

U. S. Department of Justice

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

FIELD OFFICE FILE
FOIPA PROCESSED

Telephone Calls
(Charles Stein)

CLASSIFICATION NO. 44-1987-Sub-J

FEDERAL BUREAU

DO NOT DESTROY
PENDING LITIGATION

2778 3/85

of

INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number 44-38861

X DO NOT DESTROY
HISTORICAL VALUE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

ENTIRE FILE REVIEWED
FOR HISTORICAL
DECLASSIFICATION

Serials 105-2
Volume Number

See also Nos.

SEE VOL I
FOR LITIGATIONS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/30/01 BY SP1-ck/mde

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS DATE: 7/18/68

FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN ✓ 44-1987
(OO: MEMPHIS)

As Memphis and Houston are aware, CHARLES STEIN ✓ of Los Angeles, California, who accompanied JAMES EARL RAY on a trip from Los Angeles to New Orleans in December, 1967, has claimed that on one occasion, believed to be the evening of 12/16/67, he observed RAY making a phone call from a pay telephone believed in the Houston, Texas area.

As a result, the Houston Division furnished New Orleans the identities of approximately 350 telephone numbers located in Louisiana which were called during the period of 12/15 - 17/67, from pay telephones located in the Houston Division.

The subscribers of these Louisiana telephone numbers were determined and the subscribers located and interviewed. However, no pertinent information was developed.

There is set forth under appropriate sub-captions the identities of the Louisiana telephone numbers of persons residing in this state in which investigation determined that they presently reside in the Houston and Memphis Divisions.

Lake Charles, Louisiana Telephone # 477-4851.

The subscriber of this number was Reverend MIKE MURDOCK who is currently conducting a revival at Brother Brothers Church, Beeville, Texas.

- 2 - Memphis (RM)
- 5 - Houston (RM)
- 2 - New Orleans
- SMC - cst
- (9)

Local lead

44-1987-Sub-Gr-105

| | |
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| SEARCHED..... | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED <i>ll</i> | FILED..... |
| JUL 20 1968 | |
| FBI - MEMPHIS | |

Boyer



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

NO 157-10673

Lake Charles, Louisiana telephone #436-6483.

The subscriber of this number was O.C. FANNIN, 713 McNabb St., Lake Charles, La., who moved in May, 1968, leaving forwarding address as in care of D. R. PARKER, 9314 Avenue S, Houston, Texas.

Starks, Louisiana telephone #743-6264.

The subscriber of this telephone number was SYBIL JOHNSON, RFD #1, Starks, La., who currently resides at Orange, Texas, address unknown, but is employed by a Dr. SHADDOCK (phonetic).

Monroe, Louisiana telephone #325-5768.

The subscriber of this number was TOMMY JOE MORGAN, Apartment 28, 4200 Loop Road, Monroe, La. MORGAN moved in May, 1968, leaving a forwarding address as 6115 Ivanhoe Road, Memphis, Tenn. 11

386-0461
Houma, Louisiana telephone #873-7200.

The subscriber of this telephone number was BILL T. VEIBELL, 213 Paulette St., Houma, La., who moved in January, 1961, to Corinne, Utah. He is employed by the Magnolia Beauty Supply, Baton Rouge, La.

LEADS:

HOUSTON

AT BEEVILLE, HOUSTON AND ORANGE, TEXAS. Will locate the individuals identified in this letter residing in these areas and ascertain from them the identities if they can recall and the persons who telephonically contacted them by long distance during the period 12/15 - 17/67, when they were residing in La. Will exhibit photographs of JAMES EARL RAY to them.

NO 157-10673

MEMPHIS

AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE. Will conduct the same investigation.

NEW ORLEANS

AT BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA. Will contact the Magnolia Beauty Supply to determine the correct address of BILL T. VEIBELL and thereafter set out a lead to have him interviewed.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM : *WR* SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)

SUBJECT: MURKIN
(OO: Memphis)

DATE: 7/23/68

Re New Orleans letter 7/18/68 requesting further investigation concerning various telephone subscribers who might have received a call from subject.

For the information of the office of origin and New Orleans, this division set out approximately 550 leads to other offices and checked out 475 calls within the Houston Division, all with negative results. Inasmuch as subject is awaiting trial in Memphis and unless the office of origin is in possession of information that negates against same, this division does not believe it necessary to conduct any further investigation concerning these alleged telephone calls.

UAC by the office of origin no further action being taken.

- ① - Memphis (RM)
- 1 - New Orleans (157-10673)(info) (RM)
- 1 - Houston

WTW:mec
(3)

*cut to Houston +
New Orleans 7/24/68
BFB*

*Tell no-
them to complete
checks
as we don't know
yet which one
is the call
he made.
R*

44-1987-Sub-J-106

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| SERIALIZED <i>llh</i> | FILED <i>llh</i> |
| JUL 24 1968 | |
| FBI - MEMPHIS | |
| <i>Boyer</i> | <i>RB</i> |



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

7/24/68

PLAINTEXT

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

OO: ME

Re Houston letter to Memphis, 7/23/68.

Investigation conducted by the various field divisions involved in this phase of the investigation has failed to date to identify the receiver of the alleged telephone call made by subject RAY.

Since this phase of the investigation was approved by the Bureau, Houston will continue to conduct investigation regarding this phase until all logical investigation has been completed.

A copy of this airtel has been directed for the information of New Orleans since New Orleans has been involved in this phase of the investigation.

2-Houston
1-New Orleans (157-10673) INFO
2-Memphis

RFB:PEH
(5)

SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED llb
INDEXED J
FILED J llb

44-1987-Sub-J-107

JH

Boyle RB

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM : *MA* SAC, DALLAS (44-2649) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 7/26/68

Re previous communications regarding investigation of telephone calls made along route RAY took from Los Angeles to New Orleans in December, 1967.

Investigation has been conducted concerning persons in the Dallas Division who received telephone calls from pay stations along the RAY route. No information has been developed to indicate that any of these persons had any connection with this case; therefore, no further investigation concerning this phase of this case is being conducted.

44-1987-Sub-J-108

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| FILED <i>MA</i> |
| JUL 29 1968 |
| FBI - MEMPHIS |

Boyle BB

2 Memphis
2 - Dallas
WBH:tk
(4)



5010-108-02

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

8/27/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673)

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

MURKIN

Re New Orleans letter to Memphis 7/18/68 requesting interview of **TOMMY JOE MORGAN** who previously resided at Monroe, La., telephone 325-5768.

On 8/27/68 Miss **KAY MORGAN**, sister of **TOMMY JOE MORGAN**, 6115 Ivanhoe Road, Memphis, Tenn., advised SA **ROBERT F. BOYLE** that her brother is currently residing at 1700 Shannon, Apartment 211, Monroe, La., telephone 318-387-1323, and is employed by the National Cotton Council of America, location of that office in Monroe unknown to Miss **MORGAN**.

LEADS

NEW ORLEANS

AT MONROE, LOUISIANA

Will interview **TOMMY JOE MORGAN**, 1700 Shannon, Apartment 211, re his knowledge of any telephone call received at telephone 325-5768 in Monroe during the period 12/15-17/67, in an effort to determine if he is acquainted with subject **JAMES EARL RAY**.

2 - New Orleans
② - Memphis

Airtel..... RFB/acp
Teletype..... (4) *af*
A. M.
A. W. S. D.
Spec. Del.
Reg. Mail
Registered

[Handwritten initials and markings]

44-1987-Sub J-105
Hester *[Signature]*

7/29/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, SALT LAKE CITY
FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673)(P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re New Orleans airtel to Memphis, 7/18/68.

Enclosed for Salt Lake City is one copy of referenced airtel.

On 7/29/68, Mrs. SANDRA HARRIS, Neils Beauty Supply, 1952 North St., Baton Rouge, La., advised that her company was previously known as the Magnolia Beauty Supply. She stated that the company changed names and owners in September, 1967. Prior to that time, the company known as Magnolia Beauty Supply had an office in New Orleans, La. Mrs. HARRIS stated that the New Orleans branch employed an individual named BILL T. VEIBELL. She stated that she recalls he left the company in September, 1967, and returned to Utah. She stated there were no records available regarding his employment, and she could furnish no address for him in Utah.

LEAD

SALT LAKE CITY

AT CORINNE, UTAH. Will conduct credit and criminal checks in attempt to identify BILL T. VEIBELL and if located, have him interviewed as set forth in referenced airtel.

2 - Salt Lake City (Enc. 1)
② - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - New Orleans
WED:jah
(6)

44-1987-Sub-J-109

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| JUL 31 1968 | |
| FBI - MEMPHIS | |

Boyle RB

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DATE: 9/3/68

FROM : SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

ReNOlet, 7/18/68 and HOlet, 8/20/68.

Re Telephone calls, Houston Division to NO
Division, 12/67.

1. Lake Charles, Louisiana telephone number ~~477-4851~~

On 8/16/68, Reverend BROTHERS, Church of Christ, 1701 N. Adams, Beeville, Texas, stated he had returned from vacation on 8/16/68 from the Dallas, Texas area. He stated that on 8/14/68 he had visited with Reverend MIKE MURDOCK who at the time was just finishing a revival at the First Assembly of God Church, Gonzales, Texas. He stated a Reverend MINTON is the Minister of this church.

Reverend BROTHERS advised he had no idea where Reverend MURDOCK was going next, since he travels the entire country. Reverend BROTHERS advised he thought 8/15/68 was the last night of the revival in Gonzales, therefore a lead to contact Reverend MURDOCK in Gonzales is not being set forth.

New Orleans is attempting to locate MURDOCK.

2. Starks, Louisiana telephone number ~~743-6264~~

On 8/14/68, SYBIL MARIE JOHNSON, 1520 Link, Apartment 18, Orange, Texas, was contacted by SA GEORGE P.D. HUDNOR and she advised that Starks possibly Louisiana telephone number 743-6264 was a number at her parents' residence whose residence address is RFD #1, Starks, Louisiana. JOHNSON advised that sometime back in 1967 she had gone to reside with her parents and when they did not have a telephone in the home she had had one installed in her name and the number of the telephone was 743-6264.

2 - Memphis (RM)
1 - New Orleans (Info) (RM)
1 - Houston
JSW/sjm
(4)



5010-108

44-1987-Sub A-110

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| SEP - 5 1968 | |
| FBI - MEMPHIS | |

Wester

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

HO 44-1509

JOHNSON advised that she could not ever recall receiving a telephone call from JAMES EARL RAY or anyone else utilizing his known aliases between the time of 12/15-17/67. She stated at that time she did not recall receiving any long distance telephone calls from Houston, Texas.

On 8/16/68 a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY was displayed to JOHNSON and she advised that the individual she was viewing was unfamiliar to her.

3. Lake Charles, Louisiana, telephone number 436-6483

On 7/30/68, JEAN FANNIN, Apartment 9, 9314 Avenue S, Houston, advised that she and her husband O.C. FANNIN had resided at Lake Charles, Louisiana until May, 1968.

While residing there they had at frequent intervals been in telephonic contact with relatives in Houston. She was unable to recall receiving any specific calls in December, 1967.

Mrs. FANNIN advised she has seen photographs of JAMES EARL RAY but that this person was unknown, personally and through associates, to them.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date September 9, 1968

1

Reverend MIKE MURDOCK telephonically advised from Lake Charles, Louisiana, that he understood the Federal Bureau of Investigation had made inquiries in Texas and in the Lake Charles area concerning him. He stated that he travels almost constantly and is extremely difficult to reach on a day-to-day basis.

When asked if he recalled anyone making a telephone call to him during the middle part of December, 1967, from any place in Texas, he stated that the only call he remembers which may have taken place during the month of December would have been a telephone call from another minister who advised him concerning a revival meeting to be conducted by him.

Reverend MURDOCK stated that he does not know JAMES EARL RAY and, to the best of his recollection, he never met or saw him.

Reverend MURDOCK said that for the next two weeks, commencing September 3, 1968, he could be reached in care of BOB BRANTLEY, 304 West Parkhurst, Bastrop, Louisiana.

~~44-1987-Sub J-2~~
~~44-1987-Sub J-2~~

44-1987-Sub J-111

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| SERIALIZED..... | FILED..... |
| SEP 16 1968 | |
| FBI - MEMPHIS | |

Dictated 9/4/68

On 9/2/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File No 157-10673
by SA HAROLD V. HUGHES

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM : *R/W* SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 9/12/68

Re New Orleans letter to Memphis, 7/18/68.

Enclosed for Memphis are nine copies of FD-302
re MIKE MURDOCK.

② - Memphis (*enc 9*) *llk*
2 - New Orleans
HVV - cst
(4)



44-1987-Sub-J-112

44-1987-Sub-J-112

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| SEP 16 1968 | |
| FBI - MEMPHIS | |

Hester *JMS*

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



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

October 11, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY, Aka

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.

Investigation set forth below was conducted to
identify subscribers to telephones to which calls were
made from Texas during the period December 15-17, 1967.

Telephone Number 12-27
Sabinas, Coahuila, Mexico
December 16, 1967

On June 28, 1968, a confidential source abroad
advised that it had been determined that the above number
belongs to Mr. BENITO VELEZ MADRID, 63 years of age, who
lives with his wife, MARIA RODRIGUEZ de VELEZ, at Avenida
Juarez Norte 722 in Sabinas, Coahuila. They have three
sons living in the United States. One is BENITO VELEZ RODRIGUEZ
who lives at Carrizo Springs, Texas; the others, FRANCISCO
VELEZ RODRIGUEZ and MARIO VELEZ RODRIGUEZ live in
San Antonio, Texas at 2107 West Commercial Street. Also
residing at this latter address is GUSTAVO GUTIERREZ,
a son-in-law of BENITO VELEZ.

The source said that the Chief of Police in
Nueva Rosita, Coahuila, Mr. XICOTENCATL FLORES, and the
Chief of Police in Sabinas, Coahuila, Mr. RAMIRO CARDENAS,
both stated that BENITO VELEZ and his family are very
well regarded business people in the area. None of them
have criminal records. The communities of Sabinas and
Nueva Rosita are neighboring towns and, according to these
police officials, the VELEZ family is well known in both
communities.

ENCLOSURE

44-1987-Sub-J-113

ee
OCT 22 1968

Hester

JAMES EARL RAY, Aka

Telephone Number 12-50
Nueva Rosita, Coahuila, Mexico
December 17, 1967

On June 28, 1968, the confidential source abroad stated that the above number is listed to PERFECTO LARA ZAMORA and his son, JOSE de JESUS LARA GALVAN. They live at Number 2550, Colonia Zaragoza, Nueva Rosita, Coahuila. It was determined that the son, JOSE de JESUS LARA was married in May of 1968 to VIRGINIA VARA VARGAS who lived at 539 F.T. Clarke in Uvalde, Texas.

Both Police Chief FLORES of Nueva Rosita and Chief CARDENAS of Sabinas, Coahuila, advised the source that neither PERFECTO LARA ZAMORA or any of his relatives have any criminal record in those communities.

Telephone Number 42-70-56
Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico
December 15 and 16, 1967

On June 13, 1968, a second confidential source abroad, advised that the above number is listed to RAMIRO IBARRA MARTINEZ whose address is Martin de Zavala Sur 224 in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon. It was determined by the source that IBARRA works in San Antonio, Texas in a clothing store called "Sugarman's" and, while staying in San Antonio, lives at 115 South Alazan Street. IBARRA visits Monterrey very infrequently and, when he does come to Monterrey, usually only stays over the week end. The source advised that other residents of this neighborhood stated that IBARRA is a tailor in the clothing store in San Antonio.

Telephone Number 46-85-15
Mexico, D.F.
December 17, 1967

On July 18, 1968, a third confidential source abroad advised that the above number is listed to the Carniceria America, Cipris 11-2 in Mexico City. On June 24, 1968, JESUS GUEVARA VALDEZ, Manager of this concern, stated that the firm buys meat in very large

JAMES EARL RAY, Aka

quantities from the border area of Texas, as well as in Mexico. He said that often they receive unsolicited telephone calls from a buyer in a travel status who advises them concerning livestock available for sale. He stated that his employer, GUSTAVO HERNANDEZ ZARATE, handles all long distance calls pertaining to the purchase of livestock and that he, GUEVARA, knew nothing about a call received at this number on December 17, 1967. He said Mr. HERNANDEZ was out of town at that time.

On July 11, 1968, GUEVARA stated that HERNANDEZ had been told that an inquiry was made concerning the call received on December 17, 1967, and stated he did not know what it was about. Periodic efforts by the source to contact HERNANDEZ at this address have been unsuccessful.

On October 4, 1968, the third source advised that another attempt had been made on that date to contact GUSTAVO HERNANDEZ at the Carniceria America but that HERNANDEZ was again out of the city, traveling on business.

- 3* -

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

DATE: October 21, 1968

✓ FROM : Director, FBI (44-38861)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Enclosed are 15 copies of a LHM as submitted by Legat, Mexico City.

You should incorporate the LHM in your next report.

Enclosures (15)



5010-108

J

44-1987-Sub J-114

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| OCT 21 1968 | |
| FBI - MEMPHIS | |

Hester *JN*

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan *(surep)*

11/13/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SAN ANTONIO (44-1987) (P)

RE: MURKIN

On 10/12/68, WILLIAM JONAS, former Special Agent and presently Security Manager at Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, San Antonio, Texas, advised that he received a call on the morning of 10/12/68, from STEWART LONG, New York Times representative in Austin, Texas, who inquired about a telephone call made by RAY at Uvalde, Texas, to New Orleans, Louisiana, on 12/16/68. JONAS advised that he told LONG that he could not comment on this.

It should be noted that extensive investigation concerning the alleged telephone call has been conducted by various field divisions.

This is being submitted for the information of the Bureau and Memphis.

3 - Bureau
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - San Antonio
JMK:jmb
(7)

*See date in writing -
and think of any
news items or call
made from Uvalde
to New Orleans area
be contacted
Jones*

44-1987-Sub-J-115
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
NOV 1 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS
Hester

F B I

Date: 11/25/68

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

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, SAN ANTONIO (44-1242)(P*)
RE: MURKIN

Re San Antonio airtel to the Bureau 11/13/68 and Memphis airtel to San Antonio 11/19/68.

In referenced Memphis airtel it is stated that Memphis is unable to locate anything connected with a telephone call allegedly made by subject RAY from Uvalde, Texas, to New Orleans.

In referenced San Antonio airtel inquiry was made by a New York Times representative concerning a phone call made by RAY at Uvalde, Texas, to New Orleans, La., on 12/16/68; this date should be 12/16/67.

Memphis attention is directed to Houston teletype to Director, Memphis, et al, dated 4/28/68, 5:57 p.m., which bore the subcaption RE: LOUIS LOMAX-CHARLES STEIN. In that teletype, it was pointed out a representative of Newsweek contacted the telephone company, Houston, and advised LOMAX and STEIN had identified a coin telephone located at Enco service station, Route 90, Uvalde, Texas, as one allegedly used by RAY to make call to New Orleans, 12/16/67.

Memphis attention is further directed to Bureau teletype to El Paso, et al, dated 4/25/68, 7:50 p.m., copy Memphis, setting forth leads for El Paso, Houston, and San Antonio to conduct investigation re telephone calls which subject RAY made from various pay stations in Texas. The requested investigation conducted by the San Antonio Office in this phase of this matter was negative.

② - Memphis
I - SA
JMK:fes
DATE FILE STRIPPED 4/8/67
INITIALS mas
RE: BU AIRTEL DTD 11/3/68

SEARCHED OFFICE INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
NOV 29 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS

Approved: JMK
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per 44-1987-Sub-J-116