I

Date: 6/26/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
ATTN: FBI LABORATORY

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) - P -

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Springfield airtel to Chicago dated
6/17/68.

Being transmitted under separate cover by registered mail are the following items of clothing previously submitted by Springfield under caption, "Unsubs (2); The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, 7/13/67"; Springfield file 91-3699, Bufile 91-27506.

Man's Van Heusen Vanguard shirt,
Item Q3 (PC-A1071 JV).

Man's brown trousers, Item Q6
(PC-A1071 JV).

The above-named shirt bears laundry marks in collar; the trousers bear laundry marks on right front and rear pockets.

The laboratory is requested to photograph these laundry marks for suitable reproduction in circular letter, the preparation of which is being requested of the Mechanical Section by this airtel, and the text of which is set out below.

The above-described evidence is being submitted and the preparation of circular letter requested, in order to fully explore laundry and dry cleaning marks on the

3 - Bureau (44-38861)
1 - Package (RM)
1 - Chicago (44-1114) (Info)
1 - Memphis (44-1987) (Info)
1 - St. Louis (44-775) (Info)

44-1987-Sub-A-790

1 - Indianapolis (44-) (Info)
2 - Springfield (44-561)
RCH SEARCHED INDEXED
(10) JUL - 1 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS

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

SI 44-561

submitted items, since allegations have been made by JOSEPH EUGENE GAWRON, St. Louis, Missouri, which indicate JAMES EARL RAY cased The Bank of Alton in 1959 and may have been involved in bank robbery at that bank July 13, 1967. The Bureau is vitally interested in ascertaining source of RAY's funds since his escape from MSP, April, 1967.

The Mechanical Section is requested to prepare, upon receipt of photographic facsimiles from the Photographic Section, the following circular letter:

"To all Laundries and Dry Cleaning Establishments

On July 13, 1967, two unknown males, wearing stocking masks, robbed The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, at gunpoint and obtained over \$27,000. Investigation of this crime led to the recovery of a white Van Heusen Vanguard shirt and a pair of tan trousers among other items.

The shirt bears laundry marks and the trousers dry cleaning symbols, facsimiles of which appear below. The laundry marks appear on the shirt collar, the dry cleaning symbols appear on the front and rear pockets on the right side of the trousers.

(Facsimile photos inserted at this point)

If, after review of the above facsimiles, you feel you have information which would be of assistance to the Bureau, please call the nearest office of the FBI, the telephone number of which is in the front page of your telephone directory."

Offices receiving information copies of this airtel are instructed to hold leads requested in referenced airtel in abeyance pending receipt of above circular letter.

The Laboratory is requested to send direct to Chicago 1800 copies, to Indianapolis 1800 copies, and to St. Louis 700 copies of the prepared circular letter.

SI 44-561

The Laboratory is requested to return submitted items upon completion of requested action.

6/27/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)
FROM: *hm* SAC, CINCINNATI (157-1893) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Chicago airtel to Springfield, dated 6/25/68.

Re laundry marks on clothing related to Alton, Illinois bank robbery.

On 6/27/68, Mr. WILLIAM S. GECKS, Sales Administrator, National Marking Machine Co., (NATMAR, Inc.), 4026-30 Cherry St., Cincinnati, Ohio, was contacted relative to type of specific information needed concerning the laundry marks found on the clothing related to the Alton, Illinois bank robbery on 7/13/67.

Mr. GECKS advised it would be best to have color photos of the laundry markings taken alongside a ruler or other fine measuring device. GECKS stated from the information furnished him from Chicago airtel that the markings appear to have been made by a 18 digit machine which can be coded by the user for his own specific purposes. With the use of color photos, GECKS may be able to identify the size of the type used by the machine and other details which would possibly identify the model of the machine used to make the markings. NATMAR can then furnish a list of laundries or dry cleaners in a specific area that are utilizing NATMAR machines that could possibly have made these markings. GECKS stated it would not be possible to identify the markings with a specific location around the country.

2-Springfield (RM)
2-Chicago (44-1114) (RM)
1-Memphis (44-1987) (Info) (RM)

1-Indianapolis (Info) (RM)
1-St. Louis (Info) (RM)
2-Cincinnati (1-157-1893)
(1-62-1193)

TPS/par
(9)

G

Bayli RB

44-1987-Sub-A-791

CI 157-1893

GECKS is willing to make every effort to be of assistance in this matter.

LEADS:

SPRINGFIELD

AT SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

Along with complete description of the laundry markings in question, furnish color photographs for viewing by Mr. GECKS.

F B I

Date: 6/27/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN

RE SI TEL TO BUREAU JUNE TWENTYSIX LAST.

INVESTIGATION ALTON DISCLOSES HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON
NOT AT USUAL HAUNTS AND SOURCES ACQUAINTED WITH HIM CANNOT
PROVIDE INFORMATION CONCERNING CURRENT WHEREABOUTS.

SI ONE SIX ONE FOUR DASH C ADVISED TODAY TWO DAYS AFTER
BR AT BANK OF ALTON ON JULY THIRTEEN LAST, COVINGTON AND
PERSON STAYING WITH HIM WHO IS UNKNOWN, WENT TO QUINCY,
ILLINOIS; COVINGTON RETURNED ALONE ON JULY SEVENTEEN LAST
AND UNKNOWN ASSOCIATE RETURNED JULY TWENTYONE LAST DRIVING
NINETEEN SIXTYSIX CHEVROLET IMPALA HARDTOP, BLUE IN COLOR,
INDIANA LICENSE. UNKNOWN PERSON DESCRIBED FIVE FEET ELEVEN
INCHES, THIRTY TO FORTY YEARS, BLACK HAIR, THIN MUSTACHE,
STOCKY BUILD, CHAIN SMOKER.

INFORMANT CONTINUING EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY UNKNOWN PERSON.

MAIL COPY TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS, AND ST. LOUIS.

- 1 - Springfield (44-561)
1 - Chicago (44-1114) (AM)
① - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
1 - St. Louis (44-775) (AM) 6
RCH/ssj
(4)

44-1987-Sub-A-792

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUL - 1 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle *AB*

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

6/28/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) P
RE: MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to Kansas City 6/20/68, requesting Missouri State Prison warden be contacted re Cooley Organization.

HAROLD SWENSON, Warden, Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, has advised that no information has ever come to his attention concerning the existence of a Cooley Organization, within the Penitentiary or anywhere.

3 Bureau
① Memphis
2 Kansas City
RBH:tlw
(6)

44-1987-Sub-A-793

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 1 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyer

F B I

Date: 6/28/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (PP. 1)

MURKIN

RE SI TEL JUNE TWENTYSEVEN, LAST.

SI ONE SIX ONE FOUR - C ADVISED TODAY HE HAS DEVELOPED
INFORMATION HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON, RESIDED WITH ROBERT COATES,
ONE THREE THREE ZERO A - FOURTH STREET AND WITH CAROLYN
BLANKENSHIP, ONE FOUR TWO SIX - FOURTH STREET DURING NINETEEN
SIXTYSEVEN, EXACT PERIODS UNKNOWN.

INFORMANT STATES RONNIE BELL, BILL AVERY, ART THATCHER AND
WILLIE LEE STATE COVINGTON OWNED DARK BLUE NYLON WINDBREAKER
TYPE JACKET SIMILAR TO THAT RECOVERED AFTER ROBBERY THE BANK
OF ALTON. FURTHER COVINGTON GAVE DELMAR GRINDSTAFF SET OF
LIGHT BLUE AIR FORCE TYPE COVERALLS, SIZE FORTY, STATING AN
UNKNOWN FRIEND COULDN'T WEAR THEM.

ABOVE INFORMATION BEING FOLLOWED UP TODAY TO VERIFY.

AM COPIES SENT CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS. P.

1 - Springfield (44-561)
1 - Chicago (44-1114) (AM)
① - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
1 - St. Louis (44-775) (AM)
RCH:mpb
(4)

44-1987-Sub-A-794

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 1 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle RB

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

6/28/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
FROM: SAC, BALTIMORE (44-669) -P-
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Los Angeles airtel to Baltimore, dated 6/21/68.

On 6/26/68 Mrs. STANLEY WHITNEY OLSON was contacted at her residence in Pocomoke City, Maryland, and advised that her daughter, KATHERINE PATRICIA OLSON WILLIAR, came home to Pocomoke from Los Angeles area about six or seven weeks ago. She appeared to be on drugs. Mrs. OLSON questioned her about her possible associations with the STEIN's or JAMES EARL RAY and she denied all knowledge of both.

WILLIAR, who usually goes by the name PAT OLSON or PAT WILLIAR, worked for a short time as cocktail waitress at French Quarter, Ocean City, Maryland, and then moved to Baltimore, Maryland, where she resided on Park Avenue for a short period and is currently residing on Lake Drive with an unknown woman. She is not known to be employed.

Her father, STANLEY OLSON, will probably know her whereabouts and can be reached at Baltimore telephone number 636-3758, his place of employment.

1- Los Angeles (AIR MAIL)
①- Memphis (Info) (AIR MAIL)
2- Baltimore
(4)
WDM:nrj

44-1987-Sub-A-795

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 1 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle 1013

BA 44-669

LEAD

BALTIMORE

Will contact STANLEY OLSON and obtain address for PAT OLSON and thereafter interview her re her knowledge of and/or association with JAMES EARL RAY and the STEIN's.

LOS ANGELES

Discontinue efforts to locate PAT OLSON.

F B I

Date: 7/1/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (2 PP)

MURKIN.

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO BUREAU DATED JUNE TWENTY-
EIGHT, LAST.

JOHN MC CLINTOCK ADVISED HE NEVER KNEW HAROLD RICHARD
COVINGTON TO HAVE CLOTHING SIMILAR TO THAT RECOVERED AFTER
BR AT BANK OF ALTON. HE STATED COVINGTON DID LIVE ON
FOURTH STREET, ALTON, AT VARIOUS APARTMENTS AND ONCE WITH
HIM DURING NINETEEN SIXTY-SEVEN. HE STATES HE DOES NOT
BELIEVE COVINGTON INVOLVED IN BR.

PCI HELEN GRABLE STATES SHE CANNOT DETERMINE IF COVINGTON
EVER OWNED OR WORE CLOTHING SIMILAR TO RECOVERED CLOTHING
IN PAST.

SI SIXTEEN FOURTEEN DASH C NOT AVAILABLE FOR CONTACT
TODAY; IN QUINCY, ILLINOIS, ATTEMPTING TO VERIFY PREVIOUS
INFORMATION.

1 - Springfield (44-561)
1 - Chicago (44-1114)
① - Memphis (44-1987)
1 - St. Louis (44-775)
RCH:skr
(4)

6

44-1987-Sub A-796

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 3 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Bayle *RB*

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

F B I

Date:

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

Via _____
(Priority)

PAGE TWO

DRIVERS LICENSE AND DMV RECORDS, SPRINGFIELD, BEING
CHECKED REGARDING AUTOMOBILE AND DRIVERS LICENSE HISTORY
OF COVINGTON.

MAIL COPIES TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS, AND ST. LOUIS. P.

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

June 28, 1968

AIRTEL

To: Legat, Ottawa
From: Director, FBI (44-38861)
MURKIN

Reference Kansas City airtel to Bureau, 6/18/68.

Enclosed for Legat Ottawa are 3 copies of a letterhead memorandum reflecting interview with one George Edmondson who is presently confined at the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri. The contents of the letterhead memorandum concern obtaining a passport in Canada.

You may disseminate this letterhead memorandum to appropriate Canadian authorities in view of the contents thereof. The dissemination of this should, in no way, be connected with the MURKIN case.

Enclosures (3)

① - Memphis (info)

G

44-1987-Sub-A-797

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUN 28 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle 323

F B I

Date: 7/1/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) (ATTENTION: FBI LABORATORY)

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574) (P)

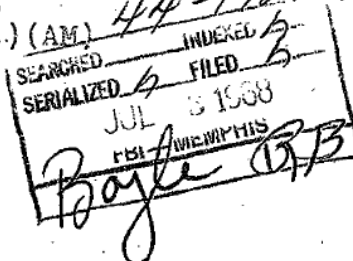
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Enclosed for the Laboratory is a typewritten letter dated 2/4/68 addressed to Mr. HEWITSON and signed by ERIC S. GALT. It is requested that this document be examined for handwriting and typing comparisons with other materials submitted in this matter. This document has been handled only by Mr. HEWITSON and SA LEON J. MEYER.

On 7/1/68 RONALD G. HEWITSON, 9692 Imperial Street, Garden Grove, California, furnished the following information. He advised that he is Sales Manager of the Terene Corporation, 2815 South Halladay Street, Santa Ana, California, and President of the Orange County, California, Chapter, Friends of Rhodesia, P. O. Box 613, Garden Grove, California.

HEWITSON stated that he had recently read a news item indicating that FBI Agents were investigating JAMES EARL RAY's alleged contacts with the American-South African Council, Washington, D. C. He stated that the Friends of Rhodesia work closely with the American-South African Council. He stated that he looked through some of his correspondence and found a letter bearing the signature ERIC S. GALT. This letter is quoted as follows:

- 4 - Bureau (Enc. - 1) (AM-RM)
 - ② - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
 - 1 - Birmingham (44-1740) (Info.) (AM)
 - 1 - Washington Field (44-703) (Info.) (AM)
 - 2 - Los Angeles
- TJA:CM
(10)



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

LA 44-1574

"2-4-68

"DEAR MR. HEWITSON.

"I RECENTLY RECEIVED A LETTER FROM YOUR OFFICE IN REPLY TO A LETTER I HAD SENT TO YOU REQUESTING INFORMATION ON RHODESIA, THE LETTER CLARIFIED MOST OF MY QUESTIONS REGARDING IMMIGRATION. SUCH AS PASSPORT. IT WAS NOT MY INTENTION TO LEAVE BEFORE NOVEMBER BUT WANTED THE INFORMATION BEFORE HAND, ANY OTHER INFORMATION YOU SEND I WOULD APPREACITE. WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SUBSCRIBE TO RHODESIAN COMMENTARY.

"SINCERELY,

"ERIC S. GALT

"1535-N-SERRANO

"L.A. CALIF. 90027.

/s/ "ERIC S. GALT"

HEWITSON stated that he would review his files to determine if any other communications from GALT are contained therein. He stated he was the only person to handle the enclosed letter, as he has no secretary. He stated that the note "ANS" appearing on the lower portion of this letter was made by him.

HEWITSON stated his organization has received much publicity in the Los Angeles area resulting from exposure on the JOE PYNE Show, a daily late nighttime television talk show. He stated the address of the Friends of Rhodesia appears on its literature, which is widely circulated.

7-2-68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

(P 2)

MURKIN.

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO BUREAU JULY ONE LAST.

SI ONE SIX ONE FOUR - C ADVISED HE LEARNED THROUGH INQUIRY QUINCY, ILLINOIS, HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON IN QUINCY WITH ASSOCIATE JOE HEINTZ (PHONETIC). COVINGTON AND HEINTZ FREQUENTED CANNON'S BAR AND THE BARN IN QUINCY. INFORMANT ENDEAVORING TO DEVELOP MORE INFORMATION ON ACTIVITIES IN QUINCY AND ON HEINTZ.

DRIVER'S LICENSE RECORDS REFLECT DRIVER'S LICENSE #C [REDACTED]

ISSUED

JUNE FIFTEEN NINETEEN SIXTYONE TO HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON TWO FOUR FIVE WEST NINETEENTH STREET, ALTON, ILLINOIS. THIS LICENSE EXPIRES JULY TWENTYTWO NINETEEN SIXTYFOUR AND DESCRIBES HIM AS FIVE FEET EIGHT, ONE HUNDRED SIXTY POUNDS, DATE OF BIRTH [REDACTED] BROWN HAIR AND

1 - Springfield (44-561)
1 - Chicago (44-1114) (AM)
1 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
1 - St. Louis (44-775) (AM)
RCH:ras
(4)

44-1987-Sub-A-799

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Boyle

PAGE TWO

BLUE EYES. RECORDS ALSO REFLECT COVINGTON ARRESTED MARCH NINETEEN, NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN, FIFTEEN MILES EAST OF GRANTS, NEW MEXICO ON U. S. ROUTE SIXTYSIX FOR HAVING NO DRIVER'S LICENSE.

A CHECK OF MVB RECORDS FOR NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN AND SIXTY-EIGHT FAILED TO REFLECT ANY VEHICLES REGISTERED OR TITLED TO HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON.

ALBUQUERQUE LEADS BEING HANDLED BY SEPARATE COMMUNICATION RE COVINGTON'S CITATION MARCH, NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN.

MAIL COPIES TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS. P.

F B I

Date: 7/3/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN

RE SI TEL TO BU JULY TWO LAST.

SI ONE SIX ONE FOUR DASH C ADVISED HE HAS BEEN UNABLE
TO DEVELOP FURTHER INFORMATION RE JOE HEINTZ (PHONETIC)
BUT IS CONTINUING EFFORTS ALONG THESE LINES.

CAROLYN WYATT STATED SHE DOES NOT RECALL HAROLD RICHARD
COVINGTON OWNING OR HAVING ACCESS TO ANY CLOTHING SIMILAR
TO THAT RECOVERED AFTER ROBBERY THE BANK OF ALTON.

INQUIRY AT RESIDENCE OF COVINGTON'S MOTHER DISCLOSES
SHE HAS NO KNOWLEDGE WHEREABOUTS OR ACTIVITIES OF COVINGTON.
STATES SHE BELIEVES HE IS "ON THE RUN" SINCE SEVERAL POLICE
AGENCIES SEEKING INFORMATION ON HIS WHEREABOUTS.

MAIL COPIES SENT CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS.

1 - Springfield (44-561)
1 - Chicago (44-1114) (AM)
① - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
1 - St. Louis (44-775) (AM)
RCH/ssj (4)

44-1987-Sub-A-800

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Boyle 165

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

July 8, 1968

AIRTEL

TO: SAC's, Jackson, Atlanta

FROM: Director, FBI

MURKIN

ReAirtel 7/3/68.

Jackson should make reasonable efforts to identify and interview (FNU) Willett, and run out any pertinent information developed and surer or LHM.

Since Curtis refuses to furnish "his story" for appropriate copying, it will not be necessary for an Agent to have him dictate on a dictating machine in the Agent's presence. Curtis is not to set the terms on which he will furnish information to the FBI, particularly since to date he has not furnished anything of substantive value. Atlanta Bu LHM.

For information of Memphis, "Ebony" Magazine forwarded letters from Raymond Curtis, inmate of Whitfield County Jail, Dalton, Georgia, in which he alleged among other things that he and Ray planned the King killing and businessmen put up money for the King murder. Curtis was previously interviewed and furnished nebulous information along the same lines which was run out and nothing of substantive value was developed (See report of Alan G. Santinella dated 5/17/68, at Atlanta, copies to Memphis). On re interview on 7/3/68, Curtis originally recounted substantially the whole story he had set out in his letters to "Ebony" but then recontacted the Agents and claimed that the "story" was true. Among his allegations, he indicated that an individual named (FNU) Willett who was also known

① - SAC, Memphis (for info)

G

44-1987-Sub-A-801
h
h
SERIAL 4
BOYLE RB

AIRTEL, SAC'S Jackson, Atlanta
RE: MURKIN

as "Mississippi" was supposed to be contacted by Ray at Vicksburg, Mississippi, after the murder and Willett was to take Ray to either New Orleans or Canada via the Mississippi River in Willett's houseboat.

As indicated above, the Jackson Office is being instructed to run out the Willett allegation.

FBI JKSN MISS

932 PM 8P URGENT 7/3/68 ELS

TO DIRECTOR AND JACKSON

FROM ATLANTA 44-2386

MURKIN

RE BUREAU TELEPHONE CALL TO ATLANTA JULY TWO LAST.

RAYMOND CURTIS WAS INTERVIEWED AT WHITFIELD CO. JAIL, DALTON, GA., JULY THREE INSTANT BY SAS THOMAS R. HENRY, JR., AND ALBERT D. MILLARD. CURTIS IS CURRENTLY CONFINED WHITFIELD CO. JAIL AWAITING APPEAL ON LIFE SENTENCE FOR MURDER. CURTIS WAS ADVISED OF THE IDENTITY OF THE INTERVIEWING AGENTS THROUGH DISPLAY OF CREDENTIALS. HE WAS FURNISHED A RIGHTS AND WAIVER OF RIGHTS FORM WHICH HE READ, INDICATED HE UNDERSTOOD, AND REFUSED TO SIGN. HE ADVISED HE KNEW HE WAS BEING INTERVIEWED CONCERNING STATEMENTS HE MADE IN A LETTER HE HAD MAILED TO MR. SANDERS OF EBONY MAGAZINE. CURTIS STATED HE WAS MERELY TRYING TO SELL A STORY TO EBONY FOR APPROXIMATELY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS TO HELP HIS MOTHER PAY OFF A MORTGAGE ON HER HOME, WHICH SHE MORTGAGED TO OBTAIN ATTORNEY FEES FOR HIS DEFENSE. AT FIRST HE STATED, WITH REFERENCE TO THESE STATEMENTS, THAT HE AND JAMES EARL RAY PULLED A CRIME IN FIFTYFOUR, WHICH WAS A BURGLARY IN JOLIET, ILL., IN OCT, OR NOV., FIFTYFOUR. AT THIS POINT IT WAS POINTED OUT TO CURTIS THAT CERTAIN

END PAGE ONE

44-1987-Sub-A-801A

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Bayle BB

PAGE TWO

STATEMENTS MADE BY HIM IN HIS LETTER TO EBONY COULD POSSIBLY INVOLVE HIM IN A CONSPIRACY WITH RAY CONCERNING THE KILLING OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CURTIS CATAGORICALLY DENIED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS WHICH WERE IN HIS LETTER TO EBONY MAGAZINE:

1. THAT HE AND JAMES EARL RAY PULLED A CRIME IN FIFTYFOUR.
2. THAT RAY WANTED THE JOB OF KILLING KING.
3. THAT HE AND RAY TALKED ABOUT KILLING KING FOR THREE YEARS.
4. THAT THEY TALKED TO THE MAN FROM MISSISSIPPI THAT KNEW ALL ABOUT THE KK BUSINESSMANS ASSOCIATION THAT WAS TO PUT UP THE MONEY TO KILL KING.
5. THAT HE KNEW THE MEN FROM MISSISSIPPI.
6. FOR THREE YEARS, THAT HE AND RAY MADE MAPS JUST TO FIND THE RIGHT PLACE TO KILL KING AND THAT HE HAD MADE THE MAPS OVER HIMSELF.
7. HE AND RAY KNEW JUST WHERE THEY WOULD GO AFTER THE KILLING OF KING.
8. THAT HE WAS TO BE IN ON THE KILLING OF KING.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

9. THAT THERE ARE MEN IN FIVE STATES THAT ARE BEHIND THE KING KILLING AND THAT DO NOT KNOW WHAT HE KNOWS.

DURING THE INTERVIEW, CURTIS DREW CRUDE MAPS SETTING OUT HOW HE THOUGHT RAY WOULD STALK KING. THIS MAP SHOWED THE FOLLOWING TOWNS WHERE HE SAID KING MADE MOST OF HIS SPEECHES: ATLANTA, LITTLE ROCK, BIRMINGHAM, MOBILE, SELMA, JACKSON, VICKSBURG, MISS., AND MARKS, MISS. HE FURTHER POINTED OUT THERE WAS A MAN LIVING ON A HOUSEBOAT IN VICKSBURG ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER (WHOSE FIRST NAME HE KNEW BUT WOULD NOT DIVULGE). THIS MAN WAS TO TAKE RAY DOWN THE RIVER ON HIS BOAT TO NEW ORLEANS AFTER THE KILLING. HE STATED IN THE PAST HE (CURTIS) HAD PULLED SEVERAL BURGLARY AND ARMED ROBBERIES (HE WOULD NOT COMMENT ON PARTICULARS) IN TOWNS ALONG THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND WHILE POLICE WERE LOOKING FOR HIM ON THE HIGHWAY HE WOULD BE ON A BOAT DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI. HE FURTHER STATED HE HAD WRITTEN A STORY CONCERNING THE KING KILLING WHICH WAS CURRENTLY OUT BEING TYPED AND IT WAS THE STORY HE MENTIONED IN THE LETTER TO EBONY AND INTENDED TO SELL TO EBONY.

PAGE FOUR

SHERIFF G. T. MAULDIN, NA, WHO IS SHERIFF OF WHITFIELD CO., GA., AND OPERATES THE COUNTY JAIL, ADVISED CURTIS HAD SENT NO LETTERS OR COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JAIL WHICH WENT OVER THE JAILERS DESK. HE SAID CURTIS WOULD PROBABLY SEND ALL MAIL OUT WITH VISITORS AND JAIL TRUSTEES AND WOULD PROBABLY NOT HAVE BEEN OBSERVED BY MEN OF HIS DEPT. IT IS FURTHER POINTED OUT THAT CURTIS' ATTORNEY, ERWIN MITCHELL, FORMER U.S. CONGRESSMAN FOR THE SEVENTH DISTRICT OF GA., IS OF THE OPINION THAT MOST OF CURTIS' COMMENTS CONCERNING HIS KNOWLEDGE OF RAY'S ASSASSINATION OF KING ARE PURE FABRICATIONS ON THE PART OF CURTIS OR AS A RESULT OF SOMETHING CURTIS HAS READ IN LOCAL PAPERS.

APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE INTERVIEW WITH CURTIS, HE SENT A NOTE TO SHERIFF G. T. MAULDIN REQUESTING TO AGAIN SEE AN FBI AGENT, THAT HE NOW WANTED TO TELL THE ENTIRE TRUTH. CURTIS WAS AGAIN INTERVIEWED BY SA THOMAS R. HENRY, JR., AND AGAIN FURNISHED A RIGHTS FORM WHICH HE REFUSED TO SIGN. HE THEN STATED THAT APPARENTLY IN HIS LETTER TO EBONY HE USED THE WORK "WE" INDICATING THAT HE AND JAMES EARL RAY HAD PLANNED THE KING MURDER WHICH WOULD INVOLVE HIM IN A CONSYRACY AND FOR

PAGE FIVE

THAT REASON HE DENIED THE STATEMENTS IN LETTER TO EBONY. HE THEN ADVISED HE HAD WRITTEN A STORY WHICH HE INTENDED TO SELL TO SOME MAGAZINE FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING MONEY FOR HIS MOTHER WHICH STORY WAS STILL IN HIS POSSESSION AND WHICH HE HAD NOT YET SENT OUT TO BE TYPED. HE ALLOWED SA HENRY TO READ THIS APPROXIMATELY TWENTY PAGE STORY, HANDWRITTEN, ONE PAGE AT A TIME. HE DECLARED THIS STORY WAS TRUE. THE FIRST FIVE OR SIX PAGES OF THIS STORY MERELY SET OUT HIS EARLY LIFE IN CRIME AND THE PRISON SENTENCES HE HAD SERVED AS A RESULT OF THESE CRIMES FROM THE AGE OF FIFTEEN. THE REMAINDER OF THE STORY IS THE SAME AS WAS SET FORTH IN THE ORIGINAL INTERVIEW WITH CURTIS IN APRIL, SIXTYEIGHT CONCERNING HIS KNOWLEDGE AND ASSOCIATION WITH RAY. THIS STORY DOES REFLECT THAT HE FIRST BECAME ASSOCIATED WITH RAY IN FIFTYFOUR WHEN THEY PULLED A PAYROLL HEIST IN QUINCY, ILL., WITH A THIRD INDIVIDUAL. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, HE LOST CONTACT WITH RAY WHEN HE AND THIS THIRD INDIVIDUAL WERE CAUGHT IN A FIFTY-SIX THOUSAND DOLLAR BANK ROBBERY AT SOUTHWEST CITY, MO. AFTER THAT HE AGAIN BECAME ACQUAINTED WITH RAY IN PRISON AND WHILE IN PRISON THEY BOTH LEARNED OF THE DEATH OF

END PAGE FIVE

PAGE SIX

PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY. RAY THEN STATED IT SOUNDED LIKE A BIG JOB AND HE WAS ALWAYS ON THE INSIDE OF A PRISON WHEN BIG JOBS AND BIG MONEY WERE TO BE HAD.

SHORTLY AFTER THE DEATH OF JOHN F. KENNEDY, MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., BECAME PROMINENT AND RAY STATED ON

SEVERAL OCCASIONS THAT SOMEBODY WAS GOING TO KILL KING.

THE STORY WENT ON TO REFLECT THAT DURING THIS PERIOD AN

INDIVIDUAL CAME INTO THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, AT

JEFFERSON CITY FROM VICKSBURG, MISS., AND WHO, UPON LEARNING

OF JAMES EARL RAY'S FEELINGS TOWARD KILLING KING, ADVISED

HIM OF THE KK BUSINESSMEN ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTH AND

OF THE FACT THAT PEOPLE IN FIVE STATES WERE PUTTING UP

MONEY FOR KING'S ASSASSINATION. THE STORY FURTHER POINTED

OUT THAT RAY INFORMED HIM THAT HE INTENDED TO HAVE EVERY-

THING SET WHEN HE KILLED KING AND THAT RAY, THROUGH MAPS,

LEARNED OF KING'S MOVEMENTS SO HE COULD LATER STALK HIM

TO THE POINT OF ASSASSINATION. THE STORY FURTHER POINTED

OUT THAT RAY ADVISED HE WOULD LEAVE A FALSE GUN AND FALSE

TRAIL IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE MURDER. RAY WAS SUPPOSED TO

END PAGE SIX

PAGE SEVEN

GO TO VICKSBURG FOLLOWING THE MURDER, CONTACT THE MAN FROM VICKSBURG, MISS., WHO HAD THE HOUSEBOAT, AND THIS MAN WAS TO TAKE HIM EITHER TO NEW ORLEANS OR CANADA VIA THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE INTERVIEW, CURTIS STATED HE WOULD NOT TESTIFY TO ANY OF THE ABOVE. HE DID ADVISE IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE THAT THE NAME OF THE INDIVIDUAL ON THE HOUSEBOAT IN VICKSBURG, MISS., WAS (FNU) WILLETT, ALSO KNOWN AS MISSISSIPPI WHO SERVED TIME IN THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY.

THE STORY ALSO MENTIONED A MAN FROM NEW ORLEANS WHO COULD OBTAIN ANY KIND OF IDENTIFICATION AND CURTIS LATER IDENTIFIED THIS MAN AS JOE COIN, WHICH INFORMATION HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN SET OUT IN AN INTERVIEW WITH CURTIS.

THROUGHOUT THE INTERVIEW WITH CURTIS, AND WHILE READING CURTIS' STORY, HE CONTINUED TO EMPHASIZE THE FACT THAT HE WOULD NOT TESTIFY AGAINST RAY AS HE FEARED FOR HIS LIFE.

HE INDICATED THAT ANY STATE PRISON HE WAS SENT TO WOULD PROBABLY HAVE INDIVIDUALS WHO WOULD KILL HIM AS A RESULT OF PREVIOUS INFORMATION HE FURNISHED THE PRESS AND TV MEDIA AND IT IS FELT HE WAS USING THIS AS AN EXCUSE AS TO WHY HE
END PAGE SEVEN

PAGE EIGHT

DID NOT WANT TO BE SENT TO A STATE PRISON ON HIS CURRENT LIFE SENTENCE. HE STATED HE WOULD NOT ALLOW HIS STORY TO BE XEROXED NOR WOULD HE WRITE IT OVER AGAIN OR ALLOW THE PAGES TO LEAVE HIS CELL. HE DID STATE HE WOULD TRANSCRIBE HIS STORY OVER A DICTATING MACHINE AND WOULD REDRAW CERTAIN MAPS HE PRODUCED FOR HIS STORY.

HE THEN PRESENTED CRUDE SKETCHES OF THE FED. PENITENTIARY AT LEVENWORTH, THE MISSOURI STATE PEN, IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE MENTIONED MAP CONCERNING THE TOWNS WHERE KING MADE NUMEROUS SPEECHES.

UACB, CURTIS WILL BE ALLOWED TO DICTATE HIS STORY ON A DICTATING MACHINE IN THE PRESENCE OF SA THOMAS R. HENRY, JR.

DUE TO THE UNRELIABILITY OF CURTIS, NO LEAD FOR AN EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATION IS BEING SET FORTH FOR JACKSON IN CONNECTION WITH IDENTIFYING (FNU) WILLETT, AKA MISSISSIPPI UACB.

END

JWD

FBI JKSN MISS

PT

FBI

Date: 7/5/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)

MURKIN

Re Atlanta teletype 7/3/68.

RE RAYMOND CURTIS
INTERVIEW IN COUNTY
JAIL AT DALTON, GA.Enclosed herewith for Little Rock and Memphis
is one copy of referenced teletype.

PAUL J. DENNIS, Vice-President, Vicksburg Mid River Service, Inc. advised on 7/5/68, that (FNU) WILLETT owned a houseboat known as the "Nell Willie", a diesel-powered ship capable of travel on the Mississippi. (FNU) WILLETT was described as an elderly man who was crippled and used a cane. He and his wife, whose name is believed to be NELL, took vacation trips on his houseboat approximately twice a year, securing the services of a Mississippi River pilot to operate the boat for them. (FNU) WILLETT is believed to have died approximately two years ago. He is believed to have been a resident of the State of Arkansas and to have docked his houseboat at the Greenville, Miss. Yacht Club.

WILLIE SMITH, a Negro male employee of the Greenville, Miss. Yacht Club, advised on 7/5/68, that the correct name of the houseboat is the "Nell Willis" and that it was owned by a (FNU) WILLIS, who died about two or three years ago. NELL WILLIS, wife of (FNU) WILLIS, is still living and

3-Bureau (RM) 2-Little Rock (Enc. 1)

②-Memphis (Enc. 1)

2-Jackson

JGW/jrs (9)

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

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Boyle

JN 157-9586

residing in or around Pine Bluff,, Arkansas.

Following the death of Mr. WILLIS, the houseboat was sold to SONNY (LNU), a member of the Memphis, Tenn. Yacht Club, who is believed to be a Mississippi River pilot.

WILLIE SMITH advised that Mr. WILLIS was always considerate of Negroes and gave no indication of anti-Negro sentiments.

UACB the following leads will be covered:

LEADS:

LITTLE ROCK DIVISION

AT PINE BLUFF, ARK.

Will locate and interview NELL WILLIS in order to substantiate information set out in enclosed teletype.

MEMPHIS DIVISION

AT MEMPHIS, TENN.

Will attempt to locate and interview SONNY (LNU) in order to either prove or disprove the information contained in enclosed teletype.

-2*-

F B I

Date: 7-11-68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via Airtel _____
(Priority)✓ To: SACs, Memphis
Little Rock

From: Director, FBI

MURKIN

ReJNairtel dated 7-5-68.

If not already done, handle leads and surepsor.
LHMs immediately.

1 - Jackson (info)

1
Sub-H-812
813

G-801B

44-1987-Sub-H-801C

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Hester *glt*

Sent Via _____ M Per _____

7-5-68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO DIRECTOR FBI (44-38861)
SAC BALTIMORE

FROM SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) -P-

MURKIN, CR. (OO: MEMPHIS)

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE JULY THREE, LAST.

ATTEMPTED CONTACT WITH WILLIE LEE, ASSOCIATE
OF JOHN MC CLINTOCH AND HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON, AND
PAMELA SCHNEIDER, EX-WIFE OF MC CLINTOCH, TO DEVELOP INFORMA-
TION ON COVINGTON'S RESIDENCE AND ASSOCIATES UNPRODUCTIVE.
SI ONE SIX ONE FOUR - C ADVISED JULY FOUR, LAST, CONTINUING
EFFORTS TO POSSIBLY IDENTIFY JOE HEINTZ (PHONETIC). WILL
KEEP BUREAU ADVISED OF RESULTS.

AIRMAIL COPY CHICAGO, ST. LOUIS AND MEMPHIS
FOR INFORMATION.

1 - Chicago (44-1114) INFO AM
1 - St. Louis (44-775) INFO AM
① - Memphis (44-1987) INFO AM
1 - Springfield (44-561)

FEC:blw
(4)

44-1987-Sub-A-802

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Bayle V.B.

G



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Atlanta, Georgia
July 5, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS

Raymond Curtis submitted a letter to Mr. Charles L. Sanders, Ebony Magazine, which letter is as follows; *the letter was semi-literate and the following is not a direct quotation but sets forth the essentials;*

"Mr. Charles L. Sanders

"Dear Mr. Sanders:

"I thank you for your answer to my letter. I think that details I give you in this letter will be of help to you.

"Well, Sir, I have written a story. No one but myself has read it but me. At this time I know that it will have to be re-written for I am not a writing it as bad as it is.

"It all about the crime I did and about a crime I did in 1954 with James Earl Ray and about the 13 years of prison pal and everything we talk about. About thing and about James Earl Ray wanted the job of killing Martin Luther King, Jr. We talk of killing King for three years. And we talked to the man from Mississippi that knew all about the KK businessman association that was to put up the money to kill King. I also know the men from Mississippi.

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.

44-1987-Sub-A-823

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Boyer [initials]
Hester [initials]

JAMES EARL RAY;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM

"In that three year we made maps just had to find the right place to kill King. Well I have made the maps over myself. They are with the story also.

"And just where we would go after we killed King so yes when we talk about it I was to be in on it. But I was not. The story has it all in it. All the big thing and the little one also. And what Ray like and what he did not like. This story could get me killed. I know that. That is why I won't send the story by mail. I know that this is getting to be a long letter. But when you read this if you want the story O.K. If not just let me know, O.K. That way I won't talk to men about it.

"Mr. Sanders there are men in five states that is behind the King killing and they don't know what I know. But James Earl Ray did not. Now that they have Ray Tenn. will trial him if they get him back.

"Well, they want me to testify. Well, I just don't know yet what I will do.

"You see, me and Ray were pal. I could tell what I have to the news. That no much. Or I could not say everything. And I did not tell the FBI. Well, this is not a book. I am just trying to tell you what you ask of me in your letter.

"If you have a man or have someone down this way, if you will have them stop by the jail I will let them read the story and you can go from there. O.K.

"I thank you again.

"I will be looking to hear from you soon.

/s/ "Raymond Curtis"

"I am still in the Dalton County Jail."

On July 3, 1968, CURTIS was interviewed at the Whitfield County Jail, Dalton, Georgia, and furnished the following information:

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 5, 1968

1

RAYMOND CURTIS was contacted at the Whitfield County Jail and advised of the identities of Special Agents THOMAS R. HENRY, JR. and ALBERT D. MILLARD. He was furnished a rights and waiver of rights form which he read, indicated he understood, but refused to sign. He was advised that he was being interviewed concerning statements he made in a letter he had mailed to Mr. SANDERS of Ebony Magazine.

CURTIS stated he was merely trying to sell a story to Ebony for approximately \$5,000 to help his mother pay off a mortgage on her home. She had obtained this mortgage as a result of paying attorney's fees for the defense of CURTIS at a previous trial.

CURTIS stated that he and JAMES EARL RAY participated in a burglary in Joliet, Illinois, in October or November, 1954. It was pointed out to CURTIS that certain statements made by him in his letter to Ebony Magazine could possibly involve him in a conspiracy with JAMES EARL RAY in connection with the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CURTIS then stated he wished to go on record as to the statements made in his letter to Mr. SANDERS. He categorically denied the following statements which were in his letter to Ebony Magazine:

- 1) That he and JAMES EARL RAY participated in a crime in 1954;
- 2) That RAY wanted the job of killing KING;
- 3) That he and RAY talked about killing KING for three years;
- 4) That he and RAY talked to the man from Mississippi that knew all about the KK Businessmen's Association which Association was to put up the money to kill KING;
- 5) That he knew the men from Mississippi;
- 6) That for three years he and RAY made maps just to find the right place to kill KING and that he made the maps over himself;
- 7) That he and RAY knew just where they would go after the killing of KING;
- 8) That he was to be in on the killing of KING;
- 9) That there are men in five states who are behind the killing of KING and these men do not know what he (CURTIS) knows.

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On 7/3/68 at Dalton, Georgia File # AT 44-2386
 by SA ALBERT D. MILLARD and
SA THOMAS R. HENRY, JR. :jlh Date dictated 7/5/68

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During this interview CURTIS drew two maps setting out how he thought RAY would stalk KING. This map indicated the following towns where he said KING made most of his speeches: Atlanta, Georgia; Little Rock, Arkansas; Birmingham, Mobile, and Selma, Alabama; Jackson, Vicksburg, and Marks, Mississippi.

CURTIS further advised that there was a man living on a houseboat in Vicksburg, Mississippi, on the Mississippi River whose name he would not divulge who was to take RAY down the River on his boat to New Orleans after the killing. CURTIS further advised that in the past he had pulled several burglaries and armed robberies in towns along the Mississippi River and while police were looking for him on the highway he would be on a boat down the Mississippi. He added that he had written a story concerning the KING killing which was currently being typed and this was the story he mentioned in the letter to Ebony Magazine and which he intended to sell to Ebony.