

ME 44-1987

Memphis serial 157-1067-491 is a newspaper clipping taken from the 10/14/68 issue of the Memphis Press-Scimitar, a daily newspaper published in Memphis, Tenn. This article is captioned "Police Center Getting Aid from Ex-Adversaries: Invaders," by BARNES CARR. This article refers to Det. E. E. REDDITT, who was placed in charge of a Community Relations office operated by the Memphis PD in an attempt by the PD to improve slum conditions at the grass-roots level in Memphis. No dissemination has been made by the Memphis Office regarding this information.

Memphis serial 157-2106-1 is a newspaper article entitled "Black Caucus on Community, Police Relations Formed," which was published 6/10/69 in the "Washington Afro American." According to this article, a national black caucus on police-community relations was organized to assist in implementing the Kerner Commission report. It was established during the 15th annual Police-Community Relations Institute at Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich., in 5/69. EDWARD REDDITT of Memphis, Tenn., was one of 15 conveners of this caucus. The Memphis Office has not disseminated this information.

Memphis serial 62-1637-33 is a newspaper clipping entitled "'Cancerous' Campus Violence Assailed," which appeared in the 5/2/69 issue of the Memphis Press-Scimitar. According to this article, LEON JAWORSKI, a Houston attorney and former member of the President's Commission on Causes and Prevention of Violence was the principal speaker at a Law Day dinner of the Memphis and Shelby County Bar Association at Memphis, Tenn., on 5/1/69. At this dinner Warrant Officer EDWARD REDDITT of the Memphis PD was presented the annual Liberty Bell Award for contributions he had made as director of the Police Service Center in Memphis. This information has not been disseminated by the Memphis Office.

Memphis serial 157-284-416 is a memorandum to the SAC dated 8/26/68 captioned "DESEGREGATION OF EMPLOYMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICE FACILITIES, MEMPHIS, TENN." Attached to this memorandum is a letter dated 8/7/68 captioned "BELLEVUE AND MC LEMORE SHOPPING COMPLEX," which was prepared

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by Det. BEN J. WHITNEY and Det. E. E. REDDITT, Community Relations Bureau, Memphis PD, for W. E. ROUTH, Assistant Chief, Planning, Research, Inspections and Training Bureaus, Memphis PD. This letter sets forth information regarding the PD's Community Relations Bureau and the interest therein by representatives of the U. S. Civil Rights Commission and Community Relations specialists of the U. S. Department of Justice. Information is set forth regarding Det. E. E. REDDITT's explanation to these representatives of the work of the Memphis PD's Police Youth Program. No dissemination of this information was made by the Memphis Office.

Memphis serial 157-556-781 is a newspaper article entitled "Community and Generation Gap Bridged by Police Relations Unit," by CHARLES RAIDEN which was published in the 8/10/68 issue of The Commercial Appeal, a daily newspaper published in Memphis, Tenn. This article contains information regarding the Memphis PD's Community Relations Bureau and the Bureau's program called the Police Youth Program. Det. E. E. REDDITT, Assistant Director of the Community Relations Bureau, was interviewed and furnished background information and examples of the work being conducted by the Community Relations Bureau through the Police Youth Program. No dissemination of this information has been made by the Memphis Office.

Memphis serial 157-556-912 is a newspaper article entitled "Police Open Service Office 'to Let People Know Us'" by KAY PITTMAN BLACK, which was published in the Memphis Press-Scimitar on 10/3/68. This article contains information regarding the opening of the first Memphis PD Service Office in the South Memphis area. According to this article, Lt. REDDITT was praised by Police Director FRANK HOLLOMAN as the driving force behind police service offices. The Memphis Office has made no dissemination of this information.

Memphis serial 157-1168-Sub 109 is a newspaper article entitled "'Helping Hand' Wins Applause for Policeman," which appeared in the 5/2/69 issue of The Commercial Appeal. According to this article, Warrant Officer EDWARD ESTES REDDITT, Supervisor of the Police Service Center, was presented the annual Liberty Bell Award by the Memphis and Shelby County Bar Association on 5/1/69. This award is

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made to the person who has done the most to promote respect for law and order during the past year. No dissemination of this information has been made by the Memphis Office.

Memphis serial 157-1168-Sub 90 is a newspaper article entitled "It's Nearer: Day Care Center for Mothers Now on Welfare," by KAY PITTMAN BLACK, which was published 2/21/69 in the Memphis Press-Scimitar. According to this article, ED REDDITT, a warrant officer in charge of the Police Service Center in Memphis, has been active in efforts to obtain funds and a location for a day care center for mothers who are on welfare. He had obtained the services of two dentists and was seeking donations for funds to provide food and other items needed in connection with this promotion. No dissemination of this information has been made by the Memphis Office.

Memphis serial 44-1987-Sub E-1090 is a memorandum prepared by Departmental Attorney J. HAROLD FLANNERY for Mr. POLLAK on 9/17/68 captioned "JAMES EARL RAY, SUBJECT; MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., VICTIM; CONSPIRACY AGAINST RIGHTS, CIVIL RIGHTS." On page six of this memorandum Mr. FLANNERY reported that in 8/68 BILL SARTOR identified E. E. REDDITT as the Negro policeman who was removed from his assignment at the fire station located near the Lorraine Motel at about 5:00 P.M. on the day that Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., was assassinated. This page also contains a paragraph regarding two Negro firemen who were removed from the station a day or two before Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., was assassinated. The names of these firemen are not listed in this memorandum. This memorandum was furnished to the Memphis Office as an enclosure to Bureau airtel dated 9/26/68 captioned "MURKIN." This memorandum has not been disseminated by the Memphis Office; however, as instructed by the Bureau the contents of it were evaluated and two LHM's were prepared by the Memphis Office based on the evaluation. One of these LHM's was prepared on 11/5/68 captioned "JAMES EARL RAY, aka; DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING - VICTIM; CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY." This memorandum does not contain any information regarding EDWARD REDDITT, W. B. RICHMOND, or FLOYD NEWSUM. A second LHM under the same caption was prepared on 11/21/68 and

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contains information regarding REDDITT, RICHMOND, and NEWSUM. Information regarding REDDITT is set forth on pages 30, 31, and 32. Information regarding FLOYD NEWSUM is set forth on page 31. Information regarding W. B. RICHMOND is set forth on page 30. The information regarding REDDITT, RICHMOND, and NEWSUM set forth in this LHM was furnished by Inspector G. P. TINES, Intelligence Unit, Memphis PD. On 11/18/68, REDDITT and RICHMOND, both police officers, were assigned to Memphis Fire Station, Engine House No. 2, located at Butler and Main Streets, Memphis, approximately one block from the Lorraine Motel. The purpose of this assignment was to observe the activities of the "Invaders" a Memphis black power group, a number of whom were rooming at the Lorraine Motel. Prior to the time that REDDITT and RICHMOND were physically placed in the fire station, a Negro fireman named FLOYD E. NEWSUM was transferred because he had taken an active part in demonstrations by the striking sanitation workers in Memphis in February and March, 1968, and had been closely associated with black militants connected with the strike. On 4/4/68, Det. REDDITT was removed from his assignment at the Memphis Fire Station, Engine House No. 2, leaving RICHMOND at his post. REDDITT was removed due to the receipt of a telephone call on 4/4/68 by PHILIP MANUEL, Chief Investigator for Sen. MC CLELLAN's Senate investigating committee, Washington, D. C., reporting that information had been received by that committee that a Negro detective on the Memphis PD was to be killed. Due to REDDITT's activities in attending meetings of the striking sanitation workers in Memphis in February and March, 1968, REDDITT had been threatened on several occasions. Inspector TINES, believing that the telephone call received by the MC CLELLAN committee, was another threat directed against REDDITT, ordered REDDITT's removal from his post at Engine House No. 2 for REDDITT's protection.

A review of the indices and files of the Memphis Office revealed no information identifiable with Police Officer W. B. RICHMOND or Fireman FLOYD NEWSUM other than that set forth in this LHM.

A review of the indices and informant files revealed no additional information regarding threats against REDDITT.

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A review of the indices and informant files of the Memphis Office revealed no information that FBI informants had told the Memphis PD that REDDITT had shown some sympathy for Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING's cause by encouraging striking garbage workers, who were being supported by KING's non-violent marches, to stay away from work.

A copy of the LHM prepared by the Memphis Office on 11/21/68 referred to above was furnished to PHIL M. CANALE, JR., who was then State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tenn., on 1/21/69. No further dissemination of this memorandum has been made by the Memphis Office.

The Memphis Office is not preparing an LHM containing results of a review of the indices and files because pertinent information regarding EDWARD REDDITT, W. B. RICHMOND, and FLOYD NEWSUM has already been reported in a form suitable for dissemination, namely Memphis LHM dated 11/21/68 referred to above. This LHM incorporates all information available to the Memphis Office regarding RICHMOND and NEWSUM and the remaining information set forth in Memphis files regarding REDDITT involves his activities with the Memphis PD in their community relations program.

HQ00048 2800200

RR AFD

DE HQ

R 052115Z OCT 76

FM DIRECTOR (100-106670)

TO ALL SACS ROUTINE

BT

E F T O

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

BUDED OCTOBER 26, 1976

REFERENCE BUREAU TELETYPES TO ALL OFFICES DATED JULY 28, 1976 AND JULY 30, 1976 WHICH PROVIDED BACKGROUND MATERIAL REGARDING REVIEW OF OUR KING INVESTIGATIONS CURRENTLY BEING CONDUCTED BY THE OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY (OPR) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. TELETYPES ALSO PROVIDED INSTRUCTIONS FOR CERTAIN FIELD OFFICES TO FURNISH TO FBIHQ A COPY OF ALL SERIALS CONTAINED IN THE KING ASSASSINATION FILE CAPTIONED, "MURKIN".

PURPOSE OF THIS TELETYPE IS TO INSTRUCT MAJORITY OF FIELD OFFICES TO REPRODUCE AND SEND TO FBIHQ KING AND RELATED SECURITY FILES FOR REVIEW BY THE OPR TASK FORCE.

44-1987-Subm1050

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>SM</i>	FILED <i>SM</i>
OCT 5 1976	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

*SM*

PAGE TWO (100-10667) E F T O

THE TASK FORCE DESIRES TO REVIEW FIELD OFFICE FILES AND SUBFILES IN THE FOLLOWING INVESTIGATIONS: (1) MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., SM-C, BUFILE 100-106670; (2) COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, IS-C, BUFILE 100-438794; (3) COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS (CIRM), BUFILE 100-442029; (4) CPUSA - NEGRO QUESTION, BUFILE 100-3-118; (5) STANLEY DAVID LEVISON, SM-C, BUFILE 100-392452.

IT IS NOTED THAT EACH FIELD OFFICE PROVIDED A COMPLETE INVENTORY OF THE ABOVE FILES IN RESPONSE TO FBIHQ TELETYPE TO ALL OFFICES DATED DECEMBER 9, 1970 CAPTIONED, "MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR".

THE BELOW INSTRUCTIONS DO NOT APPLY TO ATLANTA AND CHICAGO BECAUSE TASK FORCE PERSONNEL HAVE PARTIALLY REVIEWED FILES OF THESE OFFICES AND PLAN TO RETURN THERE IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO COMPLETE REVIEW.

THE BELOW INSTRUCTIONS DO NOT APPLY TO NEW YORK AND BALTIMORE BECAUSE TASK FORCE PERSONNEL PLAN TRAVEL TO THESE OFFICES IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO REVIEW ALL ABOVE FILES.

PAGE THREE (100-106670) E F O

BIRMINGHAM, CHARLOTTE, KANSAS CITY, LOS ANGELES, MEMPHIS,  
MILWAUKEE, NEW ORLEANS, OMAHA, ST. LOUIS, SAN FRANCISCO,  
SPRINGFIELD AND WASHINGTON FIELD DISREGARD BELOW INSTRUCTIONS SINCE  
OPR REVIEW OF YOUR KING RELATED FILES HAS BEEN COMPLETED.

SAN JUAN DISREGARD BELOW INSTRUCTIONS SINCE YOUR FILE  
INVENTORY RESPONSE SHOWS YOUR OFFICE HAS NO SECURITY FILES  
RELATING TO KING.

ALL OTHER RECIPIENTS FURNISH FBIHQ ONE XEROX COPY OF EACH  
SERIAL CONTAINED IN THE ABOVE SPECIFIED FILES.

IT WILL BE NECESSARY ONLY TO XEROX THE FIRST PAGE OF  
ANY DOCUMENT IN YOUR FILES IF A COPY OF THAT DOCUMENT HAS BEEN  
SUBMITTED TO FBIHQ. THIS WILL INCLUDE DOCUMENTS ORIGINATING  
IN YOUR OFFICE AND THOSE RECEIVED FROM OTHER FIELD DIVISIONS.  
IT IS NOTED THAT THIS FIRST PAGE SHOULD CONTAIN THE FIELD OFFICE  
SERIAL IN ORDER THAT THE DEPARTMENT CAN MAKE A COMPLETE CHRONO-  
LOGICAL ACCOUNTING OF EACH FIELD OFFICE SERIAL. ANY DOCUMENTS  
IN YOUR FILES, COPIES OF WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN SUBMITTED TO FBIHQ,  
MUST BE REPRODUCED IN THEIR ENTIRETY AND FORWARDED TO FBIHQ.

IF ANY FILE CONTAINS PHOTOGRAPHS, EXHIBITS, OR OTHER



PAGE FOUR (100-106670) E F T O

ITEMS WHICH CANNOT BE XEROXED, A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH ITEM AND LOCATION SHOULD BE SET FORTH IN COMMUNICATIONS TRANSMITTING DESIRED DOCUMENTS TO FBIHQ.

WITH RESPECT TO FILES CONCERNING IRM AND CPUSA - NEGRO QUESTION, THE CPR TASK FORCE HAS AGREED TO A CUTOFF YEAR OF 1960. THEREFORE, NO SERIAL IN THESE FILES DATED PRIOR TO JANUARY 1960 NEED BE SUBMITTED. THIS CUTOFF DATE DOES NOT APPLY TO INVESTIGATIVE FILES CONCERNING KING, SCL AND LEVISON.

IT IS REQUESTED THIS MATERIAL DESIRED BY THE TASK FORCE BE PROCESSED AND MAILED TO REACH FBIHQ BY OCTOBER 26, 1976. THE MATERIAL SHOULD BE SENT BY REGISTERED MAIL, ATTENTION DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR JAMES O. INGRAM, GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION.

SINCE THE DEPARTMENT TASK FORCE MUST SEE EVERY SERIAL IN OUR INVESTIGATION OF KING AT FBIHQ AND IN THE FIELD, IT IS ECONOMICALLY BENEFICIAL TO THE GOVERNMENT TO REPRODUCE AND MAIL THESE DOCUMENTS RATHER THAN HAVING TASK FORCE PERSONNEL TRAVEL TO ALL FIELD OFFICES. ABOVE MENTIONED OFFICES TO BE VISITED IN THE FUTURE BY THE TASK FORCE WILL BE FURNISHED TRAVEL INFORMATION AT A LATER DATE.

BT

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1978) DATE: 10/27/76

FROM : SUPERVISOR JOHN L. SHELBURNE

SUBJECT: MURKIN

OO: MEMPHIS

On 10/27/76, Supervisor DONALD A. SMITH, Freedom of Information Unit, telephonically advised the writer of the following:

A verified request has been received from an individual as to information in the above-captioned file. The Bureau has been sued by this individual, the case going to the Court of Appeals and the Bureau has been ordered to submit certain information.

Mr. SMITH requested the following items to be located and sent to the Bureau:

Memphis teletype to the Bureau dated 4/5/68 with the title marked changed "UNSUB; Harvey Lomeier"(phonetic), sent at approximately 8:19 p.m., consisting of four pages. He desires a Xerox copy of the machine copy of all four pages. 98  
F6

Memphis airtel to the Bureau dated 4/6/68 that enclosed 13 photographs obtained from the PD which were taken of the victim at the hospital. He desires all 13 photographs. 44-1987-Sub B-433

Memphis airtel to the Bureau 4/7/68, captioned MURKIN, in which 47 photographs of the crime scene were enclosed. He desires copies of all 47 photographs.

San Francisco teletype to the Bureau, Atlanta, Birmingham and Memphis, dated 4/8/68 captioned MURKIN, sent by San Francisco at 4:06 p.m., and begins "On April 8, 1968, Inspector KEN MADLEY, San Francisco Police Department advised ...." This teletype is three pages. He desires a Xerox copy of all three pages.

Mr. SMITH requested that these be sent to him, attention FOI Section, SA DONALD A. SMITH, Room 5443, JEH. 44-1987-Sub M 1051  
EAM EAM

JLS:tjm  
(1) *[Signature]*

OCT 27 1976

*[Signature]*



5010-108

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

10/29/76

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
ATTENTION: FOIPA BRANCH,  
SA DONALD A. SMITH,  
ROOM 5443 JEH

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

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
OO: ME

Re Bureau telephone call to Memphis 10/27/76.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are the following:

13 photographs taken by the Memphis Police Department which were taken of the victim at the hospital in Memphis;

Xerox copy of San Francisco teletype dated 4/8/68 to the Director, Atlanta, Los Angeles, Memphis, and Birmingham, captioned as above, beginning paragraph "On April 8, instant, Inspector Ken Manley, San Francisco PD....";

Xerox copy of Memphis teletype to the Bureau dated 4/5/68 captioned "CHANGED: UNSUB, AKA JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER; MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM; CIVIL RIGHTS. OO, MEMPHIS."

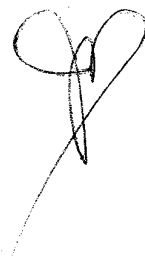
The Bureau is requested to return to Memphis the 13 photographs enclosed herewith after they have been returned from the Court.

2-Bureau (Encs. 15)

1-Memphis

JLS:wp

(3)



44-1987-Sub M-1052

SEARCHED	
SERIALIZED	EBW
INDEXED	
FILED	EBW

WYETH CHANDLER  
MAYOR

CITY of MEMPHIS



MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT  
128 Adams Avenue  
Memphis, Tennessee 38103  
901-528-2345

November 9, 1976


Mr. William B. Edwards  
The Benet Arms Company  
Gold Rush Bldg.  
Afton, VA 22920

Dear Mr. Edwards:

This is in reply to your letter of November 5 concerning the possibility of your selling the rifle used in the assassination of Dr. Martin L. King.

We do not have the information you are seeking and would suggest you contact the Federal Bureau of Investigation, this city, and the Attorney General's Office, 157 Poplar, Memphis, TN 38103. Either one of these agencies might be in a position to reply to your inquiry.

Sincerely,

  
W. O. CRUMBY  
Chief of Police

d1

bcc: Attorney General's Office  
Mr. Hugh Stanton Jr.

FBI - Mr. Joseph Tripp

**COPY**

44-1987-Sub M-1053

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
NOV 10 1976	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

*Hester* *QAT*

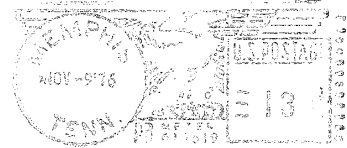


**MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT**

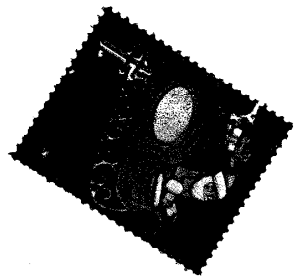
128 Adams Avenue  
Memphis, Tennessee  
38103

**Chief W. O. Crumby**

Plant a Tree  
ARROW DEER  
City Beautiful Comm



**Mr. Joseph Trimbach  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
167 N. Main Street #841  
Memphis, TN 38103**



2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

# The Benet Arms Co.

RR 1, (SR 610), AFTON, VA. 22920

U. S. A.

N. B. We Have No Phone

"Gold Rush Gun Shops"

"ADDRESS BILL EDWARDS, AFTON, VA., U. S. AMERICA"

5 Nov 76

Chief of Police,  
Memphis,  
Tennessee

Dear Sir:

It has been alleged to me that I sold the rifle with which Dr King was shot.

I have tried to obtain the serial number and confirm the physical description of the rifle, caliber, make, model, and ask if you have this information, you send same to me.

You will appreciate such a "rumor" is not pleasing to me personally nor in business, while if it so happens to be correct, examination of the origins of the rumor contrasted with the fact no official contact has been made with me on this account (e.g. to ascertain to whom I sold the rifle, etc.) might itself be revealing of valuable facts.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Cordially yours,



William B. Edwards

COPY

44-1987-Subm-1054

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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NOV 10 1976	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

*Jov*

SIO 005 3210123

RR HQ ME

DE SI

R 150123Z NOV 76

FM SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (P)

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) ROUTINE

MEMPHIS (44-1987) ROUTINE

BT

CLEAR

MURKIN.

JERRY RAY, BROTHER OF JAMES EARL RAY WAS INTERVIEWED INSTANT DATE BY WGEM-TV IN QUINCY, ILLINOIS, AND INTERVIEW WILL BE CARRIED ON LOCAL STATION. WGEM-TV IS AN NBC AFFILIATE.

SENIOR RESIDENT AGENT ELYON H. DAVIS, QUINCY, ILLINOIS, MONITORED THE TV BROADCAST. JERRY RAY STATED IN INTERVIEW THE CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION CONCERNING THE DEATH OF MARTIN LUTHER KING IS "ON THE LEVEL". HE STATED "LOTS OF GOOD THINGS CAN COME FROM THIS IF JAMES EARL RAY GETS TO TESTIFY". JERRY RAY STATED HE WILL VISIT JAMES EARL RAY IN TENNESSEE ON NOVEMBER 20, 1976. JERRY RAY FURTHER STATED HE KNEW PERSONALLY THAT A CONSPIRACY EXISTS CONCERNING THE DEATH OF MARTIN LUTHER KING. IN ADDITION, RAY STATED ATTORNEY GENERAL LEVY IS ALSO CONDUCTING AN

44-1987-SubM-1055

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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NOV 15 1976	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

*J. Lester*  
*AM*



PAGE TWO SI 44-561 CLEAR

INVESTIGATION WHICH WILL BE A COVER UP AND WHITEWASH. IT IS ESTIMATED THE INTERVIEW LASTED APPROXIMATELY ONE MINUTE.

SPRINGFIELD DOES NOT KNOW THE CURRENT STATUS OF ANY INVESTIGATION IN THIS MATTER. THIS IS BEING FURNISHED FOR BUREAU'S INTEREST IN THE EVENT OF ANY PRESS INQUIRIES. ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RECEIVED IN THIS REGARD WILL BE FURNISHED TO THE BUREAU AND MEMPHIS.

BT

3210127Z ME 1

F B I

Date: 11/29/76

014

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

Via TELETYPE ROUTINE  
(Precedence)

FM MEMPHIS (44-1987)  
TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) (ROUTINE)

BT

CLEAR

ATTENTION: GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION, CONGRESSIONAL  
INQUIRY UNIT.

MURKIN.

RE BUREAU CALL TO SUPERVISOR JOE C. HESTER, MEMPHIS,  
NOVEMBER 29, 1976, FROM SUPERVISOR JOHN T. ALDHIZER, III.

THIS IS TO ADVISE THAT ON THE DAY OF MARTIN LUTHER KING'S  
MURDER AND JUST PRIOR THERETO THERE WAS NO PHYSICAL SURVEILLANCE  
OF KING BY FBI AGENTS AT MEMPHIS.

DUE TO THE RIOTS AND CIVIL UNREST AT THAT TIME, FBI AGENTS  
WERE ALERT TO DEMONSTRATIONS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES TAKING PLACE  
IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY, BUT NO SURVEILLANCE OF KING WAS  
MAINTAINED.

BT

JCH:jap  
(1)

SEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIALIZED ASR  
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FILED ASR

Approved: [Signature]  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 0205Z M Per [Signature]

44-1987 SUBM 1056

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)(P\*)

DATE: 11/30/76

FROM : SC JOHN M. BOSWELL

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 11/29/76, this office was telephonically contacted by MARVIN MARSHALL, 2847 Raja Road, Apartment #1, Memphis, Tennessee, regarding captioned matter. MARSHALL stated he was prompted to call this office after reading news articles regarding the Senate investigation into this matter.

MARSHALL stated at approximately 8 p.m. the night KING was murdered, he observed an individual using the pay telephone at the Gulf Service Station on the corner of Jackson and Hollywood. According to MARSHALL, this individual, wearing glasses and a dark suit, bore a great resemblance to JAMES EARL RAY. MARSHALL did not hear any of the conversation and does not know who the individual resembling RAY was talking to.

MARSHALL feels this individual was RAY and involved in the murder of KING, along with the two white males who owned the Gulf Service Station. According to MARSHALL, the white males closed the Gulf Service Station a few weeks after KING's murder and opened another service station near the Holiday Inn Riverbluff. MARSHALL can not further identify these white males.

MARSHALL stated he had been afraid to furnish this information in the past and this has bothered him, and he has now decided to come forward.

MARSHALL advised he has no telephone and is a disabled veteran. MARSHALL can be contacted at the above address and is willing to furnish a signed statement.

The above information is furnished for the information of supervisory personnel for whatever action deemed appropriate.

JMB:mab  
(2) *Mab*

44-1987 SUBM 1057

*BBB 1525*

*He 200*

*[Handwritten signatures]*



5010-108

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

FBI

Date: 12/3/76

013

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

Via TELETYPE PRIORITY  
(Precedence)

FM MEMPHIS (44-1987 SUB M) P  
TO DIRECTOR (44-38361) PRIORITY **03562**  
SACRAMENTO PRIORITY **23452**

BT  
CLEAR  
MURKIN

RE BUREAU TELETYPE TO SACRAMENTO, MEMPHIS, AND KANSAS CITY, DEC. 2, 1976.

A REVIEW OF INDICES AND FILES OF THE MEMPHIS OFFICE REVEALED NO INFO IDENTIFIABLE WITH ALFRED WILLIAM MARTINEZ, BILL SIMPONIS, OR WILLIAM SIMPONIS BASED ON INFORMATION SET FORTH IN RETEL. IN VIEW OF THIS MEMPHIS WILL NOT SUBMIT LHM, UACB.

BT

BFJ:sad  
(1) *sad*

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
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*mp*  
*mp*

44-1987 Sub M 1058

Approved: *JH/907*  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent *see above* M Per *859*

BH0702 3390023

PP HQ ME

DE BH

P 040023Z DEC 76

12/4/76

FM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (C)  
TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) PRIORITY  
MEMPHIS (44-1987) PRIORITY

BT

E F T O

MURKIN ✓

FRANK WINSETT (PROTECT), WHITE MALE, AGE 26, WHOSE RELIABILITY IS UNKNOWN, VISITED BIRMINGHAM OFFICE DECEMBER 3, 1976, AND EXPRESSED DESIRE TO FURNISH INFORMATION HELPFUL TO A RECENT BIRMINGHAM DIVISION BANK ROBBERY. HIS INFORMATION WAS NON-SPECIFIC AND THE BANK ROBBERY HAD BEEN SOLVED. HE ADVISED HE WAS A ONE-TIME UNSUCCESSFUL BUREAU APPLICANT-CLERK, AND DISCUSSED SOME LOCAL CRIMINAL CHARACTERS AND GAMBLERS GENERALLY, CLAIMING TO BE KNOWLEDGEABLE REGARDING SOME CRIMINAL PERSONALITIES.

HE THEN ADVISED HIS REAL REASON FOR COMING TO THE OFFICE WAS TO FURNISH THE FOLLOWING REGARDING THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., ASSASSINATION.

A FRIEND, A WHITE MALE, WHOM HE WOULD NOT IDENTIFY, HAS

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FBI - MEMPHIS	

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OK

PAGE TWO BH 44-1740 E F T O

INFORMATION THAT WILL OPEN WIDE THE MURKIN INVESTIGATION, AND THIS FRIEND IS IN CONTACT WITH A COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE, FURNISHING INFORMATION REGARDING INDIVIDUALS KNOWN TO HIM WHO WERE INVOLVED. THIS INFORMATION SHOULD COME OUT (BE MADE PUBLIC) TO THE FBI AND TO THE PUBLIC IN THE NEXT WEEK. WINSETT CONVINCED HIS FRIEND, AFTER A LENGTHY DISCUSSION, THAT HE HAD NO CHOICE BUT REVEAL HIS KNOWLEDGE REGARDING THIS MATTER. THE FRIEND DID NOT AND WOULD NOT BRING THIS INFORMATION TO THE FBI BECAUSE OF A PAST CONVICTION IN AN FBI CASE (NATURE OF CRIME NOT SPECIFIED) IN WHICH THE FRIEND TOOK HIS CASE TO THE APPEALS COURT IN NEW ORLEANS AND HAD HIS CONVICTION OVERTURNED. THE COST TO HIS FRIEND WAS SUCH THAT HE WOULD NOT COME TO THE FBI WITH HIS INFORMATION.

THE FRIEND DISCUSSED THIS MATTER WITH AN UNNAMED FRIEND EMPLOYED BY THE U. S. SECRET SERVICE AND THEN DECIDED TO TAKE HIS INFORMATION TO THE U. S. SENATE.

WINSETT WAS THE SUBJECT OF A BUAP - CLERK CASE IN BIRMINGHAM IN 1967 UNDER THE NAME FRANKIE SIDNEY WINSETT, DOB [REDACTED] AND HE WAS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR EMPLOYMENT

PAGE THREE BH 44-1740 E F T O

BECAUSE HIS FAMILY DOCTOR DESCRIBED HIM AS "EMOTIONALLY  
UNSTABLE".

BIRMINGHAM CONDUCTING NO FURTHER INVESTIGATION UACB.

BT.

3390025Z ME 1

SC0625 3290720ZZ

RR HQ SU

DE SC

R 240S00Z NOV 76

FM SACRAMENTO (100-2492)

TO DIRECTOR (100-106670)

SALT LAKE CITY ROUTINE

BT

CLEAR

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., RM

ALFRED WILLIAM MARTINEZ, 307 GREENWOOD AVE., SACRAMENTO, CA, PHONE 372-0780, NOW ON PROBATION, ADVISED TELEPHONICALLY 11/23/76 THAT IN 1966-67 HE WAS IN SALT LAKE CITY COUNTY JAIL WITH BILL SIMPONIS AGE NOW ABOUT 66 IF ALIVE, ON BURGLARY CHARGE, CHARGE AGAINST SIMPONIS POSSIBLY ROBBERY, AND MARTINEZ WROTE LETTERS TO JAMES EARL RAY IN MEMPHIS, TENN. FOR SIMPONIS AS SIMPONIS ILL WITH EMPHYSEMA. SIMPONIS TOLD MARTINEZ TO GO TO MEMPHIS WHEN HE GOT OUT AND CONTACT RAY TO PULL OFF A BIG JOB. MARTINEZ COULDN'T GET CLOTHES AND MONEY FOR TRAVEL SO HE NEVER WENT. MARTINEZ SAID ONLY SIMPONIS WOULD KNOW IF THERE WAS ANY CONNECTION WITH KING'S DEATH.

SALT LAKE CITY IDENTIFY SIMPONIS AND INTERVIEW RE ABOVE

BT

3290725Z SU 1.

11/24/76

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
NOV 24 1976	
FBI - MEMPHIS	
FBI	

*Redd*  
*Hester*

44-1987 sub m 1060



HQ0011 3351530

RR SU

DE HQ

R 301136Z NOV 76

FM DIRECTOR (100-106670)

TO SALT LAKE CITY (100-11666) ROUTINE

BT

CLEAR

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. RM.

REURTEL NOVEMBER 29, 1976.

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION FILES REFLECT THAT WILLIAM BROTSIS AKA WILLIAM SIMPONIS, FBI NUMBER 693 404, DIED JULY 14, 1968 AT MEDICAL CENTER FOR FEDERAL PRISONERS, SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI.

BT

11/30/76

44-1987 sub m 1061  
196

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>ms</i>	FILED <i>AW</i>
DEC 4 1976	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

*Ge.ermann*  
*Hester* *dk*

3351531Z SU 1

FBI

Date: 11/29/76

Transmit the following in CLEAR

(Type in plaintext or code)

TELETYPE

ROUTINE

Via

(Precedence)

001 335 0100

FM SALT LAKE CITY (100-11666) (RUC)  
TO DIRECTOR (100-106670) ROUTINE 0115  
SACRAMENTO (100-2492) ROUTINE 0108

BT

CLEAR

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. RM

RE SACRAMENTO TELETYPE, NOVEMBER 24, 1976.

RECORDS OF SALT LAKE COUNTY SO, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH,  
SHOW WILLIAM SIMPONIS FINGERPRINTED BY SO UNDER NUMBER  
41233 ON JULY 26, 1966, FOR DYER ACT. RELEASED TO U.S. MARSHAL  
AUGUST 19, 1966. RETURNED BY MARSHAL JANUARY 29, 1968, FROM  
U. S. MEDICAL CENTER AND RELEASED TO MARSHAL MARCH 2, 1968.  
SO RECORDS CONTAIN EXTENSIVE ARREST RECORD FOR SIMPONIS,  
BEGINNING 1933 FOR AUTO THEFT. SIMPONIS HAS FBI NO.  
698 404, WAS BORN [REDACTED] 6', 160 POUNDS, BROWN HAIR,  
BROWN EYES, RESIDENCE IN 1966 WAS 1919 CARBARILLO, SAN PEDRO  
CALIFORNIA.

44-253-197  
~~100-11666-14~~  
SEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIALIZED n  
INDEXED \_\_\_\_\_  
FILED n

WJG/vkc

Approved: [Signature]  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 0115 Per [Signature]

44-1987 Sub-M 1062

F B I

Date:

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

Via \_\_\_\_\_  
(Precedence)

SU 100-11666 PAGE TWO

IN VIEW OF EXTENSIVE ARREST RECORD OF SIMPONIS, IT IS SUGGESTED BUREAU CHECK IDENTIFICATION DIVISION FOR MOST RECENT INCARCERATION AND THEREAFTER SET FORTH LEAD FOR INTERVIEW OF SIMPONIS.

NO RECORD OF SIMPONIS AT COUNTY SO OR SALT LAKE CITY INDICES AFTER 1968.

BT

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

F B I

Date: 12/1/76

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

Via TELETYPE ROUTINE  
(Precedence)

FM SALT LAKE CITY (44-253) (RUC)  
TO BUREAU (44-38861) ROUTINE  
SACRAMENTO (100-2492) ROUTINE

BT

CLEAR

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. RM

RE BUREAU TELEPHONE CALL, NOVEMBER 30, 1976.

FOR INFORMATION SACRAMENTO, IDENTIFICATION DIVISION FILES  
REFLECT SIMPONIS DIED JULY 14, 1968, AT MEDICAL CENTER FOR FEDERAL  
PRISONERS, SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI.

RECORDS SALT LAKE COUNTY SO, UNDER NUMBER 43061, SHOW  
ALFRED WILLIAM MARTINEZ ARRESTED JUNE 4, 1967, FOR RECKLESS

- 1 - Salt Lake City
- 1 - Memphis (44-1987)(Enc. 3)

WJG:cj  
(2)

44-1987 Sub M 1063

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 4 1976	
FBI - MEMPHIS	
Hester	[Signature]

Approved: [Signature] Special Agent in Charge Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

F B I

Date:

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

Via \_\_\_\_\_  
(Precedence)

SU 44-253 PAGE TWO

DRIVING. GIVEN 27 DAYS OR \$135 FINE, RELEASED JUNE 5, 1967.  
AGAIN ARRESTED JUNE 29, 1967, for SECOND DEGREE BURGLARY. ALSO  
ARRESTED AUGUST 4, 1967, FOR PUBLIC INTOXICATION, NO DISPOSITION.  
ARRESTED NOVEMBER 6, 1967, ON BENCH WARRANT ISSUED ON CHARGE OF  
JUNE 29, 1967. SENTENCED FEBRUARY 13, 1968, TO 68 DAYS IN JAIL,  
THEN PROBATION. RELEASED APRIL 3, 1968, TO PROBATION OFFICER.

MARTINEZ' FBI NUMBER 839 01G, BORN [REDACTED], CANYON  
CITY, COLORADO, 5'9", 135 POUNDS, BLACK HAIR, BROWN EYES,  
OCCUPATION LABORER, SSAN [REDACTED]

LT. GARY DELAND, JAIL COMMANDER, SALT LAKE COUNTY SO,  
ADVISED NO RECORD MAINTAINED OF CORRESPONDENCE SENT BY PRISONERS  
DURING PERTINENT PERIOD.

AIR MAIL COPY TO MEMPHIS WITH COPY OF PREVIOUS CORRESPONDENCE.

BT

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



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No. 44-253

Salt Lake City, Utah

December 6, 1976

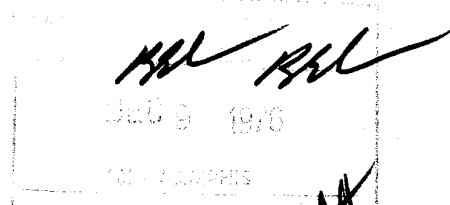
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

By communication dated November 24, 1976, the Sacramento Office of the FBI advised that Alfred William Martinez had telephonically advised that Office that in 1966, and 1967, he was in the Salt Lake County Jail with one Bill Simponis, and that Martinez wrote letters to James Earl Ray in Memphis, Tennessee, for Simponis because Simponis was ill with Emphysema.

Records of the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office furnished November 29, 1976, by Deputy Burke Wells show that William Simponis was fingerprinted by the Sheriff's Office under their number 41233 on July 26, 1966, for violation of the Dyer Act. He was released to the United States Marshal on August 19, 1966. Simponis was then returned to the jail by the Marshal on January 29, 1968, from the U. S. Medical Center and released to the Marshal on March 2, 1968. The Sheriff's Office records contain an extensive arrest record for Simponis beginning in 1933, for auto theft. Simponis was assigned the FBI number 698404, was born [redacted] height six feet, weight 160 pounds, brown hair and brown eyes. His residence in 1966, was 1919 Carbarillo, San Pedro, California.

On December 1, 1976, additional records of the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office under number 43061 were examined. These records show Alfred William Martinez was arrested June 4, 1967, for reckless driving. He was sentenced to 27 days in jail or \$135 fine, and was released June 5, 1967. He was again arrested June 29, 1967, for second degree burglary. He was also arrested August 4, 1967, for public intoxication, no disposition listed. Martinez was again arrested November 6, 1967, on a bench warrant

44-1987 SUBM 1064



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.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

issued as a result of the charge on June 29, 1967. He was sentenced on February 13, 1968, to serve 60 days in jail and was then placed on probation. He was released April 3, 1968, to a probation officer.

Martinez, FBI number 83901G, was born [redacted] [redacted] at Canon City, Colorado, height five feet nine inches, 135 pounds, black hair and brown eyes, occupation laborer and Social Security Account Number [redacted]

On December 1, 1976, Lieutenant Gary Deland, Jail Commander, Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office, advised no record is maintained of correspondence sent by prisoners during the pertinent period.

12/6/76

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, SALT LAKE CITY (44-253) (RUC)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Bureau teletype dated 12/2/76.

Transmitted herewith for the Bureau and Memphis are two copies each of an LHM captioned MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

2 - Bureau (Enc. 2)  
② - Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 2) *smf*  
1 - Salt Lake City  
WJG:cb  
(5)

44-1987-Sub-M-1065

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 9 1976	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

*AK*



KC004 3382316Z

PP HQ ME.

DE KC

P 032316Z DEC 76

FM: KANSAS CITY (44-760) P  
TO: BUREAU (44-38861) (PRIORITY)  
MEMPHIS (PRIORITY)

12/3/76

BT

C L E A R

MURKIN ✓

RE BUTEL TO SACRAMENTO, DEC. 2, 1976.

ON DEC. 3, 1976, BILL WALINOW, FEDERAL RECORDS CENTER, KANSAS CITY, MO., MADE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW FILE PERTAINING TO WILLIAM B. SIMPONIS, MEDICAL CENTER FOR FEDERAL PRISONERS (MCFP) P-827-H.

SIMPONIS WAS SENTENCED AUG. 12, 1966, DISTRICT OF UTAH, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, FOR VIOLATION OF NATIONAL MOTOR VEHICLE TRANSPORTATION ACT. HE WAS CONVICTED UNDER SECTION 4246, T. 18, USC, HAVING BEEN FOUND INCOMPETENT TO STAND TRIAL. HE WAS COMMITTED MCFP AUG. 21, 1966 AND RELEASED JAN. 27, 1968 TO RETURN TO COURT AND AGAIN COMMITTED TO MCFP MAR. 2, 1968. SIMPONIS DIED AT 12:10 AM, JULY 14, 1968. CAUSE OF DEATH,

44-1987 SUB M 1066  
SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
DEC 3 1976  
FBI - MEMPHIS  
Hester  
OH

KC 44-760 PAGE TWO CLEAR  
ACUTE RESPIRATORY ILLNESS.

FILE DISCLOSED SIMPONIS INCARCERATED SALT LAKE CITY  
COUNTY JAIL, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH FROM JULY 26, 1966 THROUGH  
AUG. 19, 1966 AND AGAIN ON JAN. 29, 1968.

FILE DISCLOSED ON MAR. 2, 1968, SIMPONIS REQUESTED TO  
CORRESPOND WITH ONE FREDDIE MARTINEZ, RT. 1, BOX 403, ORCHARD  
PARK, CANON CITY, COLO., AND ALSO ON MAR. 25, 1968 REQUESTED  
TO CORRESPOND WITH ONE JIMMIE W. RAY, 492 CLARICE DR., MEMPHIS,  
TENN. BOTH WERE APPROVED, HOWEVER, FILE CONTAINS NO CORRESPONDENCE.

ON APRIL 1, 1969, ONE JIMMIE W. RAY, P.O. BOX 6, OLIVE  
BRANCH, MISSISSIPPI, MADE INQUIRY THROUGH MCFP RE WILLIAM B.  
SIMPONIS. RAY WAS ADVISED APRIL 3, 1969 OF SIMPONIS' DEATH.

MEMPHIS, AT MEMPHIS, TENN., ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE IF JIMMIE  
W. RAY, AS SET FORTH ABOVE, COULD BE IDENTICAL TO JAMES EARL RAY.

AIR MAIL COPIES FOR INFO FURNISHED SACRAMENTO AND SALT  
LAKE CITY.

LHM FOLLOWS.

BT

3390239Z ME 1

HQ0056 3380345

PP KC ME SC SU

DE HQ

P 022246Z DEC 76

FM DIRECTOR (44-38861)

TO SACRAMENTO PRIORITY

KANSAS CITY PRIORITY

MEMPHIS PRIORITY

SALT LAKE CITY (44-253) PRIORITY

BT

CLEAR

MURKIN

✓ 44-1987

ALFRED MARTINEZ  
87-10146 N1

12/2/76

RESCTEL NOVEMBER 24, 1976, AND SALT LAKE CITY TELETYPES  
NOVEMBER 29, 1976, AND DECEMBER 1, 1976.

WILLIAM SIMPONIS  
44-12147 R1

REFERENCED SACRAMENTO TELETYPE ADVISED AS FOLLOWS:

"ALFRED WILLIAM MARTINEZ, 807 GREENWOOD AVE., SACRAMENTO,  
CA, PHONE 372-0780, NOW ON PROBATION, ADVISED TELEPHONICALLY  
LL/23/76 THAT IN 1966-67 HE WAS IN SALT LAKE CITY COUNTY JAIL  
WITH BILL SIMPONIS AGE NOW ABOUT 66 IF ALIVE, ON BURGLARY  
CHARGE, CHARGE AGAINST WILLIAM SIMPONIS POSSIBLY ROBBERY, AND MARTINEZ  
WROTE LETTERS TO JAMES EARL RAY IN MEMPHIS, TENN. FOR SIMPONIS  
AS SIMPONIS ILL WITH EMPHYSEMA. SIMPONIS TOLD MARTINEZ TO GO  
TO MEMPHIS WHEN HE GOT OUT AND CONTACT RAY TO PULL OFF A BIG

44-1987 SUBM 1067

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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DEC 2 1976	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

QAH

PAGE TWO (44-38861) CLEAR

JOB. MARTINEZ COULDN'T GET CLOTHES AND MONEY FOR TRAVEL SO HE NEVER WENT. MARTINEZ SAID ONLY SIMPONIS WOULD KNOW IF THERE WAS ANY CONNECTION WITH KING'S DEATH.

SALT LAKE CITY IDENTIFY SIMPONIS AND INTERVIEW RE ABOVE."

SALT LAKE CITY DETERMINED FROM RECORDS OF SALT LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE THAT WILLIAM SIMPONIS, FBI NUMBER 698404, DATE OF BIRTH [REDACTED] AND ALFRED WILLIAM MARTINEZ, FBI NUMBER 8390LG, DATE OF BIRTH [REDACTED], PREVIOUSLY INC

RCERATED AT SALT LAKE COUNTY JAIL. BASED ON A REVIEW OF THE RECORDS, IT APPEARS THE ONLY TIME SIMPONIS AND MARTINEZ WERE INCARCERATED TOGETHER AT THE SALT LAKE COUNTY JAIL WAS FROM EITHER JANUARY 29, 1968 TO MARCH 2, 1968, OR FROM FEBRUARY 13, 1968 TO MARCH 2, 1968. THE JAIL MAINTAINS NO RECORDS OF PRISONER'S CORRESPONDENCE DURING THAT PERIOD.

FBI IDENTIFICATION RECORDS REFLECT WILLIAM SIMPONIS DIED ON JULY 14, 1968 AT MEDICAL CENTER FOR FEDERAL PRISONERS, SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI. BUFILES 26-357906 AND 26-367222, SALT LAKE CITY FILE 26-253L9 REFLECT SIMPONIS SUBJECT OF INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN MOTOR VEHICLE CASES

PAGE THREE (44-38861) CLEAR

IN 1965 AND 1966. BUFILES CONTAINS NO INFORMATION IDENTIFI-  
ABLE WITH MARTINEZ.

SACRAMENTO REINTERVIEW MARTINEZ IN DEPTH CONCERNING  
HIS ALLEGATIONS, AND DETERMINE IF HE IS IDENTICAL WITH  
MARTINEZ, DATE OF BIRTH [REDACTED], NOTING RECORDS OF  
SALT LAKE COUNTY JAIL REFLECT THIS MARTINEZ WAS NOT  
INCARCERATED THERE WITH SIMPONIS IN 1966-1967. DETERMINE  
CONTENTS OF LETTERS HE ALLEGEDLY WROTE TO JAMES EARL RAY  
FOR SIMPONIS. DETERMINE IF HE CLAIMS THIS IS THE SAME  
JAMES EARL RAY AS THE SUBJECT OF THIS CASE AND, IF SO, HOW  
HE MAKES THIS DETERMINATION. DETERMINE IF HE RECALLS  
SPECIFIC ADDRESS TO WHERE HE ALLEGEDLY SENT THE LETTERS.  
DETERMINE HOW AND WHERE MARTINEZ WOULD HAVE CONTACTED RAY  
IF HE HAD BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN CLOTHES AND MONEY FOR TRAVEL.  
ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN ANY INFORMATION FROM MARTINEZ WHICH WOULD  
CORROBORATE HIS ALLEGATIONS.

KANSAS CITY AT SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI, REVIEW RECORDS  
OF SIMPONIS AT MEDICAL CENTER FOR FEDERAL PRISONERS INCLUDING  
DETERMINING CAUSE OF HIS DEATH.

Ø-83 1974 (44-38861) CLEAR

MEMPHIS REVIEW INDICES AND FILES CONCERNING ANY PRIOR  
INFORMATION ON SIMPONIS AND MARTINEZ.

ALL OFFICES SUTEL SUMMARY RESULTS, FOLLOWSBY LHM.  
SALT LAKE CITY SUBMIT LHM REPORTING INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED  
AT SALT LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE.

BT

3380351Z ME 1



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Kansas City, Missouri

December 3, 1976

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

WILLIAM B. SIMPONIS

On December 3, 1976, Bill Walinow, Federal Records Center, Kansas City, Missouri, made available for review file pertaining to William B. Simponis, Medical Center for Federal Prisoners (MCFP), Springfield, Missouri #P-827-H.

Simponis was sentenced August 12, 1966, in District of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, for violation of the National Motor Vehicle Transportation Act. He was convicted under Section 4246, Title 18, U.S. Code, having been found incompetent to stand trial. He was committed to the MCFP August 21, 1966, and released January 27, 1968, to return to court and again committed to MCFP March 2, 1968. Simponis died at 12:10 a.m., July 14, 1968, cause of death acute respiratory illness.

File disclosed Simponis was incarcerated at Salt Lake County Jail, Salt Lake City, Utah, July 26, 1966-August 19, 1966, and again on January 29, 1968.

The file further disclosed on March 2, 1968, Simponis requested to correspond with one Freddie Martinez, Route 1, Box 403, Orchard Park, Canon City, Colorado, and also on March 25, 1968, requested to correspond with one Jimmie W. Ray, 492 Clarice Drive, Memphis, Tennessee. Both were approved, however, the file contained no correspondence.

On April 1, 1969, one Jimmie W. Ray, P.O. Box 6, Olive Branch, Mississippi, made inquiry through MCFP re William B. Simponis. Ray was advised on April 3, 1969, of Simponis' death.

44-1987 SUBM 1068

AKS AKS

Hester

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

12/6/76

SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) RUC

MURKIN

Re Bureau teletype to Sacramento 12/2/76; Kansas City teletype to Bureau 12/3/76.

Enclosed for Bureau are 4 copies and for Memphis 2 copies self-explanatory LHM re WILLIAM B. SIMPONIS.

2 Bureau (Enc. 4)  
2 Memphis (Enc. 2)  
1 Kansas City *map*  
BJC:jrt  
(5)

*44-1987 Sub m 1069*

*AB 183*

*Wester*  
*Wester* *Wester* *Wester*



SC0719 3442327Z

PP HQ DN KC LV LA ME SU

DE SC

P 092235Z DEC 76T

FM SACRAMENTO (100-427)(P)

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) PRIORITY

DENVER PRIORITY

KANSAS CITY ROUTINE

LAS VEGAS PRIORITY

LOS ANGELES PRIORITY

MEMPHIS PRIORITY (44-1987)

SALT LAKE CITY (44-253) ROUTINE

BT

CLEAR

MURKIN

RE BUTEL, DEC. 2, 1976.

ON DEC. 7, 1976, ALFRED WILLIAM MARTINEZ, 807 GREENWOOD ST., WEST SACRAMENTO, CALIF., PHONE 372-0780, WAS INTERVIEWED IN DEPTH AT 1401 11TH AVE., SACRAMENTO, CALIF., WHERE HE WAS WORKING THAT DATE.

MARTINEZ ADVISED HE WAS IN SALT LAKE COUNTY JAIL FOR TWO AND

12/9/76

44-1987 SUBM 1070

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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FBI - MEMPHIS	

GRK

PAGE TWO SC 100-427 CLEAR

ONE-HALF TO THREE MONTHS IN WHAT HE BELIEVES WAS LAST PART OF 1966 OR EARLY 1967.

MARTINEZ ADVISED DURING THIS INCARCERATION HE BECAME FRIENDLY WITH WILLIAM SIMPONIS. HE ADVISED SIMPONIS WAS ILL WITH EMPHYSEMA, AND AT SIMPONIS' REQUEST MARTINEZ WROTE SEVERAL LETTERS FOR HIM. HE ADVISED HE WROTE APPROXIMATELY THREE LETTERS A WEEK DURING THE ENTIRE PERIOD HE WAS INCARCERATED, TO AN INDIVIDUAL IDENTIFIED AS JAMES RAY AND EARL RAY BY SIMPONIS. HE ADVISED HE MAILED THESE LETTERS TO MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, BUT HE COULD NOT REMEMBER THE ADDRESS. MARTINEZ ADVISED HE HAD KEPT A SHOE BOX FULL OF LETTERS HE RECEIVED FROM RAY AND SOME ITEMS WHICH BELONGED TO SIMPONIS. MARTINEZ ADVISED TWO OF THESE LETTERS WERE ADDRESSED TO HIM AND THE REST TO SIMPONIS. HE ADVISED HE LOST THESE ITEMS FOUR OR FIVE YEARS AGO AND HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO LOCATE THEM.

MARTINEZ ADVISED THE CONTENTS OF THE LETTERS USUALLY CONSISTED OF INFO ABOUT WHEN SIMPONIS WAS GOING TO GET OUT OF JAIL AND HOW THEY WOULD GET TOGETHER. MARTINEZ CANNOT THINK OF ANY OTHER TOPICS ABOUT WHICH HE WROTE.

MARTINEZ WAS TOLD BY SIMPONIS THAT HE SHOULD CONTACT RAY

PAGE THREE

SC 100-427

CLEAR

WHEN HE GOT OUT OF JAIL AND "THAT THEY HAD A JOB GOING ON; THEY WOULD NEED SOME HELP ON IT; THAT I COULD MAKE QUITE A BIT OF MONEY ON IT AND I WOULDN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT WORK ANY MORE." SIMPONIS NEVER IDENTIFIED ANY VICTIMS OF SUCH A PLAN. HE ADVISED SIMPONIS HATED BLACK PEOPLE VERY MUCH BUT HE NEVER MENTIONED MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., OR ANY OTHER BLACKS SPECIFICALLY THAT HE COULD REMEMBER.

MARTINEZ ADVISED WHEN HE GOT OUT OF JAIL SIMPONIS GAVE HIM THREE LETTERS WRITTEN BY SIMPONIS TO BE MAILED TO RAY. MARTINEZ ADVISED HE DID NOT READ CONTENTS OF THESE LETTERS BUT HE DID SEND THEM. MARTINEZ ADVISED HE WAS TO MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH SIMPONIS, WHO WOULD ADVISE HIM TO GO TO MEMPHIS AT A SPECIFIED TIME, AND THAT SIMPONIS WOULD HAVE MAILED A PICTURE OF MARTINEZ TO RAY FOR PURPOSE OF IDENTIFICATION. WHEN THIS OCCURRED, RAY WAS TO MEET MARTINEZ AT MEMPHIS AIRPORT ON A DESIGNATED DATE. MARTINEZ ADVISED HE NEVER CONTACTED SIMPONIS AFTER HE GOT OUT OF JAIL IN SALT LAKE CITY AND WAS ARRESTED FOR BURGLARY IN CANYON CITY, COLORADO, AND SENT TO COLORADO STATE PRISON FROM MAY 28, 1967, UNTIL THE LAST OF 1967.

MARTINEZ FURTHER ADVISED HE WROTE LETTERS FOR SIMPONIS TO

PAGE FOUR SC 100-427 CLEAR

OTHER INDIVIDUALS. HE IDENTIFIED THESE INDIVIDUALS AS JEANNETTE SCOTT, GIRL FRIEND OF SIMPONIS, PIONEER HOTEL, 342 FIFTH STREET, ELKO, NEVADA (MARTINEZ SEEMED TO RECOLLECT SCOTT WAS PART OWNER OF THIS HOTEL AND WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE LARGE COLLECTION OF GUNS); LILLIAN SCHURTER, 1274 WEST STREET, POSSIBLY ELKO, NEVADA, PHONE TE3-7226; KALIOPE SOLIATES, 1026 WEST 20TH, POSSIBLY ELKO, NEVADA, PHONE TE3-3617; AND NICK SIMPONIS, GARDENA, CALIF., PHONE 434-8747 (BROTHER OF WILLIAM SIMPONIS, STREET ADDRESS NOT KNOWN).

MARTINEZ IS MEXICAN MALE, 5'9", 150 LBS., BLACK HAIR, BROWN EYES, BORN JUNE 26, 1946, CANYON CITY, COLORADO, FBI NO. 8390LG, SSAN 521-64-9145, ADDRESS 807 GREENWOOD STREET, WEST SACRAMENTO, PREVIOUS ADDRESSES 3427 40TH STREET, SACRAMENTO; 1651 ILLINOIS AVENUE, CANYON CITY, COLORADO; CURRENTLY ON PROBATION FOR DRUNK DRIVING CHARGES.

MARTINEZ ADVISED HE DOES NOT KNOW IF INDIVIDUAL REFERRED TO AS JAMES OR EARL RAY IS IDENTICAL TO JAMES EARL RAY CONVICTED IN MURDER OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

DENVER AT CANYON CITY REVIEW COLORADO STATE PRISON RECORDS FOR MARTINEZ FOR POSSIBLE LEAD PURPOSES RELATING TO SIMPONIS OR RAY.

LAS VEGAS AT ELKO ATTEMPT TO LOCATE SCOTT, SCHURTER AND

PAGE FIVE SC 100-427 CLEAR

SOLIATES TO INTERVIEW FOR ANY INFO PERTINENT TO THEIR CONNECTION,  
OR CONNECTION OF WILLIAM SIMPONIS, WITH JAMES EARL RAY OR  
CAPTIONED MATTER.

LOS ANGELES AT GARDENA ATTEMPT TO CONTACT AND INTERVIEW NICK  
SIMPONIS RE THE ABOVE CONNECTIONS AND CAPTIONED MATTER.

LHM FOLLOWS.

BT

FBI

Date: 12/10/76

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

Via \_\_\_\_\_  
(Precedence)

FM MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)  
 TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) PRIORITY 17452  
 DENVER PRIORITY 1801Z  
 KANSAS CITY PRIORITY 1809Z  
 LAS VEGAS PRIORITY ~~1814Z~~ by fax 1:30 PM  
 LOS ANGELES PRIORITY 1820Z  
 SACRAMENTO (100-427) PRIORITY 1830Z  
 SALT LAKE CITY (100-11666) PRIORITY 1839Z  
 BT  
 CLEAR  
 MURKIN.

RE SACRAMENTO TELETYPE, DECEMBER 9, 1976.  
 ALL OFFICES DISCONTINUE INVESTIGATION REQUESTED IN  
 REFERENCED TELETYPE.

BUREAU SHOULD NOTE THAT ALFRED WILLIAM MARTINEZ INDICATED  
 HE WAS IN SALT LAKE COUNTY JAIL FOR 60 TO 90 DAYS DURING LATE

44-1987 SUB M 1071

JCH:mrp  
(1)  
*mrp*

SEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_  
 SERIALIZED AKS  
 INDEXED \_\_\_\_\_  
AKS

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent See Above M Per mrp

F B I

Date:

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

(PAGE TWO 44-1987)

1966 OR EARLY 1967. SALT LAKE JAIL RECORDS DO NOT CORROBORATE THIS; HOWEVER, IT SHOULD BE NOTED JAMES EARL RAY WAS IN THE MISSOURI STATE PRISON FROM MARCH 17, 1960, UNTIL HIS ESCAPE APRIL 23, 1967. ANY MAIL ADDRESSED TO JAMES EARL RAY DURING THIS PERIOD WOULD HAVE GONE TO THE MISSOURI STATE PRISON.

SALT LAKE COUNTY JAIL RECORDS INDICATE THAT MARTINEZ AND WILLIAM SIMPONIS WERE INCARCERATED TOGETHER AT THE MOST FROM JANUARY 29, 1968, TO MARCH 2, 1968. PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION HAS ALREADY DISCLOSED THAT JAMES EARL RAY ON JANUARY 29, 1968, WAS RESIDING IN LOS ANGELES AND APPEARS TO HAVE REMAINED THERE UNTIL AT LEAST MARCH 17, 1968, SO IT IS OBVIOUS ANY MAIL ADDRESSED TO JAMES EARL RAY DURING THIS PERIOD WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN SENT TO MEMPHIS, TENN.

MEMPHIS CONCLUDES THAT JAMES EARL RAY AND JIMMIE W. RAY, AN ACQUAINTANCE OF WILLIAM SIMPONIS, HAVE NO CONNECTION AND THAT FURTHER INQUIRY BASED ON INFO FURNISHED BY MARTINEZ WOULD BE OF NO VALUE.

BT

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

HQ00123 3460118

PP ME

DE HQ

P 102315Z DEC 76

FM DIRECTOR (44-38861)

TO MEMPHIS (44-1987) PRIORITY

BT

CLEAR

MURKIN

REKCTEL DECEMBER 3, 1976, AND MEMPHIS TELETYPE  
DECEMBER 10, 1976.

IN ORDER TO FURTHER RESOLVE ALLEGATION OF ALFRED WILLIAM  
MARTINEZ, PROMPTLY INSTITUTE INVESTIGATION TO LOCATE AND  
INTERVIEW JIMMIE W. RAY, WHOSE NAME APPEARED ON THE CORRESPON-  
DENCE LIST OF WILLIAM B. SIMPONIS AS SET FORTH IN REFERENCED  
KANSAS CITY TELETYPE TO DETERMINE IF HE IS ACTUALLY THE "RAY"  
REFERRED TO BY MARTINEZ. IF JIMMIE W. RAY IS LOCATED, INTER-  
VIEW HIM TO DETERMINE IF SIMPONIS CORRESPONDED WITH HIM WHILE  
IN JAIL IN SALT LAKE CITY, NATURE OF ANY SUCH CORRESPONDENCE,  
AND WHETHER HE HAS ANY ASSOCIATION WITH JAMES EARL RAY OR  
CAPTIONED MATTER. SUTEL SUMMARY RESULTS.

BT

44-1987 sub m 1072

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>CS</i>	FILED <i>WR</i>
DEC 10 1976	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

*Hester*



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DATE: 12/13/76

FROM : SC JOHN M. BOSWELL

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Kansas City teletype to the Bureau, 12/3/76.

A review of the 1967 and 1968 Memphis Suburban Directory on 12/13/76 by SC BOSWELL revealed no listing for a JIMMIE W. RAY residing at 492 Clarice Road.

The 1967 and the 1968 Memphis Suburban Directory lists the resident at 492 Clarice Road as GILLIS C. HARRISON and wife, DEAN. HARRISON's employment is listed as a mechanic for the Pepsi-Cola Company.

44-1987 SUB M-1073

LB AM

JMB/mgv (2)



5010-108

*John M. Boswell*

*[Handwritten initials]*

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

FBI

Date: 12/14/76

004

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

Via \_\_\_\_\_  
(Precedence)

FM MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)  
TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) ROUTINE  
BT  
CLEAR  
MURKIN

RE BUREAU TELETYPE TO MEMPHIS, DECEMBER 10, 1976.

MRS. BETTY RAY BRASHEAR LOCATED, DECEMBER 14, 1976, AT 491 CLARICE, MEMPHIS. SHE VERIFIED THAT HER BROTHER, JIMMY WAYNE RAY, HAD PREVIOUSLY RESIDED AT 492 CLARICE, MEMPHIS.

FROM INFORMATION FURNISHED BY MRS. BRASHEAR, RAY HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS JIMMY WAYNE RAY, FBI NO. 904 936 F. RAY WAS ARRESTED, JANUARY 19, 1967, AT MEMPHIS AND CHARGED WITH VIOLATION OF T18, SECTION 659. ON FEBRUARY 7, 1967, HE WAS COMMITTED TO U.S. MEDICAL CENTER, SPRINGFIELD, MO., FOR OBSERVATION. HE WAS AT U.S. MEDICAL CENTER APPROXIMATELY FEBRUARY TO MAY, 1967, WHICH PERIOD IS CONCURRENT WITH THE TIME THAT WILLIAM SIMPONIS WAS AT THE MEDICAL CENTER.

44-1987 SUBM-1074 RAY  
INDEXED  
JIMMY WAYNE RAY  
ALSO IDENT WITH  
15-5219 ✓  
0216Z

SEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIALIZED CB  
INDEXED \_\_\_\_\_  
FILED CB

JCH/mgv (1)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

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