

U. S. Department of Justice

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

FIELD OFFICE FILE
FOIPA PROCESSED

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number

44-38861

"DO NOT DESTROY:
HISTORICAL VALUE,
NATIONAL ARCHIVES"

See also Nos.

SEE VOL 1
FOR LITIGATION

ENTIRE FILE REVIEWED
FOR HISTORICAL
DECLASSIFICATION

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

Cybernetics

CLASSIFICATION NO.

44-1987-Sub-K

Serials

88-2

Volume Number

5/15/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: SAN FRANCISCO

FROM: CINCINNATI (157-1893)

MURKIN

MRS. JOHN VANCE, FIVE ONE FOUR RYAN AVENUE, COLINGRUS, OHIO, RECEIVED LETTER FROM HER SISTER, MRS. R. M. PERKINS, TWO TWO SIX TWO MARKET STREET, SAN FRANCISCO. MRS. VANCE CONTACTED COLINGRUS RA BECAUSE LETTER CONTAINED FOLLOWING: QUOTE BEFORE I FORGOT RUBY, DID YOU KNOW THAT GUY THEY CLAIM SHOT MARTIN LUTHER KING IS A GRANDSON OF THOSE RAINES (RAYNES) THAT LIVED ACROSS FROM US ON VERMONT ST? (JEDIE). AUNT NETTIE WAS MARRIED TO A RAY (LAST NAME) FROM MISSOURI THAT IS ALSO ONE OF HIS ALIAS. (EARL RAY) I BET GOLDIE KNEW HIM, ALSO DIDDIE, RAY HALL REMEMBERS HIM SO BERNICE SAID. UNQUOTE

MRS. VANCE NOT COMPLETELY FAMILIAR WITH NAMES MENTIONED IN LETTER.

1 - CI 157-1893

① - MEMPHIS (44-1987) (AM)

CWH:mak

(2)

K

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Boyer BB

CL 157-1893

PAGE TWO

SAN FRANCISCO CONTACT MRS. R. M. PERKINS FOR ANY
INFORMATION CONCERNING BACKGROUND OR WHEREABOUTS OF JAMES EARL
RAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

AM COPY MEMPHIS.

5-15-68

PLAIN

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO SALT LAKE CITY

FROM BUTTE 173-2

MURKIN.

RE ST. LOUIS TEL TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, AND BUTTE.

RETEL MISDIRECTED TO BUTTE.

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

SW BELL TEL. CO. (PROTECT), ADVISED FOLLOWING CALL CHARGED
TO PHONE OF CARMEN PATTON, FIVE TWO ZERO SIX WASH., SLMO, NOLAN'S
LANDLADY; OCT. TWENTY NINE, SIX SEVEN, PHONE TWO SEVEN FIVE DASH
FOUR FOUR SEVEN EIGHT, LEAMINGTON, UTAH.

IMMED. IDENTIFY SUBSCRIBER. UNLESS RELATIONSHIP TO NOLAN
OR PATTON APPARENT, INTERVIEW, COMPLETELY PROTECTING PHONE CO.,
AND DETERMINE IF CALL BEARS ON WHEREABOUTS OR ACTIVITIES OF SUBJECT.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

AIRMAIL COPIES TO ME AND SL.

END

44-1987-Sub K-89

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Boyle GB
Boyle

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI-ST LOUIS

1248AM URGENT 5-17-68 JJR

TO: DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS

FROM: ST. LOUIS (44-775)

MURKIN - SUMMARY

RE JAMES LOAMA OWENS:

OWENS INTERVIEWED AT LENGTH, WAS FALL PARTNER OF RAY ON FIFTY NINE KROGER ROBBERY. FURNISHED CONSIDERABLE INFORMATION REGARDING CHARACTER AND HABITS OF RAY OBSERVED BY HIM, SET OUT IN DETAILED PREVIOUS TELETYPE. DENIED CONTACT WITH RAY SINCE OWENS LEFT MSP, OR KNOWLEDGE OF WHEREABOUTS SINCE. OFFERED FULL COOPERATION. NEVER MET MSP INMATE JAMES D. WALLACE TILL FIFTYNINE. ADMITS SAW WALLACE AT ENTRANCE OF JEFFERSON GRAVOIS BANK SL, BUT CLAIMS WAS SUMMER OF SIXTY FIVE; THAT HE WAS ALONE; AND THAT WALLACE WAS WITH UNKNOWN FEMALE, KC HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO RESOLVE.

RE JERRY RAYNES, FATHER:

RAYNES REINTERVIEWED. RECALLED STATEMENT MADE BY SON JERRY RAY DURING RECENT OVERNIGHT VISIT BY JOHN AND JERRY RAY, THAT SUBJECT IN CHICAGO SUMMER SIXTYSEVEN. UNABLE TO RECALL MORE SPECIFIC INFO RE STATEMENT. JOHN AND JERRY DRINKING AT TIME. ADMITS HE MAY HAVE

END PAGE ONE

1X

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[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]

PAGE TWO

44-775

MISUNDERSTOOD. CHICAGO HAS BEEN REQUESTED IN PREVIOUS DETAILED TELETYPE TO QUESTION JERRY REGARDING THIS. JOHN WILL BE INTERVIEWED RE MATTER TOMORROW AND PHOTO OF JAMES DAVID DAILEY WILL BE EXHIBITED FOR POSSIBLE IDENT AS J D MENTIONED IN PREVIOUS I INTERVIEW.

RE JOHN LARRY RAY AND CAROL PEPPER; SOURCES AND CONTACTS INDICATE NO SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY TODAY.

BUREAU OBSERVATIONS AS TO POSSIBLE USE OF POLYGRAPH ON JOHN LARRY RAY AND JOHN EUGENE GAWRON RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED VIA SEPERATE TELETYPE.

Absurd

LOCAL LOOK ALIKE RESOLUTIONS, FELLOW PRISONER INTERVIEWS AND RESOLUTION OF TOLL CHECKS CONTINUING.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END.

TSJ

FBI MEMPHIS

TU

F B I

Date: 5/17/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR AND SAN FRANCISCO

FROM: MEMPHIS (44-1987) (1P)

MURKIN.

RE MEMPHIS TEL MAY SIXTEEN, LAST.

BUREAU HAS INSTRUCTED MEMPHIS REQUEST SAN FRANCISCO TO IMMEDIATELY RE-INTERVIEW KENNETH LEE WADE TO RESOLVE MATTER OF SUBJECT'S EARNING LARGE AMOUNT OF MONEY FROM NARCOTICS TRAFFIC IN MSP. BUREAU FURTHER INSTRUCTED SF TO SUTEL TODAY TO BUREAU AND MEMPHIS RESULTS OF INQUIRY.

A & D. P.

END.

JCH:cjs
(1)

Airtel _____

Teletype _____

A.M. _____

A.M.S.D. _____

Spec. Del. _____

Reg. Mail _____

44-1987-Sub K-91

h

h

FILE 7

Registered _____

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

9:50 a
Mir
San Fran 9:53 a

DECODED COPY

☒ Radio

MAY 17, 1968

☐ Teletype

TO: BUREAU AND MEMPHIS

FROM: ST. LOUIS

URGENT

MURKIN.

RE: FELLOW PRISONER JAMES COOPER GREEN, JR. ✓

GREEN RESIDING 942 GRAND, CARUTHERSVILLE, MO., ADVISED MAY 16 HE DID NOT RECOGNIZE PHOTO OF RAY, BUT HAD HEARD OF A RAY WHO ESCAPED FROM PEN. WHILE HE WAS INCARCERATED THERE FROM NOVEMBER 1965 TO AUGUST 1967. GREEN SPENT MOST OF HIS TIME AT MOBERLY WORK FARM. HE STATED HE WAS INVOLVED WITH SOME AMPHETAMINE POWDER WHILE AT MOBERLY, BUT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE NEVER CAME IN CONTACT WITH RAY IN THIS REGARD.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P.

TOR: 2:20 P.M. JDT

K

44-1987-Sub K-92

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Ronan

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

F B I

Date: 5/17/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND ST. LOUIS (44-775)

FROM: MEMPHIS (44-1987) 1P

MURKIN.

RE ST. LOUIS TEL MAY SIXTEEN LAST.

ON PAGES SIXTY AND SIXTY ONE OF KANSAS CITY REPORT DATED MAY FIFTEEN LAST, A FORMER INMATE OF THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, JEFFERSON CITY, MO., ADVISED THAT BOB POWELL WAS A CLOSE FRIEND OF SUBJECT AND WAS AWARE OF PLANS FOR ESCAPING PRISON PRIOR TO THE ACTUAL ESCAPE. ADDITIONAL INFO RECEIVED FROM THIS INMATE WOULD INDICATE THAT POWELL WAS MORE CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH RAY THAN POWELL ADMITS; THEREFORE, IT IS REQUESTED THAT ST. LOUIS REINTERVIEW POWELL IN DETAIL REGARDING HIS ASSOCIATION WITH RAY AND KNOWLEDGE OF ANY PLANS RAY MAY HAVE HAD UPON EFFECTING HIS ESCAPE.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P.

END.

RFB:LF
(1)
[Signature]

44-1987-Sub K-93

Approved: *[Signature]*
Special Agent in ChargeSent *Dir 4:00* M Per *sab*
St. Louis 4:02

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI SAN FRAN

452PM URGENT 5-17-68 KLJ

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), KANSAS CITY (44-760), ST. LOUIS (44-775)
AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM SAN FRANCISCO (173-65) (P) 3P

MURKIN

RE SAN FRANCISCO AIRTEL, FIVE EIGHT SIXTYEIGHT, AND MEMPHIS
TELETYPES, FIVE SIXTEEN AND FIVE SEVENTEEN, SIXTYEIGHT.

RE: KENNETH LEE WADE

KENNETH LEE WADE ON FIVE SEVENTEEN SIXTYEIGHT, ADVISED MONEY EARNED
IN MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY (MSP) COULD BE EITHER IN CURRENCY AND/OR
SCRIPT OR SERVICES SUCH AS COMMISSARY CHITS OR LEATHER GOODS, ETC.
MONEY COULD BE SENT OUT OF THE MSP BY GUARDS WHO WERE BRIBED BY PRI-
SONERS TO ACT AS COURIERS INVOLVING ITEMS LEAVING OR ENTERING THE PRISON.
WADE STATED HE DID NOT DESIRE TO IDENTIFY ANY GUARD AS THAT GUARD MIGHT
STILL BE AVAILABLE AND USEABLE BY PRESENT MSP INMATES.

WADE STATED RAY WOULD EARN ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS PER MONTH
FROM HIS BAKERY WORK, AND IT WAS HIS RECOLLECTION THAT FIFTEEN OR
TWENTY DOLLARS PER MONTH COULD BE FURNISHED TO RAY BY FRIENDS OR
FAMILY OUTSIDE OF THE PRISON FOR HIS PERSONAL USE IN PURCHASING COMMIS-
SARY ITEMS.

END PAGE ONE

R

44-1987-Sub K-94

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Boyer
Bonner

WADE ADVISED THAT RAY WOULD NOT PLACE ANY "PRISON EARNINGS" IN HIS ACCOUNT AT THE PRISON AND CLAIMED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW HOW RAY HANDLED HIS PRISON EARNINGS. HE STATED THIS WAS A STRICT PERSONAL MATTER WITH RAY. WADE ALSO ADVISED THAT HE GAMBLED A LOT OF HIS MONEY, BUT RAY WAS CONSERVATIVE IN THE HANDLING OF MONEY AND IF HE, WADE, WAS BROKE, HE COULD USUALLY GET A LOAN FROM RAY.

WADE STATED HE HAD NO REASON TO LIE TO THE FBI. HE STATED THAT HE NEEDS HELP TO GET A REDUCTION OF SENTENCE OR TRANSFER TO ANOTHER LESS STRICT INSTITUTION IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AND THAT HE WOULD BE COOPERATIVE, HOPING HIS COOPERATION COULD BE OF VALUE TO BOTH THE FBI AND HIMSELF.

WADE STATED HE HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF RAY'S WHEREABOUTS. HE ADVISED HE HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF HIS SOURCE OF FUNDS. HE STATED HE HAS NO DEFINITE KNOWLEDGE AS TO HOW RAY GOT HIS MONEY OUT OF MSP.

WADE STATED IT WAS HIS SPECULATION THAT RAY COULD HAVE HAD FIVE

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

THOUSAND DOLLARS AT THE TIME HE ESCAPED. RAY WAS CONSERVATIVE IN MONEY MATTERS AND PROBABLY HAD SOME MONEY ON HIS PERSON AT THE TIME HE EXCAPED AND SOME MONEY SOME PLACE AFTER HE GOT OUT. HE STATED IT WAS HIS SPECULATION THAT RAY, BECAUSE OF HIS CONSERVATIVE HANDLING OF MONEY, WOULD NOT HAVE TAKEN MUCH OF A CHANCE ON WHERE HE PLACED THIS MONEY IF THAT IS WHAT HE DID.

WADE ADVISED A LIEUTENANT DICKSON OR DIXON (PH) WAS DISCHARGED BY THE MSP IN NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE AND HE HAD BEEN USED BY WADE - RAY AND ASSOCIATES TO BRING IN AND TAKE OUT ITEMS OF VALUE. WADE STATED RAY WAS A CLOSE FRIEND OF WILLIE SHOW OR SCHOAF (PH), A NINETEEN SIXTYFOUR OR SIXTYFIVE PAROLEE WHO ORIGINALLY CAME FROM CHICAGO, ILLINOIS AREA. WADE STATED WILLIE SHOW OR SCHOAF (PH) SENT SOME "STUFF" BACK INTO THE PRISON FOR US AFTER HE GOT OUT.

KANSAS CITY AT JEFFERSON CITY, MO., THROUGH MSP RECORDS, IDENTIFY WILLIE SHOW OR SCHOAF (PH) AND LIEUTENT DICKSON OR DIXON (PH) AND THEREAFTER SET OUT LEADS TO INTERVIEW THESE MEN FOR INFORMATION RE RAY AND/OR HIS SOURCE OF FUNDS.

INSERTS FOLLOW.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END.

RJT

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI ATLANTA

630PM URGENT 5-17-68 LCS

TO DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS

FROM ATLANTA 44-2386

MURKIN

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED MAY SEVENTEEN
INSTANT.

Sub K-42 pr
JAMES WILLOUGHBY ADVISED HE MET INDIVIDUAL, LAST NAME
ANDERSON, WHOM HE STATED FORMERLY RESIDED ONE ONE THREE FOUR-
TEENTH ST., NE, ATLANTA. WILLOUGHBY DETERMINED ANDERSON'S CURRENT
ADDRESS IN ATLANTA. ANDERSON BELIEVED IDENTICAL WITH HAROLD G.
ANDERSON WHO HAS NOT BEEN LOCATED AS YET FOR INTERVIEW. ANDERSON
WILL BE LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED.

ATLANTA CI INVOLVED IN SALE AND USE OF DRUGS AND
NARCOTICS IN TAVERNS NEAR FOURTEENTH STREET WHERE SUBJECT ROOMED
ADVISED THAT CONTACT WITH DRUG AND NARCOTIC USERS HAS PROVIDED
NO USEFUL INFORMATION RE SUBJECT'S POSSIBLE PURCHASE OR USE OF
DRUGS DURING VISIT TO ATLANTA.

EXAMINATION OF SAFE DEPOSIT BOXES METROPOLITAN ATLANTA
CONTINUING. CHECK OF METROPOLITAN ATLANTA AREA HOSPITALS
NEGATIVE TO DATE.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

MEN

FBI MEMPHIS

TU

44-1987-Sub K-95

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Boyle RB
Ronan

DL 44-2649
ME 44-1987
JVW/sgl
1

The following investigation was conducted by IC
JAMES VON WHITE:

AT FORT WORTH, TEXAS:

On May 14, 1968, Mr. GLENN R. SANDERFORD, Chief, Reference Service Branch, Federal Records Center, made available the Federal Reformatory, El Reno, Oklahoma, Inmate File #6-26381-SW, in FRC Container #304,628, on ROBERT G. BOSHERS, which discloses the following information:

On January 2, 1959, ROBERT G. BOSHERS was sentenced in the Eastern District of Missouri, St. Louis, Missouri, by Judge G. H. MOORE, to serve an indeterminate period under the Youth Corrections Act (5010b), following conviction for mail theft, forging and uttering U. S. Check. Probation was revoked. He was committed to Federal Reformatory, El Reno, Oklahoma, on July 13, 1959; paroled April 1, 1961; parole violator's warrant executed October 5, 1963, and was subsequently returned to the Federal Reformatory, El Reno, Oklahoma, on October 24, 1963, and was released December 12, 1963, at the expiration of his sentence. He listed his release destination in care of his grandfather, Mr. EARL GORLIEN, 1911 South 11th Street, St. Louis, Missouri.

This file reflects the following employment record:

January 20, 1956 - September 1, 1956, American Soda Company, 1400 Ann Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri;

June 1, 1954 - January 20, 1956 - Mosley Furniture, 2122 S. Broadway, St. Louis, Missouri;

January 10, 1958 - November 6, 1958, City Workhouse, 4200 S. Broadway, St. Louis, Missouri;

January 13, 1959 - June 28, 1959, City Workhouse, 4200 South Broadway, St. Louis, Missouri.

This file further reflects the following residences:

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Lester ght

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May, 1953 - January, 1956, 1911 S. 11th Street,
St. Louis, Missouri;

September, 1956 - August, 1957, Rural Route 1,
Hillsbcro, Missouri;

March 1957 - January, 1958, 1911 S. 11th Street,
St. Louis, Missouri;

November, 1958 - January, 1959, 1911 S. 11th Street,
St. Louis, Missouri.

The following is a list of relatives listed by the
subject while incarcerated at El Reno, Oklahoma:

Grandparents - Mr. and Mrs. EARL GORDIEN, 1911 S.
11th Street, St. Louis, Missouri;

Sister - BETTY BOSHERS, Florida;

Sister - MARY BOSHERS, Mississippi;

Brother - WILLIAM BOSHERS, 1911 S. 11th Street,
St. Louis, Missouri;

Daughter - ROXY ANN BOSHERS, 10 Benton Place, St.
Louis, Missouri;

Son - ROBERT BOSHERS, JR., same as above;

Mother - LILA IRBY, Florida;

Stepfather - LESLIE IRBY, Florida;

Wife - RACHER BOSHERS, 1723A S. 9th Street,
St. Louis, Missouri.

The following are prior records of delinquencies:

DL 44-2649

ME 44-1987

3

<u>Date</u>	<u>City & State</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
12/4/57	St. Louis, Missouri	Forging U. S. Check	On 12/13/57, Court suspended sentence and placed him on 2 years probation.
12/23/57	St. Louis, Missouri	Auto Theft	1/9/58, sentenced to 1 year in workhouse; released in 11/58
1/29/59	St. Louis, Missouri	Dist. Peace	Assessed \$1,000 fine and committed St. Louis Workhouse to serve out fine.

The following is a physical description of ROBERT G. BOSHERS:

Name	ROBERT G. BOSHERS
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of Birth	
Place of Birth	St. Louis, Missouri
Height	5'10"
Weight	163 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Medium
Scars & Marks	Vaccination scar on upper left arm; 3" scar on thumb of left hand
Tattoos	Two hearts with arrow upper left arm; 489388509 upper left arm; ROXY upper left arm; Dagger & Scroll left forearm. JACKIE left forearm. Dagger inside left forearm; skull upper right arm; BOB upper right arm; RAY right forearm; spider inside right forearm.

DL 44-2649

ME 44-1987

4

FBI #

754 495C

BOSHERS' Federal Reformatory Inmate File, El Reno, Oklahoma, fails to reflect any information of any sentence in the State of Michigan nor does it show any record of him as ever being wanted in that State.

5/15/68

AIRTEL

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

OO - MEMPHIS

Re Jackson teletype dated 4/24/68, St. Louis airtel dated 4/30/68 and Oklahoma City airtel dated 5/2/68.

Enclosed for Memphis are 15 copies of investigative insert reflecting investigation conducted at Fort Worth, Texas.

RE: SUSPECT - ROBERT G. BOSHERS

*Sub K-108
E-641B*

The files of the Federal Records Center, Fort Worth, Texas, were reviewed regarding ROBERT G. BOSHERS, Inmate File #Y-28381-SW, Federal Reformatory, El Reno, Oklahoma. The file shows BOSHERS was sentenced on 1/2/59 in the Eastern District of Missouri, St. Louis, Missouri, to serve an indeterminate period under the Youth Corrections Act following conviction for mail theft, forging and uttering a U. S. Check. Probation was revoked and he was committed to the Federal Reformatory, El Reno, Oklahoma, on 7/13/59; paroled 4/1/61; parole violator's warrant executed 10/5/63, and subsequently returned to Federal Reformatory, El Reno, on 10/24/63, and released 12/12/63 at the expiration of his sentence.

BOSHERS' file fails to reflect any information of any sentence in the State of Michigan nor does it show any record of him ever being wanted in that state.

*identical with
44-1987-Sub E-641
K*

- 3 - Bureau
 - 2 - Memphis (Enc. 15)
 - 1 - St. Louis (44-775) (Info)
 - 2 - Dallas
- WBR/sgl
(8)

44-1987-Sub K-97

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[Signatures]

F B I

Date: May 16, 1968

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, SEATTLE (44-371) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
OO: MEMPHIS

RE: KENNETH LEE WADE
MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY

Re San Francisco airtel to Bureau, 5/8/68, a copy of which was furnished to Kansas City.

Records of U. S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington, reflect DONALD RICHARD BUSSMEYER was transferred January 22, 1968, to U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas.

LEAD

KANSAS CITY DIVISION
At U. S. Penitentiary
Leavenworth, Kansas

Will interview DONALD BUSSMEYER, who was arrested with WADE in a series of Los Angeles robberies and who was reported to have been in the Missouri State Penitentiary with JAMES EARL RAY.

Will interview BUSSMEYER to determine if he has any knowledge of RAY's present whereabouts.

3 - Bureau
2 - Kansas City
② - Memphis
2 - Seattle
EEO: bgv
(9)

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Boyle
Ronan

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

5/16/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760)

MURKIN

Re St. Louis teletype dated 5/16/68.

Enclosed for St. Louis is a chronological data sheet, classification summary, (no Diagnostic Center report made), relative correspondence, and visiting list regarding inmate WALTER E. HULAN, MSP #58293, as furnished by ROBERT LOOTER, Chief Clerk, MSP, Jefferson City, Missouri, on 5/13/68, to IC WILLIAM C. MC DONALD.

3 Bureau

1 Memphis

1 St. Louis (Encn. 10)

2 Kansas City

RHM:IEC

(7)

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19

Roman

F B I

Date: 5/16/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
 FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574) (P)
 SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Kansas City airtels to Bureau 5/7/68 and 5/8/68 as well as San Francisco airtel to Bureau 5/8/68 and Los Angeles airtel to Bureau 5/10/68.

For the information of St. Louis, referenced Kansas City airtel of 5/8/68 named seven former inmates of Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP) who should be contacted to ascertain if they can furnish any information concerning the whereabouts of JAMES EARL RAY.

On 5/10/68, a review of the Los Angeles Police Department file 304218-D on DENNIS WADE FONTENNOT reflected that FONTENNOT is a transient drunk with arrests for drunk as recent as 12/15/67. Records fail to reflect any employment or residences in California, and FONTENNOT has been arrested for sleeping on park benches as recent as 8/1/67.

The following background and descriptive information was obtained from the Los Angeles Police Department file 304218-D:

Name	DENNIS WADE FONTENNOT
Race	Caucasian
Sex	Male
DOB	

3 - Bureau
 2 - Kansas City (AM)
 2 - St. Louis (AM)
 ① - Memphis (Info.) (AM)
 2 - Los Angeles
 FEB/mmc
 (10)

44-1987-Sub K-100
 44-1987-K-100

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Boyle BDB
 Cronan

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

LA 44-1574

Height	5'4"
Weight	145 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Address (1966)	605 Kemp Street Midland, Texas
Relatives	CLIFTON FONTENOTE New Orleans (1967)
FBI Number	860 489 B
Occupation	Transient
Characteristics	Common Drunk

Referenced airtel from San Francisco to Bureau 5/8/68 reflects that (FNU) WADE has been located and interviewed by San Francisco and no further efforts are being made in an attempt to identify FONTENNOT as WADE who was in the Missouri State Prison with JAMES EARL RAY.

On 5/14/68, Mrs. LEORA PICO, 1278 East 126th Street, Los Angeles, California, advised that CHERRI PICO, (sister of CHARLES AMOS STEWART, used to live in common-law with her son at their residence but she has not been in Los Angeles since November, 1967, when she left for places unknown in Missouri. Mrs. PICO advised that CHARLES STEWART has not been in Los Angeles to the best of her knowledge. Mrs. PICO advised she has no idea as to the whereabouts of her son who was living with CHERRI and she has no idea as to the present whereabouts of CHERRI or her brother CHARLES STEWART.

On 5/14/68, Mrs. MARY RUSSELL, Trailer No. 60, 8111 Stanford Drive, Garden Grove, California, advised that JUDITH LEA MC FARLIN, wife of DAVID DON MC FARLIN, had spent some time as a house guest of hers in 1966. Mrs. RUSSELL advised that she has no idea where DAVID DON MC FARLIN might be but she stated that the last she heard was that JUDITH

LA 44-1574

MC FARLIN was residing with her parents at 4331 A Lafayette, St. Louis, Missouri, telephone PR 1-3288. Mrs. RUSSELL stated that JUDITH is her Grand Neice by marriage, but she knows nothing about JUDITH's husband.

On 5/14/68, Mrs. PAULINE COMBS, 4676 West 133rd Street, Hawthorne, California, telephone 675-1047, advised that Mrs. ROSELEE GRIDER, wife of LAWRENCE ALBERT GRIDER, has not been living in California for many months. She advised that she has never met Mr. GRIDER and she has no information regarding his whereabouts. Mrs. COMBS stated that ROSELEE GRIDER was last known to reside at 1510 $\frac{1}{2}$ North Lyon Street, Springfield, Missouri.

On 5/15/68, a review of the records of the Los Angeles Police Department and the Los Angeles Sheriff's Office failed to reflect any record for "SAM MASSI" as being arrested in Los Angeles City or County for armed robbery in 1965 or 1966. The records were further checked under the spelling MASSIE, MASSEY and MASSI with negative results.

LEADS

KANSAS CITY

AT SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI. Will locate and interview Mrs. ROSELEE GRIDER, 1510 $\frac{1}{2}$ North Lyons Street, in an effort to locate LAWRENCE ALBERT GRIDER, her husband, who was in the Missouri State Penitentiary during the same period as JAMES EARL RAY, in order that he may be interviewed regarding any information he may have pertaining to RAY.

ST. LOUIS

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI. Will locate and interview Mrs. JUDITH LEA MC FARLIN, 4331 A Lafayette Street, in an effort to locate DAVID DON MC FARLIN, her husband, who was in the Missouri State Penitentiary during the same period as JAMES EARL RAY, in order that he may be interviewed regarding any information he may have pertaining to RAY.

On May 14, 1968, JAMES D. WALLACE, MSP #75682, born in [redacted] said he is the clerk of C Hall. He said he "fell" from St. Louis in 1959 for Armed Robbery and other charges. He was paroled in 1965 and was returned for violation by reason of drunk driving on March 11, 1968.

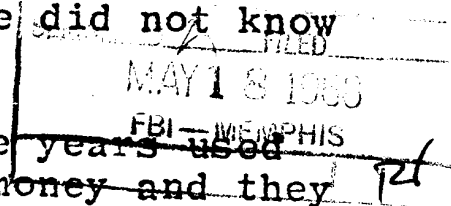
He said he was raised with JAMES L. OWENS, the "fall partner" of JAMES EARL RAY. He said he knew OWENS in the Penitentiary and saw him on three or four occasions in St. Louis, Missouri, while he was out. He said he recalled that he was C Hall tender when RAY tried to go over the walls and his ladder or rope or something broke about 1966. He said he was not a good friend of RAY's in the Penitentiary and knew him only to speak with him. He said he saw RAY in St. Louis sometime during the summer of 1967. He said it was probably the early part of the summer. He said RAY was with OWENS. He was just coming out of the Jefferson-Gravois Bank, located at the same address. RAY and OWENS were just entering the bank. He stopped and said to them that he was glad he got his money out before they got in. He said RAY laughed and said that "they were putting in". He said his wife was waiting in a car at the curb and he did not stop to talk and he went on out and drove off.

He said he had no way to fix the date. He said he reflected, at the time, that RAY must have escaped because he knew he had attempted to escape and had been "set back" on parole and he had too much time to have been released.

He said he saw OWENS on other occasions. He recalled that in 1966 he went to take a Missouri State Driver's license examination. OWENS was there and they got to talking about the Penitentiary and the examiner made OWENS leave because he apparently thought he was getting answers to the questions. He said the people at the examining station mentioned that OWENS had been there before and caused them some trouble.

WALLACE said that RAY had the reputation of being the type of person who served his time without comment and did not "mess" in the affairs of other people. He said he did not think that RAY would kill anyone as he is just not the type. He also said he has never heard of any organization in the Penitentiary and has never heard the name of COOLEY used in connection with any type of business or "racket" inside the walls and he did not know anyone by that name.

He said that inmates have over the years used cigarettes as medium of exchange in lieu of money and they make "parlay" bets on baseball games, horse races and other types of contests similar to bets made with money outside. He said he knew of no "lottery" as such involving cigarettes, but he said this might exist. He said there are "cliques" of prisoners who connive together for various reasons, and who become close associates, but there is no wide-spread organization and never has been to his knowledge. He said he certainly would be in position to know about it if there was and would have no hesitation in saying so if such existed.



Boyle RB

F B I

Date: 5/16/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

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

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau and receiving Offices, is a self-explanatory investigative insert concerning an interview with JAMES D. WALLACE, an inmate at the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP).

It is to be noted that WALLACE stated he saw subject with JAMES L. OWENS in St. Louis during the Summer of 1967. Also enclosed is a photograph of JAMES L. OWENS taken at the MSP.

The following is a description of JAMES LAOMA OWENS as it appeared in the MSP records:

Inmate #	00184
Race	White
Sex	Male
Born	_____ at Elvins, Mo.
Height	5'4"
Weight	149 lbs.
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue

- 3 - Bureau (Encs. 2)
- 2 - Atlanta (Encs. 2)
- 2 - Birmingham (Encs. 2)
- 2 - Chicago (Encs. 2)
- 2 - Los Angeles (Encs. 2)
- ② - Memphis (Encs. 2)
- 2 - New Orleans (Encs. 2)
- 2 - St. Louis (Encs. 2)
- 2 - Springfield (Encs. 2)
- 2 - Kansas City

RBH:ak
(21)

44-1987-Sub K-102

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 18 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle 1813

Went to
Cronen

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

KC 44-760

Complexion
Build
Shoe size
Occupation

Medium
Stocky
10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Barber.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

J. Edgar Hoover
Director.

The following FBI record, NUMBER 744 229 C, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Marine	Robert Wayne Phillips #1328541	October 1, 1952	<i>6-16886 NKI</i> <i>87-4822 NKI</i>	
Police Department Galion Ohio	Robert Wayne Phillips #1236	March 1, 1956	"trans"	released
Police Department Saint Louis Missouri	Robert Wayne Phillips #77277-14	December 4, 1957	false fire alarm	
Saint Louis County Police Clayton Missouri	Robert Wayne Phillips #--	December 5, 1961	suspicion bogus checks	
Police Department Saint Louis Missouri	Robert Wayne Phillips #77277-14	December 5, 1961	suspicion improper state license	
<i>44-1987-Sub E-917</i> <i>-917B</i> <i>-917C</i> <i>-917D</i> <i>-917E</i> <i>-917F</i> <i>917G</i> <i>917H</i> <i>Sub K-9A</i>				
SEARCHED <i>Ref</i> INDEXED <i>5</i> SERIALIZED <i>5</i> FILED <i>5</i> MAY 18 1968 FBI - MEMPHIS <i>Boyle</i> <i>GB</i>				
<i>44-1987-Sub E-1384</i>				

Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. Where final disposition is not shown or further explanation of charge is desired, communicate with agency contributing those fingerprints.

Notations indicated by * are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

5-16-68 154 JL

1-BU

744 229 C

The following FBI record, NUMBER , is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.
Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. WHERE
FINAL DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE IS DESIRED, COMMUNICATE
WITH AGENCY CONTRIBUTING THOSE FINGERPRINTS.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
FBI Chicago Ill	Robert Wayne Phillips	inquiry 5-13-68		
THIS PAGE SHOULD NOT BE DISSEMINATED OUTSIDE FBI.				

Notations indicated by * are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as
being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover
Director

5-16-68 154 JL

2-BB

744 229 C

CC-FBI
Jackson Miss

CC-FBI
Memphis Tenn

John Edgar Hoover
Director

F B I

Date: 5/17/68

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)TO: DIRECTOR (MAIL) AND SACS, ST. LOUIS, CHICAGO, AND
SAN FRANCISCOFROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (3 PP) *Presmer*

MURKIN.

RE ST. LOUIS TELETYPE MAY SIXTEEN LAST AND CHICAGO TELETYPE
MAY SEVENTEEN INSTANT.FOR INFO SAN FRANCISCO, BLACKIE DE CORE ALLEGEDLY ASSOCIATE
OF RAY. DE CORE SERVED TIME MENARD PRISON, CHESTER, ILLINOIS.

MENARD PRISON RECORDS REFLECT ANDREW WILSON DE CORE, (AKA
DE CORA AND BLACKIE DE CORE, MENARD NUMBER TWO THREE FOUR ONE
FIVE, RECEIVED MENARD PRISON JUNE FIFTEEN, NINETEEN FIFTYTHREE,
ON TRANSFER FROM JOLIET, ILLINOIS, PRISON TO SERVE SENTENCE OF
ONE TO TWENTY YEARS FOR ROBBERY. DE CORE PAROLED JUNE FIFTEEN,
NINETEEN FIFTYNINE, TO REV. JAMES WINENEGAR, ST. LOUIS RESCUE
MISSION, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI. RETURNED AS PAROLE VIOLATOR TO
MENARD, JULY NINETEEN, NINETEEN SIXTY. PAROLED JANUARY FIFTEEN,
NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE, TO BAPTIST RESCUE MISSION, COLLINSVILLE
AVENUE, EAST ST. LOUIS, ILLINOIS. RETURNED TO MENARD AS PAROLE

1 - Springfield
1 - Bureau (AM)
① - Memphis (AM)
WEL:css
(3) *css*

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>h</i>	FILED <i>h</i>
MAY 20 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyer
Cohan

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

44-1987-Sub K-163

F B I

Date:

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

PAGE TWO.

VIOLATOR, MAY TWENTYEIGHT, NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE. DISCHARGED UPON EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE, DECEMBER TWENTY, NINETEEN SIXTYSIX. UPON DISCHARGE, EXPRESSED INTENTION OF GOING TO SISTER-S RESIDENCE, MRS. YALANDA DI CASOLA AND HUSBAND, VINCENT, THREE SEVEN FIVE FIVE FIVE GLENMORE DRIVE, FREEMONT, CALIFORNIA. OTHER FRIENDS AND RELATIVES CONTAINED IN PRISON RECORDS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

BROTHER, ANTHONY DE CORE, SEVEN ONE THREE SOUTH CLAREMONT, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, OR ONE NINE THREE EIGHT NORTH SEVENTEENTH, MELROSE PARK, ILLINOIS.

SISTER, MRS. MARTHA BUTTITTO, HUSBAND BENNIE, NINE TWO FOUR ONE NORTH MAPLE COURT, MORTON GROVE, ILLINOIS.

SISTER, NANCY COSENTINO, FIVE ZERO TWO EAST MEMORIAL, BENSONVILLE, ILLINOIS.

NIECE, MRS. GEORGE ROGERS, TWO ZERO TWO ZERO NORTH LE CLARE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

COUSIN, PAT COLLESE, ONE SIX FOUR ONE NORTH LATROBE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

FIANCE, MISS HELEN HARE, THREE ZERO TWO ZERO WEST MADISON, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

BROTHERS, HARRY DE CORE AND NICK DE CORE, ADDRESSES UNKNOWN.

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

F B I

Date:

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

PAGE THREE.

FRIEND, MISS MARY SAWYER, CITY HOSPITAL NUMBER ONE,
ONE FIVE ONE FIVE LAFAYETTE STREET, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

SAN FRANCISCO ATTEMPT TO LOCATE DE CORE THROUGH SISTER
AT FREEMONT, CALIFORNIA, AND INTERVIEW RE ASSOCIATION WITH RAY.

CHICAGO, ST. LOUIS, AND SPRINGFIELD CONDUCT SAME
INVESTIGATION RE INDIVIDUALS RESIDING IN THEIR DIVISIONS.

COPY MAILED MEMPHIS. P.

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

KC 44-760

THW:MD

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA
THOMAS H. WEAVER:

AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

On May 15, 1968, CECIL CLAYTON LILLIBRIDGE, also known as CARL LILLIBRIDGE, who requested that his identity as the source of this information be concealed, was contacted at the Cole County Jail, and he furnished the following information:

He knew JAMES EARL RAY for quite some time before RAY was moved into his cell at the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP). He had had some minor dealings with RAY in poker. RAY himself played very little poker, but he would lend money to inmates who did play poker at the "2 for 2" rate requiring \$3 to be repaid for every \$2 loaned. RAY was "too tight" to play poker, and even when he loaned money at the exorbitant interest rates he required some kind of collateral. If RAY was a "walk man" in the MSP, having reference to an inmate whose duties called for his moving freely around the cell block, then RAY would have been a carrier for the usual prison lotteries dealing with numbers and parleys over ball game scores, in which cigarettes were bet, and the "walk man" would deliver the numbers slips and the winners' cigarettes, and would be paid a percentage by the inmate who ran the lottery through this association, but the "walk man" would perform the service strictly for his commission and would not necessarily be "close" to the person running the lottery, but would be selected because he had access to other inmates' cells. He has no information that RAY was ever a "walk man" or ever engaged in lotteries as described above.

In his conversations with RAY he learned that RAY was more interested in Mexico than in Canada. In speaking of places to go to "cool off" or "hide out", he suggested to RAY that it would be easier for a white American to hide out in Canada than in Mexico, since his skin color and language would be the same as the natives, but RAY had spent some time in Mexico and apparently liked the area and he expressed very little interest in Canada.

44-1987-Sub K-104

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED 5	FILED
MAY 20 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyer 18B
Lester Galt

He and RAY discussed a newspaper article which was published at about the time they celled together in which an Italian criminal's escape to Italy from the U. S. was apparently accomplished through his obtaining a Canadian passport, and it was suggested and RAY was apparently aware of the custom of the Episcopal Church and Church of England and its branches in Canada of keeping baptismal records and records of birth for years, which records would be easily accessible to anyone wanting to assume a new identity. They discussed how one could go to a medium-sized Canadian city, find records of birth through an open, easily accessible church, for an individual about one's own age, verify through local inquiry or source material that some such person is deceased, then write to the Provincial capital of that province requesting a copy of the birth certificate for that person, thereby securing documentary evidence of a new identity to use in securing a Canadian passport. RAY did not express a great deal of interest in this process and made no mention of planning to use such a technique to escape or change his identity. He did not say anything about any plans to go to Canada or to Mexico and thereby to a third country, and he never mentioned any interest in Rhodesia or other country with a view of flight there in hopes of avoiding extradition. RAY did say that he had considered Australia as a place to go to avoid apprehension for a wanted person, but indicated that he had dismissed Australia as a refuge because of the sparse population and the lack of tourists. RAY told him that he had written to Queensland, apparently before 1962, to some Government agency inquiring about the type of employment available there for foreigners, but his conversation indicated he had no interest in Australia at that point.

Most of RAY'S conversation revolved around Mexico when speaking of places to go after "pulling some job". He made no mention of narcotics smuggling to Mexico, and he did not say how he planned to obtain the "big haul" he wanted to make in order to "retire", other than that he might happen onto a large supermarket with a lot of money on hand which he could rob. He did not mention any specific supermarket or area of the country in this regard. From his conversation, he felt that RAY had actual experience in and knowledge of

smuggling small appliances into the Campeche Bay area of Mexico for resale. He mentioned that there were some dollars to be made in this racket with a very small investment required. RAY's associate MATEO LOPEZ GARCIA or MATEO GARCIA LOPEZ or some similar name previously described by LILLIBRIDGE as described by RAY was a real person, and LILLIBRIDGE remembered the name he gave because it was similar to the name of a "wet back" he had known previously in prison.

RAY spoke of the possibility of obtaining colored contact lenses to wear to change the color of his eyes in avoiding detection. RAY did not say where he would try to obtain contact lenses or that he had actually ever tried to obtain them or that he had ever worn contact lenses. RAY's eyes as LILLIBRIDGE recalls them are a faded, pale blue, or "sky blue", and he would want to darken the appearance of his eyes in changing his appearance. He told LILLIBRIDGE how he had experimented in the past on portions of his skin covered by his clothing with staining his skin a darker color using some kind of "walnut dye". He had apparently tried the dye out of curiosity to see how long the stain would last, and he told LILLIBRIDGE that the dye would "just have to wear off". As to changing his appearance, LILLIBRIDGE feels it is significant to note that RAY's weight would vary greatly from month to month. RAY would go through periods of weight-lifting, strictly for the exercise, and he would occasionally become concerned over his weight from a health standpoint and would lose weight quickly. RAY was not a competitive weightlifter and would probably not seek out a gymnasium to practice weightlifting, but he was concerned over a heart problem he imagined that he had, and he wanted the exercise to strengthen his heart. He mentioned that he knew it would be easy to obtain a fictitious Social Security card simply by filling in a form in any name, state that he had been self-employed, and he would be mailed a new Social Security card. He did not mention any problem with regard to obtaining a driver's license under an assumed name.

RAY told LILLIBRIDGE about a shack he rented on the outskirts of Campeche, Mexico, and how he had considered the possibility of buying the shack instead of paying rent. Money and not paying more for anything than necessary was of constant concern to RAY. He told LILLIBRIDGE of the difficulty in

EC 44-760

4

Mexico for a foreigner to own any property. He told of the practice of "Rentista Papers" through which a foreigner by paying a fee could receive permission from the Mexican Government to own a small business in Mexico or purchase property on a small scale in Mexico. He mentioned how it was an effort to have anything done by local Government officials in Mexico since everyone moved so slowly, and how in order to obtain "Rentista Papers" one would apparently have to pay two or three persons "under the table" a few pesos in order to get the papers through the Government red tape, and from his conversation, it appeared that RAY never was in Mexico long enough to wait out the process of obtaining "Rentista Papers".

5-17-68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

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

Enclosed for the Bureau are 3 copies, and for Memphis 2 copies, of a self-explanatory insert concerning re-interview with former cellmate of subject, CECIL CLAYTON LILLIBRIDGE, who is currently incarcerated at the Cole County Jail, Cole County, Missouri.

No leads in connection with this are being set forth by the Kansas City Office. They are being left to the discretion of the Bureau or Office of Origin. Copies are being furnished the Bureau inasmuch as the Bureau may wish to disseminate them to Canada and Mexico.

3 - Bureau (Enc. 3)
2 - Memphis (Enc. 2)
2 - Kansas City
RBH:mlb
(7)

44-1987-Sub K-125

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 20 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyer 10513

Hester
Ronan

K
Airtel to Bureau
regarding the
dissemination to
Legats - Mexico
& Canada
JH

5-17-68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

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

CARL MILLS, Manager, Renz Prison Farm, connected with the Missouri State Penitentiary, advised prison officials that he had found the letter sent to him by ex-inmate TOM BRITTON, Jasper, Alabama. The letter was furnished to this office and reads as follows:

*July 6-67

*Hello, All.

*Please excuse me for not writing sooner, but have been so busy. You know after taking a 3 1/2 year stop in life it's pretty hard to get back into the way of life again.

*Well now I am doing just fine. Moved from town into the country. Bought a 10 acre farm with house. One of those Jim Walter shells but I worked it over, looks pretty good. I panned it out and out. My wife and son like out here very much and really that's what counts. For the past two month I have had a trying time. My mother who is a Diabetic - spelled wrong, was operated on for cancer in Chattanooga, Tenn. had her right breast removed, weighed 18 lbs. She weighs 290, and she won't heal. Although she is in good spirit, but she has no chance, maybe 1 year.

2 - Bureau
② - Memphis
2 - Birmingham
2 - Kansas City
RBH:mlb
(8)

K

44-1987-Sub K-106

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 20 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Bryce VBB
Gowan

KC 44-760

"Since this operation on mother I have through often of your baby, Sissy - I do hope she makes through life without much serious sickness. Tell your wife I do hope she is keeping you on the ball and getting the house in good shape. Tell Joe hello.

"Bailes was a likable fellow. I thought lot of him. I you well tell him hi for me. Mr. Mills if you find time please answer this letter.

"You might have had a hard to get along with men on Renz farm but I personall enjoyed my stay there. Although I am sure it will never happen again.

"Bye Bye, God Bless Solong,

"/s/ Tom Britton

"RR 5 Box 34
Jasper, Ala."

This is being furnished in order that the Birmingham office may better evaluate information being received from TOM BRITTON.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DATE: 5-16-68

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

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Birmingham teletype to Bureau, 5-1-68. ||

On 5-1-68, SA's FRANK E. CORN, SR., and ROBERT C. HAINES, interviewed HILLIARD ALLEN SANDERS, at 137 East Acton Street, Wood River, Illinois.

SANDERS stated that he was incarcerated in the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, on 1-20-52, upon conviction of an armed robbery charge at St. Joseph, Missouri. He said he was released on parole on 9-1-64.

SANDERS advised that he never became acquainted with or had knowledge of JAMES EARL RAY during the time he was incarcerated in the Missouri State Penitentiary. He said that while he was in the penitentiary, he worked at several trades and that the last two jobs he had in the penitentiary had to do with the sewing machine mechanical section and that the last job he had was a halltender from 1963 to 1964.

SANDERS said that upon parole he went to Gadsden, Alabama, where he lived and worked for approximately 18 months; that he then went to Camden, South Carolina, where he was employed by the firm of E. I. DUPONT for 9 months. SANDERS said that he then came to Wood River, Illinois, where he has been working on construction at the Shell Oil Company Plant in Wood River. He said that he arrived in Wood River in 7-67 and has resided in Wood River since that time.

SANDERS concluded by stating that when national publicity was released concerning the identification of JAMES EARL RAY, he viewed photographs appearing on television and in the news media and determined that he had never known RAY while both were at the Missouri State Penitentiary.

② - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - Springfield (44-561)
RCH:ras
(7)

1 - Chicago (Info)
1 - Kansas City (Info)
1 - St. Louis (Info)

44-1987-Sub E-137

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 20 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester



5010-108

2 Xerox copies fwd.
BH, 5/20/68 acp

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan (for summary) also Tell BH

F B I

Date: 5/17/68

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

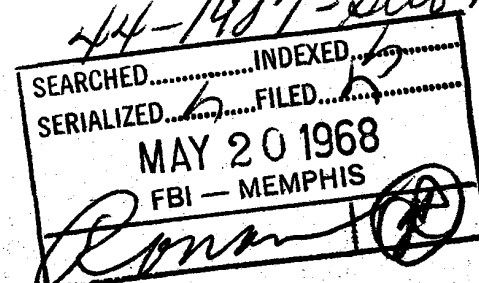
TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
 FROM: SAC, DETROIT (44-989)
 SUBJECT: MURKIN
 RM

Re St. Louis airtel to Bureau, dated 4/30/68, and
 Jackson teletype to Bureau, dated 4/24/68.

Re ROBERT BOSHERS, (Phonetic BOSSIER).

On 5/13/68 Mrs. MERCENE GAUT, Clerk, Office Services, State Prison of Southern Michigan, advised SA CHARLES G. FEHR that an extensive search of her files failed to indicate any record identifiable with ROBERT BOSHERS or BOSSIER as ever being incarcerated in the State Prison System. She was also unable to find any indication that BOSHERS was wanted by the Michigan Corrections Commission.

3 - Bureau (RM)
 1 - Jackson (157-9586) (Info) (RM)
 1 - Kansas City (RM) (Info)
 ① - Memphis (44-1987) (RM) (Info)
 1 - Oklahoma City (Info) (RM)
 1 - St. Louis (44-775) (Info) (RM)
 2 - Detroit
 WJH/cmt
 (10)



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

5/17/68

A I R T E L

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to Chicago, et al, dated 5/16/68.

Referenced airtel set forth information concerning JOHN EUGENE GAWRON's reading of a \$50,000 bank ^{ROBBERY} ~~burglary~~ in a southern state in the Chicago "Tribune" on or about 6/23 - 24/67.

The investigation requested of the Chicago Office has already been conducted and results thereof set forth in Chicago teletype to the Bureau, St. Louis and Memphis dated 5/10/68, 5:13 p.m.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- 3 - Bureau
- ② - Memphis (44-1987)
- 2 - St. Louis (44-775)
- 1 - Chicago

RJD:jap
(8)

K

44-1987-Sub K-109

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 20 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Ronan

5/30/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, BIRMINGHAM
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)
MURKIN
CR

Re Springfield letter to Memphis 5/16/68.

In view of Birmingham's interest in HILLIARD ALLEN SANDERS, a former prison mate of the subject at the Missouri State Penitentiary, 2 Xerox copies of referenced letter are enclosed herewith for Birmingham.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

Airtel 2 - Birmingham (Enc-2)
2 - Memphis

Teletype JCH/esp

A.M. _____

A.M.S.D. _____

Spec. Del. _____

Reg. Mail _____

Registered _____

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI KAN CITY

1119 AM URGENT 5/20/68 PHM
TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, ST. LOUIS
FROM KANSAS CITY 44-760 1P

MURKIN

INMATE JAMES WALLACE, MSP, REINTERVIEWED AND ADVISED THAT HE DID NOT WANT TO GET INVOLVED HE IS SORRY HE EVER SAID ANYTHING TO THE FBI, BUT STATED THAT HE GREW UP IN THE SOUTH SIDE OF ST. LOUIS WITH OWENS, KNEW HIM SINCE HE WAS APPROXIMATELY FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND THAT HIS WIFE WAS AT THE BANK WITH HIM AND HER NAME IS BETTY W. WALLACE AND SHE REPORTEDLY RESIDES AT TEN THIRTY ONE LYNCH, ST. LOUIS. WALLACE AGAIN STATED THAT HE IS CERTAIN IT WAS THE SUMMER OF SIXTYSEVEN AND NOT ANY TIME PREVIOUS.

RICHARD L. MNENARD, CURRENTLY INCARCERATED USP-LEAVENWORTH, KS., ADVISED THAT SUBJECT'S CLOSEST FRIEND AT MSP WAS A CARL DRAKE. HE HAS BEEN RELEASED AND IS CURRENTLY RESIDING AT TWENTYSIX THIRTY FOUR ST. VINCENT, ST. LOUIS, MO.

ST. LOUIS, INTERVIEW CARL DRAKE FOR ANY INFO HE MAY HAVE REGARDING SUBJECT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

P

END

MCP

FBI MEMPHIS

*Have KC
interview
wife*

*Drake
K*

*44-1987-Sub K-111
B
Roman (D)*

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI ST LOUIS

340 PM URGENT 5-20-68 MPB

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), KANSAS CITY (44-760) AND MEMPHIS
FROM ST. LOUIS (44-775) 2-P

MURKIN.

REKCTEL, MAY SIXTEEN, LAST.

Prisoner

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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Roman *(JP)*

IVAN DALE UNDERWOOD, FORMER INMATE, MSP, ADVISED WAS NOT
ACQUAINTED WITH JAMES EARL RAY WHILE INCARCERATED MSP. ON BASIS
OF NAME AND PHOTO HE BELIEVES RAY IS IDENTICAL TO AN INDIVIDUAL
WHO WORKED WITH RALPH RENFRO FOR SHORT PERIOD IN LATE FIFTIES AT
JOPLIN, MO. RENFRO CARRIED ON FURNACE AND HEATING BUSINESS AND
WOULD ALSO QUOTE FINGER UNQUOTE RESIDENCES AND BUSINESS
ESTABLISHMENTS IN JOPLIN AREA. ON PRETEXT OF FREE INSPECTION OF
PREMISES, RAY WOULD GAIN ENTRANCE TO CASE ESTABLISHMENT FOR
POSSIBLE ROBBERY OR BURGLARY OR IF OWNER WAS GULLIBLE WOULD
ATTEMPT TO SELL A NEW HEATING OUTFIT. AS OF EIGHTEEN MONTHS AGO
RENFRO WORKING AT INDEPENDENT OIL COMPANY SERVICE STATION ON

END PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO

SL 44-775

TWENTIETH ST., JOPLIN, MO. AND HANGS OUT AT ELMER'S BAR, MAIN ST. UNDERWOOD KNEW RAY ONLY THROUGH THEIR MUTUAL ASSOCIATION WITH RENFRO, WHO IS W/M, AGE FORTYTWO. UNDERWOOD WISHES HIS IDENTITY BE CONCEALED AS THE SOURCE OF ABOVE INFO.

KANSAS CITY AT JOPLIN: ATTEMPT TO LOCATE RALPH RENFRO AND DETERMINE IF HE EMPLOYED RAY AND HIS KNOWLEDGE OF HIS BACKGROUND.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P.

END

MCP

FBI MEMPHIS

TU

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI KAN CITY

1229 PM URGENT 5/20/68 PHM
TO DIRECTOR 44-38861, MEMPHIS
FROM KANSAS CITY 44-760 2P

MURKIN

K

RE MEMPHIS TEL MAY SIXTEEN, LAST.

INFO RECEIVED MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY (MSP) SUBJECT
EARNED ANYWHERE FROM ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS TO TWELVE
DOLLARS PER MONTH WORKING IN PRISON BAKERY. ON PAGES SEVENTYNINE
THROUGH EIGHTYFOUR OF KANSAS CITY REPORT SHOWS EARNINGS IN COLUMNS
UNDER EARNINGS DR OR CR. OTHER MONIES DEPOSITED BY INMATES WERE
UNDER CASH CREDIT COLUMN AND WITHDRAWALS BY INMATES UNDER
WITHDRAWAL COLUMN. PRISONERS INTERVIEWED IN PAST ADVISED SUBJECT
EARNED MONEY IN PRISON BOTH BY SELLING BOOKS AND DRUGS. ALSO ONE
INMATE ADVISED RAY WOULD LOAN MONEY TO OTHER PRISONERS,
GETTING BACK THREE DOLLARS FOR EVERY TWO DOLLARS LOANED. INMATE
USP, LEAVENWORTH, RICHARD L. MENARD ADVISED HE FELT RAY COULD MAKE
AN AVERAGE OF TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS PER MONTH FROM DRUG SALES AND
HAVE THE GUARDS TAKE MONEY OUT OF PRISON FOR HIM FOR A PERCENTAGE.
MENARD WOULD NOT ELABORATE ON THIS.

20
Boyle
Rohan
Hester
GB
JD

44-1987-Sub K-112

KC 44-760

PAGE TWO

RECORDS, BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS, TOPEKA, KS., FAILED TO REVEAL ANY UNIDENTIFIED MALE DEATHS IN STATE OF KANSAS SINCE APRIL FIVE, LAST, HOWEVER, THEY ADVISE THAT THE COUNTIES HAVE UNTIL JUNE TEN, NEXT, TO SEND IN ANY DEATH CERTIFICATES FOR THE MONTH OF MAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

P

END

MCP

FBI MEMPHIS

@

5/20/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, LITTLE ROCK (157-1215) (P)
RE: MURKIN
C R
(OO: ME)

Re: J. D. DAILEY-TELEPHONE CALLS FROM
PORTAGEVILLE, MISSOURI

Re St. Louis teletype to Bureau, 5/15/68.

The two telephones listed at Blytheville, Arkansas, were determined to be, one, a hospital, and the other an auto parts company and neither are being contacted.

At Helena, Arkansas, telephone 444-6184 is listed to W. H. BRENNER, 1170 College Street, who advised that the only calls received from Portageville, Missouri, were from his wife's brother, GENE LA FONT, owner of Sinclair Service Station.

At West Memphis, Arkansas, telephone RE 5-7746 is listed to Mrs. NONA LARKIN, 1110 Spears Street, who advised the only telephone calls which she recalled she had received from Portageville, Missouri, were from GENE LA FONTS, who owns a restaurant, service station and a car agency at Portageville.

At Jonesboro, Arkansas, telephone WE 2-9412 is listed to GAYLEN ANN KIRBY, 131 Iroquois, who advised that

3 - Bureau
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
1 - St. Louis (44-7754) (Info.)
2 - Little Rock
LJM/ds
(8)

K

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LR 157-1215

the only person she could recall receiving telephone calls from at Portageville, Missouri, was GENE LA FONTE, who operates a service station and who has been asking her for dates.

It was determined that Blytheville telephone number 763-9616 is a pay phone, this being the telephone to which the call to West Memphis, Arkansas, was allegedly charged.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.