

44-1854
1-498-1
Vol 3
300-499

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DECLASSIFICATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-30-03 BY SP1C1K/90

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Vol 3
300-499

MM 44-1854

DNJ:vc

1.

The following investigation was conducted by
SA DAVID N. JELLISON at Miami, Florida:

Re: Purchase of Automobile by JAMES EARLY RAY
and WALTER RIFE on or about May 14, 1954 at
Miami, Florida.

LUKE SELLARS, proprietor, Luke Sellars Motors, Miami,
Florida, advised he was the proprietor of Amacker Motors, 135
N. E. 36th Street, Miami, in 1954. He dissolved this business
in 1961 and has since destroyed all records for this business.

SELLARS advised whereabouts of former employees
Amacker Motors unknown. SELLARS stated he does not recall
sale of vehicle to subject as mentioned in referenced
teletype, however, if there was something unusual about
the sale, he would have recalled the circumstances.
SELLARS was unable to identify photographs of subject and
RIFE.

44-1854-300

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APR 26 1968	
FBI - MIAMI	

JK

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MIAMI

FROM : SA DAVID N. JELLISON

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
(OO: Memphis)

DATE: 4/26/68

Re Miami teletype to the Bureau dated 4/25/68,
and Kansas City teletype to Bureau, Memphis, Miami
and St. Louis dated 4/25/68.

Attached hereto is an investigative insert
reflecting investigation as requested in referenced
Kansas City teletype.

① - 44-1854
DNJ:vc
(1)

NE

In Serial
285
277
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FBI — MIAMI	

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5010-108-01

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

FBI MIAMI

FBI PITTSBGH

1229 PM 4/26/68 URGENT RAN

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND CHICAGO (44-1114) MEMPHIS (44-1987)
MIAMI, AND SAN FRANCISCO
FROM PITTSBURGH (44-578)

MURKIN. OO: MEMPHIS.

RE CHICAGO TEL BUREAU, FOUR TWENTYFIVE LAST.

RE THREATS TO MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

FOR INFO MIAMI, HARRY P. STEWART, US. SECRET SERVICE
REPORTED HIS NEPHEW, STEWARD LINDH, ^{2 2 0 6} TWO TWO ZERO SIX,
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF., CLAIMED HE AND TWO OTHERS THROUGH
NEWSPAPER AD OBTAINED RIDE WITH STOUT. AT KANSAS CITY, MO.,
STOUT DISAPPEARED WITH THEIR EFFECTS. BEFORE STOUT DISSAPPEARED,
HE TOLD THEN HE WAS GOING TO SHOOT KING.

^{4 26} ON FOUR TWENTYSIX INSTANT, RAYMOND ZACKOVICH, SECRET
SERVICE AGENT, PITTSBURGH, ADVISED HARRY P. STEWART, FORMER
SECRET SERVICE AGENT, RETIRED ONE YEAR AGO. STEWART NOW
RESIDING AT ROUTE ONE, BOX ^{3 8 8} THREE EIGHT EIGHT, SEBASTIAN, FLA.

END OF PAGE ONE

See Serials
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Passer *KRP*

Substantiated
Lead to
4/26/68

PAGE TWO

PG 44-578

MIAMI, INTERVIEW STEWART FOR ADDITIONAL DATA HE RECEIVED
AND PRESENT LOCATION OF HIS NEPHEW, STEWART LINDH.

SUTEL.

AIR MAIL ATLANTA.

PENDING.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

DLR

FBI MIAMI

FBI MIAMI

FBI SPRNGFLD

305PM URGENT 4/26/68 MAL

TO DIRECTOR, FBI, MIAMI, AND ST. LOUIS
FROM SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (THREE PAGES).

MURKIN. CR.

RE ATLANTA TEL DATED APRIL TWENTYFOUR, NINETEEN SIXTY EIGHT; SPRINGFIELD TELEPHONE CALL TO MIAMI APRIL TWENTYFIVE, NINETEEN SIXTY EIGHT.

RE PAUL ALVIN LAIL, JR., AKA.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE ST. LOUIS DIVISION, ONE LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA CONFINED COUNTY JAIL, MARIETTA, GEORGIA, ON ARMED ROBBERY CONVICTION INTERVIEWED. DOWDA WAS ACQUAINTED WITH RAY AT MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY FOR THREE YEARS, ENDING SEPTEMBER TWENTYTHREE, NINETEEN SIXTY SIX, WHEN DOWDA RELEASED. DOWDA STATED RAY WAS DOPE ADDICT, USING INJECTIONS AND WAS ADDICTED PRIOR TO INCARCERATION. RAY USED AMPHETIMINE. DOWDA STATED HAROLD SCHAEFFER, GUARD ON GATE AT THE PRISON, WAS FRIENDLY WITH RAY AND BELIEVED BY SOME TO BE SELLING THE AMPHETIMINE. DOWDA CLAIMED RAY HAD UNKNOWN OUTSIDE SOURCE OF INCOME TO SUPORT A THIRTYFIVE TO FORTY DOLLAR PER WEEK DOPEHABIT AS WELL AS FIFTEEN TO TWENTY DOLLARS PER WEEK OTHER EXPENDITURES. DOWDA CLAIMS THREE NEGRO PRISONERS KILLED IN PRISON AFTER PROTESTING DENIAL OF BLACK

END PAGE ONE

L. J. Smith
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Jellison Dmg

PAGE TWO

MUSLIMS TO WORSHIP. CLAIMED RAY KILLED THE NEGROES OR KNEW WHO DID. DESCRIBED RAY AS RACIST WHO FELT ALL NEGROES IN THAT PRISON SHOULD BE KILLED AND SAID RAY MADE SEVERAL STATEMENTS TO EFFECT IF PRICE WAS RIGHT WOULD KILL MARTIN LUTHER KING. DOWDA STATED RAY'S CLOSEST FRIEND IN PRISON WAS NEIL ABBEY (PHONETIC) WHO HANDLED DOPE AND GOT RAY A JOB IN THE KITCHEN. DOWDA DOES NOT KNOW NEIL ABBEY'S PRESENT WHEREABOUTS BUT ABBEY WAS AT ONE TIME CHIEF COOK AT THE PRISON. ANOTHER CLOSE FRIEND WAS DONALD DEAN RIGGER FROM CALIFORNIA WHOSE WIFE WAS A PSYCHIATRIST AT NAPA STATE HOPITAL LOCATED ABOVE SAN SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. DOWDA STATED RAY WOULD ONLY HAVE AN ADDRESS FOR HIM IN CARE OF DOWDA'S FATHER, CHARLES ALFRED DOWDA, FORMERLY ROUTE ONE, SANFORD, FLORIDA, BUT PRESENTLY ONE ONE ZERO SOUTH CHANDLER STREET, DELAND, FLORIDA, DOWDA DENIES CONTACT IN ANY MANNER WITH RAY SINCE DOWDA'S RELEASE. STATED ANOTHER FORMER INMATE, PAUL ALVIN LAIL, JR., AKA PAUL ALVIN CARTER, THIRTYFOUR BARBODOS DRIVE, PALM SPRINGS, WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA, WAS FRIENDLY WITH RAY AND DOWDA SAW LAIL EARLY MARCH, SIXTY EIGHT, BUT NO MENTION MADE OF RAY. DOWDA HAS NO IDEA WHY RAY WOULD GO TO ATLANTA.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

A REVIEW OF SPRINGFIELD FILES RE CAPTIONED INDIVIDUAL REFLECTED HIM AS SUBJECT OF NINETEEN SIXTY THREE UFAC CASE, OFFICE OF ORIGIN ST. LOUIS, IN WHICH HE IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS;

PAUL ARTHUR LAIL, JR, AKA PAUL ALVIN LAIL, JR, AKA PAUL LAIL, JR., AKA PAUL ARTHUR CARTER, FBI NUMBER SEVEN FIVE FOUR DASH FOUR EIGHT THREE A, WHITE, MALE, AMERICAN, DATE OF BIRTH JUNE THIRTY NINETEEN THIRTY, AT MARION, NORTH CAROLINA, SIX FOOT FIVE INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY POUNDS, RED HAIR, BLUE EYES, NO UPPER TEETH, SCAR ON LEFT KNEE, OCCUPATION SIGN PAINTER, ELECTRICIAN, TRUCK DRIVER, RADIO REPAIR MAN, SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER [REDACTED]

ST. LOUIS REQUESTED TO REVIEW FILES RE LAIL AND FURNISH INFORMATION OF VALUE TO MIAMI DIVISION SO THAT LAIL MAY BE LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED REGARDING THE SUBJECT.

THE BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO FURNISH IDENT RECORD OS LAIL FBI NUMBER SEVEN FIVE FOUR DASH FOUR EIGHT THREE A TO INTERESTED OFFICES.

END

RML

FBI MIAMI

FBI ATLANTA

8:23 PM URGENT 4/25/68 LBN

TO DIRECTOR AND MIAMI

FROM ATLANTA (44-2386)

✓
MURKIN.

MR. B. MANUEL, CLERK, U S. POST OFFICE, FEDERAL ANNEX, ATLANTA, ADVISED HE NOTED A LETTER GOING THROUGH POST OFFICE TODAY ADDRESSED TO WILLARD F. RAY, TWO TWO FIVE KINSEY COURT, N.E., ATLANTA. ABOVE ADDRESS CROSSED OUT AND FORWARDING ADDRESS OF ONE TWO FIVE ONE DICKINSON, APARTMENT THREE THREE TWO, CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, WRITTEN IN. IN PLACE OF RETURN ADDRESS, UPPER LEFT CORNER IS WRITING "GOD BLESS YOU." LETTER POSTMARKED APRIL TWENTYTHREE, LAST, BROOKLYN, STATE NOT DISCERNABLE. MANUEL STATED FURNISHING ABOVE INFORMATION IN VIEW OF SIMILARTIY OF NAMES SINCE RAY HAS USED NAME WILLARD.

MIAMI AT CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, WILL CONTACT WILLARD F. RAY AND DETERMINE IF IDENTICAL WITH SUBJECT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END.

RGT

FBI MIAMI

*Navarro
advised 4/25/68
10:22 PM JH*

*Tellison advised
4/25/68 8:31 PM JH
667-3191
1678*

*See Serial 334 398
399 395*

44-1854-304

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Tellison

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MIAMI(44-1854)

DATE: 4/10/68

FROM : SA JOHN F. HANLON, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN, CR

This date, at 7:34 PM, SA RALPH RAMPTON, Birmingham Division, telephonically related as follows:

All Offices covering ports of entry and exit are requested to check the names ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMYER, HARVEY LOWMEYER AND JOHN WILLARD to determine if they were passengers or were members of the crew of a ship since 4/4/68.

RAMPTON was requested to be more specific relative to the lead set out above and he advised that he could not be more specific.

RAMPTON related that the purpose of the inquiry should not be made known.

#5
jfh

Newman
Advised 11:40 PM 4-10-68

2 - Miami
JFH/jfh
(2)



5010-106-01

44-1854-305

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FBI - MIAMI	

Bell Hef

Gordon SG

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



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 20, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY, also known as
Eric Starvo Galt, Harvey Lowmyer,
John Willard, James McBride, James
Walton, W. C. Herron and James
O'Conner

FUGITIVE

CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;
INTERSTATE FLIGHT - ARMED ROBBERY

"TEN MOST WANTED FUGITIVES" PROGRAM

James Earl Ray, a Missouri prison escapee who has been sought under the alias Eric Starvo Galt in connection with the gunshot slaying of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., has been added to the FBI's list of "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives."

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover ordered the special addition of Ray to the "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives" list, which already contains ten fugitives, to insure the widest possible dissemination of Ray's photograph and description to help effect his earliest possible location.

Ray has been the subject of a massive and intensive search since the brutal gunshot slaying of Dr. King on April 4, 1968, as he stood on the balcony of a Memphis, Tennessee, motel. One rifle bullet, believed fired from the window of a nearby rooming house, felled the victim.

cc: 80-3-1

44-1854-306

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FBI - MIAMI	

Jellison Dmg

An exhaustive FBI fingerprint search, comparing latent fingerprints uncovered in the Dr. King case against fingerprints of over 53,000 persons on whom wanted notices have been posted in the FBI's Identification Division, succeeded in determining that Galt and Ray are identical.

A Federal warrant, issued at Birmingham, Alabama, on April 17, 1968, charges Ray, under the alias Eric Starvo Galt, with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a United States citizen. Ray is also sought for unlawful interstate flight to avoid confinement after conviction for armed robbery, based on a Federal warrant issued on July 20, 1967, at Jefferson City, Missouri. He had been confined at the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, in March, 1960, with a 20-year sentence following conviction for armed robbery and operating a motor vehicle without permission of the owner. In September, 1966, while serving the sentence, he was confined for a time in the maximum security ward at the State Hospital, Fulton, Missouri. He was reported missing from the Missouri State Penitentiary since April 23, 1967.

Ray, who has an arrest record dating back to 1949 and has been convicted of burglary, armed robbery and forging United States Postal Money Orders, has also been confined in the Los Angeles County Jail, the Joliet and Pontiac, Illinois, State Prisons and the United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas.

He served in the Army between February, 1946, and December, 1948, received a three-month sentence at hard labor for being drunk and breaking arrest and was given a General Discharge due to ineptness and lack of adaptability for military service.

Ray is a 40-year-old white male, reportedly born in Illinois on March 10, 1928. He is approximately 5'10" inches tall, weighs from 163 to 174 pounds, has blue eyes and brown hair which he has worn cut short. He has a small scar on the center of his forehead and a scar on the palm of his right hand. He has been described as having a straight, narrow nose and straight and even teeth and to have a nervous habit of occasionally tugging at an ear lobe. His left ear protrudes noticeably.

Acquaintances describe him as a "loner" and "drifter" whose language and diction reflect a "rural" quality and indicate he has had limited education.

He is reportedly a fan of western and country music, drinks vodka and beer, dresses neatly and claims past employment as a merchant seaman and cook on Mississippi River vessels. He is known to have worked as a baker, laborer and color matcher.

He is known as an avid dancer who has taken dancing lessons. He also completed a course at a school of bartending in the Los Angeles area early in 1968.

Ray should be considered armed and extremely dangerous. Anyone with information concerning this fugitive is requested to immediately contact the nearest office of the FBI, the telephone number of which may be found on the first page of local telephone directories.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

April 20, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY

James Earl Ray, a Missouri prison escapee who has been sought under the alias Eric Starvo Galt in connection with the gunshot slaying of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is one of the FBI's "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives."

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover ordered the special addition of Ray to the "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives" list, which already contains ten fugitives, to insure the widest possible dissemination of Ray's photograph and description to help effect his prompt location. Ray has been the subject of a massive search since the gunshot slaying of Dr. King on April 4, 1968, as he stood on the balcony of a Memphis, Tennessee, motel.

An exhaustive FBI fingerprint search, comparing latent fingerprints uncovered in the Dr. King case against fingerprints of over 53,000 persons on whom FBI wanted notices have been posted determined that Galt and Ray are identical.

A Federal warrant, issued at Birmingham, Alabama, on April 17, 1968, charges Ray, under the alias Eric Starvo Galt, with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a United States citizen. Ray, who escaped on April 23, 1967, from the Missouri State Penitentiary, is also sought for unlawful interstate flight to avoid confinement after conviction for armed robbery.

Possessing an arrest record dating back to 1949, Ray has been convicted of burglary, armed robbery and forging United States Postal Money Orders.

A 40-year-old white male, reportedly born in Illinois on March 10, 1928, Ray is approximately 5'10" tall, weighs from 163 to 174 pounds, has blue eyes and short brown hair. He has a nervous habit of tugging at an ear lobe and his left ear protrudes noticeably.

Described as a "loner and "drifter," with a "rural" quality in his speech, Ray has worked as a baker, laborer and color matcher. He has taken dancing lessons and completed a course at a school of bartending.

Consider Ray armed and extremely dangerous. Report any information concerning him to the nearest FBI office.

44-1854-307

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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APR 26 1968	
FBI - MIAMI	

Jackson Day

cc: 80-341

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : All Investigative Employees

DATE: April 22, 1968

FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY, aka - FUGITIVE
I.O. #4182; W.F. #442-A
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY
INTERSTATE FLIGHT - ROBBERY
"TEN MOST WANTED FUGITIVES" PROGRAM
RELEASE DATE: SATURDAY P.M., APRIL 20, 1968

THE CRIMES: Ray escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, on April 23, 1967, while serving a 20-year sentence for armed robbery and operating a motor vehicle without the owner's permission. He subsequently allegedly conspired, under the alias Eric Starvo Galt, to violate the civil rights of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., shot to death on the balcony of a Memphis, Tennessee, motel on April 4, 1968.

THE CRIMINAL: A 40-year-old white native of Illinois, who is known as a "loner" and "drifter" and has taken elaborate steps to establish a false identity, Ray has an extensive criminal record, including convictions for burglary, robbery and forging U. S. Postal Money Orders. Outstanding characteristics include a straight narrow nose, straight and even teeth, a noticeably protruding left ear and a nervous habit of tugging at an ear lobe. He has taken dancing lessons, attended bartending school, enrolled in a correspondence course in lock-smithing and traveled widely in a 1966 Mustang recovered in Atlanta, Georgia, a week after Dr. King's murder. Ray likes western and country music, drinks vodka and beer and has worked as a baker, laborer and color matcher.

PROCESS: A Federal warrant issued at Jefferson City, Missouri, on July 20, 1967, charges Ray with unlawful interstate flight to avoid confinement for robbery. Another Federal warrant, issued at Birmingham, Alabama, on April 17, 1968, charges Ray, as Eric Starvo Galt, with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a citizen.

"TEN MOST WANTED FUGITIVES": Ray is a special addition to the list of "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives." The list as of Saturday p.m., April 20, 1968, was:

John William Clouser	I. O. #3837	Charles Lee Herron	I. O. #4163
Howard Callens Johnson	I. O. #4039	George Edward Wells	I. O. #4175
George Benjamin Williams	I. O. #4072	David Evans	I. O. #4177
Gordon Dale Ervin	I. O. #4087	Franklin Allen Paris	I. O. #4178
Carmen Raymond Gagliardi	I. O. #4101	David Stuart Neff	I. O. #4179
James Earl Ray	I. O. #4182		

THEY ARE ALL ARMED AND DANGEROUS. If you receive any information, give it at once to your SAC or appropriate supervisor.
PHOTOGRAPHS, FINGERPRINTS AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA OF ALL FUGITIVES ON THE LIST ARE ON THE REVERSE SIDE.

SEARCHED INDEXED
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FBI - MIAMI

CONSIDER ALL ARMED AND DANGEROUS



DAVID EVANS, also known as:
"Fee Wee."
N; born [REDACTED]; 5'7-5'8"; 140-150 lbs;
med bld; blk hair; brn eyes; lt comp;
occ - lab, upholsterer. Wanted by FBI
for BANK ROBBERY and UNLAWFUL FLIGHT
TO AVOID PROSECUTION (Burglary, Larceny,
and Receiving Stolen Goods).
IDENTIFICATION ORDER # -4177
FBI# -388 901 E
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1966



It thumb



CHARLES LEE HERRON, also known as:
Lee Jones.
N; born [REDACTED] (?); 5'7"-5'8"; 145-
150 lbs; sldr bld; blk hair; brn eyes;
dk comp; occ = clerk. Wanted by FBI
for UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID PROSECUTION
(Murder; Assault with Intent to
Commit Murder).
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4163
FBI#-313 926 G
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: UNKNOWN



It thumb



GEORGE EDWARD WELLS, also known as:
George W. Cox, Lloyd Kuczmarski.
W; born [REDACTED]; 5'6"; 165-175 lbs;
med bld; brn hair, gr; brn eyes; med
comp; ooc - maintenance worker, painter.
Wanted by FBI for UNLAWFUL FLIGHT -
AVOID PROSECUTION (Armed Robbery);
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN
PROPERTY.
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4175
FBI#-1 467 173
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1967



rt ring



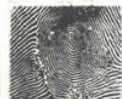
GAMEN RAYMOND GAGLIARDI, also known as: 17 M 29 W ICM
Carlo Reimondo Gagliardi (true name), 1 32 W OOI 20
born R. Gagliardi.
W: 160 cm; 5'10 1/2"; 185-200 lbs;
hvy bld; blk hair; brn eyes; med comp;
con - lab. Wanted by FBI for UNLAWFUL
FLIGHT TO AVOID PROSECUTION (murder).
IDENTIFICATION ORDER # -4101
FBI#-566 944 D
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1965



lt ring



GEORGE BENJAMIN WILLIAMS, 23 M 21 W 120 AMP Ref: 22
 also known as: Allen, I 31 W 000 19 31
 Benjamin Colby, Ben Jackson,
 George Benjamin Williams.
 W: born [REDACTED] 5'6"; 155 lbs;
 med bld; brn hair, gr. balding;
 bl eyes; rdy comp; rt ring finger
 amp; ooc - const worker, dairy
 worker, mech, miner, pipe fitter.
 Wanted by FBI for BANK ROBBERY.
 IDENTIFICATION ORDER #4072
 FBI-497 062
 DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1965
 rt middle



rt middle



16 M 9 U 000 12
M 4 W IOI 17

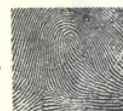


lt index



FRANKLIN ALLEN PARIS, also known as: MIM
Franklin Allen Morrison, AL Paris, MIM
Allie Paris, Frank Allen Paris, 11 S 1 000 14 Ref: 9
Franklin Allen Paris. M 1 U 000 12 1

W; born 1924; 6'5"; 190-210 lbs;
med bld; brn hair; brn eyes; med comp;
o - horse trader, horse trainer,
rancher. Wanted by FBI for UNLAWFUL
FLIGHT TO AVOID PROSECUTION (Burglary).
IDENTIFICATION ORDER # -4178
FBI# 895 034 A
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1966



rt ring



HOWARD CALLENS JOHNSON, also known as:
"Dirty Red."
N; born [REDACTED] (?); 5'9"; 160-170
lbs; med bld; blk hair; brn eyes;
med comp, freckled; ooc - brickmason,
carpenter, lab. Wanted by FBI for
UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID PROSECUTION
(Murder).
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4039
FBI#-1 501 726
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1959



It little



JOHN WILLIAM CLOUSER, also known as:
Jack Clauser, John William Clauser,
Chuck A. Williams.
W; born [redacted]; 5'9"; 175-200 lbs;
stky bld; blond hair, may be dyed blk;
bl eyes; rdy comp; ooc - clerical
worker, stock clerk. Wanted by FBI
for INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
STOLEN MOTOR VEHICLE.
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-3837
FE#-229 125 C
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1963



rt index



GORDON DALE ERVIN, also known as:
Dale Ervin.
W; born [REDACTED]; 5'11"-6'0"; 170 lbs;
med bld; brn hair; bl eyes; med comp;
occ - carpenter, lifeguard, mach shop
worker, locomotive fireman, salesman,
shipyard worker, typist. Wanted by
FBI for UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID
CONFINEMENT (Armed Robbery).
IDENTIFICATION ORDER # -4087
FBI#-290 533 A
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1965



lt index



DAVID STUART NEFF, also known as: LL
 Steven Andrews, Solomon Baker, Steven LM
 Greene, George Medina, David J. Neff. 19 07 W IOO 18
 David Stewart Neff, Donald O'Brien. L 19 W 000 16
 W: born 11-2-49; 5'-9"; 190-500 lbs;
 bvy bld, brn hair; brn eyes; and comp;
 o-o - horse trainer, lab. painter,
 plumber, surveyor. Wanted by FBI for
 BANK ROBBERY.
 IDENTIFICATION ORDER # -4179
 FBI# 554 874 D
 DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1965



rt ring

4/24/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231-264)
MURKIN
CR
(OO:ME)

RE: SUSPECT DENNIS A. HOLT

ReNYtel to TP, 4/22/68.

City and telephone directories, Clearwater, Fla., reflect DENNIS A. HOLT, 3262 San Pedro, Clearwater, telephone #726-2348, is operator of Holt Motors, 2107 U. S. Highway 19 South, Clearwater, telephone #531-2939 and 531-3162.

Pretext inquiry at Holt Motors reflected that HOLT is on vacation and is not expected to return for possibly one week.

Mrs. DENNIS A. HOLT, 3262 San Pedro, Clearwater, advised that her husband departed from Miami on Thursday, April 18, 1968, accompanied by a minister and possibly another individual to serve as an interpreter, en route to Brazil and other parts of South America in connection with missionary work. Mrs. HOLT observed photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, aka, and stated that he does not bear even a remote resemblance to her husband.

3 - Bureau
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
① - Miami (Info)
1 - New York (Info)
1 - Tampa
JJR:cj
(8)

44-1857-309

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Jellison	Dmf

TP 157-3231-264

Miss PATTY LANIER, Pinellas Co. SO, Clearwater, advised that DENNIS ALVIN HOLT was arrested 3/30/67 on request of Manatee County, Fla. No charge shown. She said that HOLT, Pinellas County SO #54008, is described as a white male, born [REDACTED], Clearwater, Fla., 5'11", 160 lbs., brown hair, blue eyes, ruddy complexion, residence 3262 San Pedro, Clearwater. She said HOLT was fingerprinted at the time and return was received from the Identification Division of the FBI indicating no prior record.

F B I

Date: 4/24/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861)
AND ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES

FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) (P)

MURKIN

OO: Memphis

Enclosed for the Bureau are four copies of photograph of subject JAMES EARL RAY, which was taken 1/4/66 at Missouri State Penitentiary.

Two copies of above-mentioned photograph are enclosed for each of the Continental Offices.

This additional photograph is being furnished, inasmuch as resemblance is quite different from previous photographs furnished, and it may be helpful in aiding sources to identify subject.

Also, it is to be noted that WALTER TERRY RIFE has been located and interviewed in this matter.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

3-Bureau (Enc. 4)
2-Each Continental Office (Enc. 2 each) *Miami*
2-Kansas City
RBH:lib
(~~12~~)
(113)

Approved: *KD*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M

44-1854-310

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>RJ</i>	FILED
APR 27 1968	
FBI - MIAMI	

Jellison
with encl

4/24/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

MURKIN
CR
(OO:ME)

ReMMtel to Bureau, 4/23/68.

A check of the passenger manifests for departures of Coastal Aviation, Orlando, Fla., on 4/24/68, reflected no pertinent information pertaining to JAMES EARL RAY and known aliases.

Coastal Aviation makes almost daily flights from Orlando to Melbourne and Jacksonville, Fla., terminating at West End and Freeport, Grand Bahamas. Passenger manifests checked from April 4 - 23, 1968, covered departures from all points.

Mr. CHARLES BAIRD, President; Captain JOHN ANDERSON, pilot and LEON HARDY, Operations Manager and Pilot could not identify photographs.

3 - Bureau
1 - Birmingham (44-1740) (Info)
1 - Memphis (44-1987)
1 - Miami (Info)
1 - Tampa
GWT:cj
(7)

44-1854-311

RW
Jellison

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Jellison | mly

AT 44-2386

JTB:bjc

1

On April 24, 1968, SAs JAMES RICHARD FLICK, JOSEPH G. SHEA, and JACK T. BEVERSTEIN interviewed LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA, an inmate at the Cobb County Jail, Marietta, Georgia. DOWDA advised he was formerly incarcerated at the Missouri State Prison, Jefferson City, Missouri. He stated while at the Missouri State Prison, he was acquainted for approximately three years with JAMES EARL RAY, a fellow inmate. DOWDA advised he was released from the Missouri State Prison on December 23, 1966, and JAMES EARL RAY was still incarcerated. He stated he had been the chief cook at the Missouri State Prison and RAY worked as a bread slicer.

DOWDA advised RAY was the type person the other inmates did not "mess with." He described RAY as a "loner" who usually initiated the conversation if he wanted to talk to anyone. He stated that RAY spoke in a mild, low tone and when angry would speak even softer. He stated he had never known RAY to become excited and shout. To his knowledge, he has never known RAY to smoke. He stated RAY had a fair complexion, which was blotchy, having pimples around the lower portion of his face. He stated RAY had a rash on the right side of his head during the entire time he had known RAY and RAY would scratch this rash. He stated this rash was very noticeable due to the type of haircut in the Penitentiary and RAY put some type of salve on this rash. He stated RAY's hair was lightly streaked with gray. He advised the only scar he can recall which RAY had was a large burn scar on his forearm, side unrecalled. He stated this scar was located near the wrist. He stated RAY had dingy teeth.

DOWDA advised RAY always talked about "running around" in St. Louis, Missouri. He normally talked about two girl friends, one of these he had met at the Gaslight

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Philbin *RP* *Jellison* *long*

AT 44-2386

JTB:bjc

2

(a bar) located in either St. Louis or Kansas City. DOWDA stated the other girl was a girl RAY had met around the college at Columbia, Missouri, and it was his impression this girl had worked in a tavern there.

DOWDA advised RAY, while in prison, wore a ring on his left hand which was made at the Penitentiary, having been made from white metal with raised initials. He stated RAY never smiled, but when he smiled, it looked like a smirk. He advised RAY was clean and not sloppy in his dress. He described RAY as an avid reader and considered RAY to be intelligent. He advised RAY participated in softball games as a pitcher and would watch all of the baseball games at the Penitentiary, however, he had never heard RAY speak of professional baseball.

DOWDA stated that some time in 1966, a group of Black Muslims had petitioned for the right to have their own religious services. He stated the Muslims would congregate in groups and that a subsequent search of the Negro prisoners had uncovered a large cache of weapons. DOWDA stated the white prisoners then armed themselves and there was a riot at the prison. DOWDA stated three Negro prisoners were killed. DOWDA stated he would not say RAY had knifed these Negro prisoners, but did say that if RAY had not knifed them, he definitely knew who had killed them.

DOWDA stated RAY definitely was a racist and hated Negroes. He stated RAY had made the statement and firmly believed that all the Negro prisoners inside the Penitentiary should be killed. He stated RAY had on several occasions made the statement that if the price were right, he would kill MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DOWDA stated he does not recall ever hearing anything which would indicate a "contract" was out for the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING.

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DOWDA advised he would not be surprised if JAMES EARL RAY was the murderer of MARTIN LUTHER KING, however, he does not believe RAY would have killed KING without being paid for it.

DOWDA stated approximately four months before he, DOWDA, was released RAY had attempted to escape from the Missouri State Prison by going out of the prison behind the ovens in the prison bakery. He stated RAY was apprehended and RAY had broken his arm in this escape attempt. He stated RAY had talked about escaping from the Penitentiary prior to this. DOWDA advised he does not believe RAY returned from maximum security confinement prior to DOWDA's release from prison.

DOWDA stated while in prison, RAY was particularly interested in Western music. He stated he does not recall RAY ever mentioning anything about dancing. He stated that during this period a number of orchestras from the Lake of the Ozarks had played at the State Prison and RAY would never miss these performances. He stated RAY often talked about planning to go to the Lake of the Ozarks when he got out of prison. DOWDA stated he would have no idea who RAY would contact at the Lake of the Ozarks, but stated if he were to look for RAY there, he would first find out who was selling dope and through this person, locate RAY. He stated RAY had talked about being on dope prior to being in the Missouri State Prison. He advised RAY had to have an outside source of income while in prison inasmuch as RAY's dope habit was costing RAY \$35 to \$40 a week for shots and RAY appeared to be well fixed, never wanting for anything.

DOWDA estimated RAY spent \$15 to \$20 a week for personal conveniences. He stated RAY, while in prison,

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used amphetamine, taking the shot in the "main line." He stated RAY would take two to three shots a day. He stated RAY never lacked for money, but had no idea of RAY's source of income. DOWDA stated he is certain RAY was not selling amphetamine to other prisoners, stating he has known RAY to give free amphetamine to prisoners who needed a shot. DOWDA denied that he himself had ever taken any shots, but admitted he has taken pills. DOWDA claimed he and RAY were not engaged in the sale of amphetamine at the Missouri State Prison.

DOWDA stated that HAROLD SCHAEFER, Guard on the gate in the kitchen of the Missouri State Prison, was very close to JAMES EARL RAY and it was DOWDA's understanding that SCHAEFER was RAY's source of amphetamine. He stated BENJAMIN O. GOODIN was a civilian in charge of the kitchen and he is certain GOODIN was not connected in any way with the bringing of amphetamine into the prison. He stated while GOODIN was friendly with RAY, he understands it was GOODIN who had disclosed RAY's hiding place when RAY had attempted to escape in 1966.

DOWDA advised one NEIL ABBY (phonetic) was RAY's closest friend in the Missouri State Prison and was responsible for bringing RAY into the kitchen. He stated ABBY at this time was chief cook at the prison. He believes ABBY was serving time for breaking into a drug store and he does know that dope was connected with ABBY's offense. He stated ABBY had a detainer on him as he was an escapee from the State of Texas. DOWDA does not know whether or not ABBY is presently in custody but does not believe he is presently in the Missouri State Prison.

He stated RAY had another friend, one DONALD DEAN RIGGER. He stated RIGGER was from California and RIGGER's wife was a psychiatrist at the Napa State Hospital, which

AT 44-2386

JTB:bjc

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is located north of San Francisco, California.

DOWDA advised that RAY and other inmates that might have DOWDA's address would have a Route 1, Sanford, Florida, address, and would not know that he is presently in Marietta, Georgia. He stated his father, STEVEN C. DOWDA, presently resides at 110 South Chandler Street, Deland, Florida, and that anyone inquiring for him at Sanford, Florida, would be sent to Deland, Florida. DOWDA claims he has not been contacted by RAY and has heard nothing to indicate RAY has attempted to contact him. He stated RAY had talked about traveling over all the United States, but had never mentioned anything which would indicate RAY was associated with anyone in the Atlanta, Georgia, area. DOWDA stated the only other prisoner he knew who was from the State of Georgia, who was an inmate at the Missouri State Prison was one JERRY WHITE from Calhoun, Georgia. He advised WHITE had a Federal detainer against him and believes WHITE is still incarcerated at the Missouri State Prison.

DOWDA advised he had made a trip to California in November of 1967, and that he and his wife had spent Thanksgiving Day visiting her uncle, BOB GRAHAM, who resides at Palos Verdes, California. He stated GRAHAM is Regional Manager for IBM in that area. He stated that he and his wife had stopped at Jefferson City and while there, contacted a Missouri State Prison guard, Mr. "PETE" PETRIE. He stated he had not made any inquiry concerning RAY and was not aware that RAY had escaped. He stated he had not made any inquiry concerning inmates inasmuch as his wife did not know he was a former inmate of the Missouri State Prison. He stated he had stopped in the Kansas City, Missouri, area and attempted to locate PAUL ALVIN LAIL, JR., who had been in the Missouri State Prison as PAUL ALVIN CARTER. He stated LAIL had been released approximately a **year** before he had and that they had agreed to attempt to get together

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JTB:bjc

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after their release from prison. He stated LAIL worked in the license shop at the Missouri State Prison and although he was acquainted with RAY, he did not believe LAIL was a particularly good friend of RAY. He stated after his return from California, he was contacted by PAUL ALVIN LAIL, JR. He stated LAIL owns a home at 34 Barbodos Drive, Palm Springs, West Palm Beach, Florida, Telephone Number 965-4221. He stated LAIL in February of 1968 was out of a job and had come to Marietta, Georgia, looking for employment. He stated LAIL had come to Marietta, Georgia, with his wife and a small baby and had resided with DOWDA for approximately one and one-half weeks, leaving approximately two or three days after DOWDA was arrested, DOWDA having been arrested on March 4, 1968.

DOWDA advised he could recall nothing else concerning RAY which might assist in his location, but in the event he remembered anything additional, he would contact the FBI.

F B I

Date: 4/25/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

(OO: MEMPHIS)

Re Atlanta teletype summary to Bureau, 4/24/68.

Enclosed for Bureau are three copies of insert reflecting interview with LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA.

One copy of above insert being furnished to Miami and Memphis for information. Two copies of insert furnished to St. Louis and San Diego. Six copies of insert furnished to Kansas City.

In addition to leads previously set out in retel, the following offices are requested to conduct the following investigation:

LEADSKANSAS CITY

3 - Bureau (Enc. 3)
6 - Kansas City (Enc. 6)
1 - Memphis (Enc. 1)
1 - Miami (Enc. 1)
2 - San Diego (Enc. 2)
2 - St. Louis (Enc. 2)
2 - Atlanta
JTB:lcc
(17)

rw

Jellison

44-1854-313

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED

APR 27 1968

FBI - MIAMI

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

AT 44-2386

At Jefferson City, Missouri:

- 1) Will, at Missouri State Penitentiary, determine from medical records type rash JAMES EARL RAY had on side of head and medication prescribed for RAY.
- 2) Check correspondence file to determine if RAY has any approved correspondence which may identify girl friends RAY talked about.
- 3) Attempt to determine supplier of narcotics to RAY while RAY in prison and attempt to develop information concerning RAY's outside source of income, as RAY may now attempt to contact these persons.
- 4) Ascertain present whereabouts of inmate JERRY WHITE.
- 5) Through sources at prison, evaluate information furnished by DOWDA.

At Kansas City, Missouri:

Attempt to locate bar known as Gaslight, to determine if subject RAY is known there and attempt to determine identity of girl RAY met there.

At Columbia, Missouri:

Contact bars in vicinity of college and determine if subject RAY known as well as attempt to learn identity of girl RAY had met in this area.

At Lake Ozark, Missouri:

Will, through sources, attempt to identify narcotics pushers and through them determine if subject has been in this area.

SAN DIEGO

At Palos Verdes, California:

Will locate BOB GRAHAM and interview concerning DOWDA's visit Thanksgiving 1967; determine if DOWDA made any remarks concerning contact with RAY or anyone else in California.

AT 44-2386

ST. LOUIS

St. Louis, Missouri:

Will attempt to locate bar known as Gaslight to determine if RAY is known at this bar and identity of RAY's girl friend.

File _____ Class. _____ Case No. _____ Last Serial _____ Date _____

☐ Pending

☐ Closed

Serial No.

Description of Serial

Date
Charged

314

5/17/68

Ident to 271

Employee

RECHARGE

Date _____

To _____ From _____

Date charged

Employee

Location

Insert

West Palm Beach, Fla.
4/25/68

Memo, SAC

Re: MURKIN

Re Charlotte TT 4/24/68.

Details: At Boca Raton, Fla.

The following investigation was conducted by SA
ROBERT SCHACHNER on 4/25/68

Mrs. MONNIE PETERSON LEONE, Apt#26A, Garden Apts., advised she has been living at this address about 2 weeks and comes from Clinton, NC. She advised she met JOSEPH LUNCEFORD in Clinton, NC, about the last week in March, 1968. She stated since that time she has been with LUNCEFORD every day both in Clinton, NC and in Boca Raton, Fla. She advised they came to Fla., together and plan on getting married when she is divorced from her seperated husband. She advised LUNCEFORD was definatly in Clinton, NC, with her on 4/3,4 and 5/68.

She advised LUNCEFORD is working at the Palms Gulf Station.

JOSEPH LUNCEFORD was located and the Palms Gulf Station and eliminated as being subject by fingerprint comparison.

44-1854

44-1854-315

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 29 1968	
FBI - MIAMI	

J. Allison *mf*

Insert

West Palm Beach, Fla.
4/25/68

Memo, SAC

Re: MURKIN

Ref AF TT 4/24/68

Details: At Boca Raton, Fla.

The following investigation was conducted by SA
ROBERT SCHACHNER on 4/24/68.

Mrs. NAOMI CAMPBALL, Personell Director, Boca Raton
Club and Hotel, advised her records reflect WILLIAM RAYMOND
STEKLY went to work for the hotel 4/3/68 as a houseman. He
worked until 4/19/68 when he left, leaving a forwarding address
of c/o WANDA JEAN STEKLY, Lupin Lane, Carmel Valley, Calif.,
a sister. She advised his supervisor was Mrs. HILDA FEENEY.
She stated he is described as a white, male, born [REDACTED] at
5'11", 182, brown hair and brown eyes. Soc. Sec. # [REDACTED].

Mrs. HILDA FEENEY, Supr., Boca Raton Club, advised
after viewing photo of RAY, that STEKLY was not similar in
appearance to RAY. She stated STEKLY was definatly at the
Boca Raton Club and working for her on 4/3, 4/5 and through 4/19/68
when he left to return to Calif.

In view of above information, since STEKLY has
been eliminated, no further investigation will be conducted.

44-1854

44-1854-316

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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Jellison Long

F B I

Date: 4/25/68

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

TO: ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) -P-
RE: MURKIN
CR

Re ME airtel to All Continental Offices, 4/19/68, requesting that all laundries determined to be using Thermo-Seal laundry marking machines be contacted in effort to locate laundry marking "20R-3", and LA teletype to Bureau, 4/18/68.

All offices discontinue efforts to locate inasmuch as laundry mark identified as coming from laundry in Culver City, California, per Los Angeles teletype to Bureau, 4/18/68.

- 1 - Each Continental Office
2 - Memphis

GMR/vtp

MM

RW

Jellison

Approved: R. Jensen
Special Agent in Charge

Sent

44-1854-317

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Jellison Long

4/25/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, OKLAHOMA CITY (44-686) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
OO: MEMPHIS

Re Miami Teletype 4/23/68.

LYNN HANDLIN, Operations Department, American Flyers, Inc., Ardmore, Oklahoma, advised on 4/23/68 that American Flyers, Inc., had 5 flights out of the United States to Mexico and the Bahamas for the period 4/4/68 through 4/10/68. All flights were chartered groups of employees of large concerns. Each member of the chartered group is checked thoroughly for identification before boarding flight. Each have to be cleared through customs, each has to be cleared for insurance purposes, and each has to be vouched for by the leader of the chartered group. It would be impossible for a single individual to join one of these groups. He does not have all the manifests available concerning these 5 chartered flights at this time.

In view of the above procedures, no further effort will be made to check American Flyers' manifests UACB.

RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- 3 - Bureau (44-38861)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
- ① - Miami (Info.)
- 2 - Oklahoma City (44-686)

GEP/vb
(8)

44-1854-318

RW

Jellison

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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Jellison

TO: SAC,

☐ Albany	☐ Houston	☐ Norfolk	☐ Tampa
☐ Albuquerque	☐ Indianapolis	☐ Oklahoma City	☐ Washington Field
☐ Anchorage	☐ Jackson	☐ Omaha	☐ Quantico
☐ Atlanta	☐ Jacksonville	☐ Philadelphia	
☐ Baltimore	☐ Kansas City	☐ Phoenix	TO LEGAT:
☐ Birmingham	☐ Knoxville	☐ Pittsburgh	☐ Bern
☐ Boston	☐ Las Vegas	☐ Portland	☐ Bonn
☐ Buffalo	☐ Little Rock	☐ Richmond	☐ Buenos Aires
☐ Butte	☐ Los Angeles	☐ Sacramento	☐ Hong Kong
☐ Charlotte	☐ Louisville	☐ St. Louis	☐ London
☐ Chicago	☐ Memphis	☐ Salt Lake City	☐ Manila
☐ Cincinnati	☐ Miami	☐ San Antonio	☐ Mexico, D.F.
☐ Cleveland	☒ Milwaukee	☐ San Diego	☐ Ottawa
☐ Columbia	☐ Minneapolis	☐ San Francisco	☐ Paris
☐ Dallas	☐ Mobile	☐ San Juan	☐ Rome
☐ Denver	☐ Newark	☐ Savannah	☐ Santo Domingo
☐ Detroit	☐ New Haven	☐ Seattle	☐ Tokyo
☐ El Paso	☐ New Orleans	☐ Springfield	
☐ Honolulu	☐ New York City		

Date April 26, 1968

RE:

MURKIN

☐ For information ☐ Retention optional ☒ For appropriate action ☐ Surep, by _____

☐ The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, ☐ conceal all sources, ☐ paraphrase contents.

☐ Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____.

Remarks:

Enclosed are copies of photographs taken by a woman companion of the subject while he was in Mexico in the Fall of 1967.

These are for your further assistance in connection with efforts to locate the subject.

44-1557-517

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 29 1968	
FBI — MIAMI	

Gellison *Dag*

Enc. (3)
Bufile (44-38861)
Urfile

F B I

Date: 4/26/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)TO DIRECTOR, ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, JACKSONVILLE, KANSAS CITY
AND MEMPHIS

FROM MIAMI (44-1854) (P)

MURKIN.

RE ATLANTA TEL TO BUREAU, MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM, LOS
ANGELES, KANSAS CITY, SPRINGFIELD, MIAMI, APR. TWO FOUR LAST.PAUL ALVIN LAIL, THREE FOUR BARBADOS, PALM SPRINGS,
FLA., SAID HE KNEW RAY FOR THREE YEARS IN MO. STATE PEN
BUT HAS NOT SEEN OR HEARD FROM RAY SINCE HE GOT OUT A
LITTLE OVER TWO YEARS AGO.LAIL SAID LEWIE "WHITEY" DOWDA WORKED WITH RAY IN
KITCHEN MO. STATE PEN AND WOULD KNOW MUCH MORE ABOUT HIM.
ALSO NEAL ABBEY WAS RAY'S REAL BUDDY AND WOULD REALLY
KNOW MUCH MORE ABOUT RAY THAN ANYBODY ELSE. LAIL SAID HE
DID NOT KNOW IF ABBEY WAS IN OR OUT OF MO. STATE PEN.LAIL ADVISED RAY ASSOCIATED WITH GROUP WHO KILLED
NEGROES IN MO. STATE PEN BUT DOES NOT KNOW IF RAY WAS IN① - Miami
PAP:kc *xc*
(1)Searched _____
Indexed _____
Serialized _____
Filed _____Approved: *[Signature]*
Special Agent in ChargeSent *[Handwritten initials]* M Per *[Handwritten initials]*

F B I

Date:

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

MM 44-1854

PAGE TWO

ON IT OR NOT. HE SAID RAY NOT RACIST BUT KNOWS HE DID NOT LIKE NEGROES AS MOST OF THE INMATES FELT THE SAME WAY ABOUT NEGROES.

LAIL ADVISED RAY WOULD BE HARD TO FIND AND FEELS THAT HE WILL HAVE A FORTYFIVE AUTOMATIC "STASHED" ON HIM AND WOULD NOT GIVE UP. ALSO RAY WOULD NOT HIDE OUT IN COUNTRY BECAUSE HE IS A "CITY BOY"; HOWEVER, DOES NOT FEEL RAY WOULD GO FOR REALLY BIG CITIES BUT A PLACE ABOUT THE SIZE OF HOUSTON, TEXAS.

LAIL ADVISED LEO BARNETT, AN EX-CON FROM MO. STATE PEN AND BELIEVED IN JAIL SOMEWHERE IN FLA., HANDLED DOPE AND KNEW WHERE IT WAS COMING FROM AND WOULD KNOW IF RAY USED DOPE AND WHERE AND HOW HE GOT IT.

LAIL SAID FRED MILLER, A "CUT AND DRY CON" WHO WORKED IN THE TAG PLANT, WAS ONE OF THE LEADERS AND KNEW RAY WELL AND IF HE WOULD TALK HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO FURNISH INFO ABOUT RAY. LAIL SAID RAY ASSOCIATED WITH OTHERS AND NOT LONER IN HIS OPINION.

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

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via _____
(Priority)MM 44-1854
PAGE THREE

LAIL RECALLED RAY ALWAYS WORE HIS HAIR CUT SHORT
"BUTCH CUT" IN SUMMER AND LONG IN WINTER.

LAIL ADVISED HE WILL THINK ABOUT RAY SOME MORE AND
IF HE RECALLS ANYTHING WILL NOTIFY THIS OFFICE. LAIL SEEMED
COOPERATIVE AND VERY INTERESTED IN REWARD MONEY.

KANSAS CITY AT JEFFERSON CITY, MO., ASCERTAIN AT MO.
STATE PEN WHEREABOUTS OF FRED MILLER AND INTERVIEW ABOUT RAY
OR SET OUT LEADS TO HAVE INTERVIEWED. ALSO DETERMINE
WHEREABOUTS FORMER INMATE LEO BARNETT.

JACKSONVILLE AT TALLAHASSEE, FLA., CONTACT BUREAU OF
CORRECTIONS AND ASCERTAIN IF A LEO BARNETT, FORMER INMATE
MO. STATE PEN, CONFINED ANYWHERE IN FLA.

FD THREE ZERO TWO'S BEING FURNISHED KANSAS CITY AND
MEMPHIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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

FBI MIAMI

FBI WASH DC

512PM URGENT 4/26/68 GJM

TO MIAMI

FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 1P

✓
MURKIN.

THE MAIN FILE ON KING CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING THREAT:

MIAMI AIRTEL TO THE DIRECTOR SEPTEMBER NINE SIXTYSIX
ADVISED THATT ⁰MM ONE ONE FOUR FIVE - R (PROB) HAD ADVISED THAT
¹⁵⁷⁻¹⁷⁵⁷⁻²
JAMES WHITE, A BARBER, OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, HAD
ALLEGEDLY INQUIRED OF AN OFFICIAL OF THE UKA, KKK, HOW MUCH
MONEY THE KLAVERN WOULD PAY TO KILL KING. WHITE REPORTEDLY
APPLIED FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE KLAVERN BUT WAS REJECTED.

ALTHOUGH SUBJECT RAY HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS THE
ASSAILANT, YOU SHOULD CONDUCT INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE IF
WHITE OR ANY OTHERS CONNECTED WITH THE ABOVE KLAVERN MIGHT
BE IMPLICATED AS A CONSPIRATOR.

AIRMAIL COPIES TO MEMPHIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

LAS

FBI MIAMI

*Assigned:
Selmon advised
4/26/68
Colton
to be
advised
4/26/68
#5*

*Handled
5/5/68
RBL*

44-1854-321

SEARCHED <i>AS</i>	INDEXED <i>AS</i>
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FBI - MIAMI	

Colton RBL

FBI MIAMI

FBI WASH DC

725PPM URGENT 4/26/68 LCC

TO ALL SACS RELAY MESSAGE PLAN

FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 1P

✓
MURKIN.

THE MAIN FILE ON KING HAS BEEN REVIEWED AT THE BUREAU
AND LEADS ARE BEING SENT OUT CONCERNING PERSONS INVOLVED IN
PRIOR THREATS AGAINST KING. THESE LEADS AS WELL AS LEADS
CONCERNING ANY OTHER SUSPECTS DEVELOPED FROM ANY SOURCE
MUST BE GIVEN IMMEDIATE AND THOROUGH HANDLING ON A TOP PRIORITY
BASIS. PROCESS HAS BEEN OBTAINED AGAINST JAMES EARL RAY AND
EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATION IS CONTINUING TO LOCATE RAY AND TO
ESTABLISH MOTIVE OF CRIME. YOU HAVE BEEN AND WILL BE
FURNISHED INFORMATION RELATING TO OTHER POSSIBLE CONSPIRATORS.
THESE MUST ALL BE THOROUGHLY RESOLVED NO MATTER HOW REMOTE.

END

LAS

FBI MIAMI

TU@

See Serials
321
414

Jackson #5
88

Relay JK-746
TR-748
NO 752
MO 802
UN 832

44-6854-322

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FBI - MIAMI	

Jellison

TELETYPE

PM URGENT 4/26/68 RML

TO DIRECTOR, SAN DIEGO, AND MEMPHIS
FROM MIAMI (44-1854) 2P

MURKIN.

RE PITTSBURGH TEL TO DIRECTOR, CHICAGO, AND MEMPHIS, FOUR
TWENTYSIX, INSTANT.

RE THREATS TO MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

FOR INFO SAN DIEGO, RE TELETYPE REFLECTED:

HARRY P. STEWART, U.S. SECRET SERVICE, REPORTED HIS NEPHEW,
STEWART LINDH, TWO TWO ZERO SIX, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF., CLAIMED HE
AND TWO OTHERS THROUGH NEWSPAPER AD OBTAINED RIDE WITH STOUT. AT
KANSAS CITY, MO., STOUT DISAPPEARED WITH THEIR EFFECTS. BEFORE STOUT
DISSAPPEARED, HE TOLD THEM HE WAS GOING TO SHOOT KING.

ON FOUR TWENTYSIX, INSTANT, RAYMOND ZACKOVICH, SECRET SERVICE
AGENT, PITTSBURGH, ADVISED HARRY P. STEWART, FORMER SECRET SERVICE
AGENT, RETIRED ONE YEAR AGO. STEWART NOW RESIDING AT ROUTE ONE,
BOX THREE EIGHT EIGHT, SEBASTIAN, FLA.

MIAMI INTERVIEW STEWART FOR ADDITIONAL DATA HE RECEIVED AND
PRESENT LOCATION OF HIS NEPHEW, STEWART LINDH. SUTEL.

END PAGE ONE

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SD 844 M
ME 845 M

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PAGE TWO

HARRY P. STEWART, AT ABOVE ADDRESS, SEBASTIAN, FLA., ADVISED ABOVE INCIDENT OCCURED TWO OR THREE YEARS AGO, WHEN NEPHEW STEWARD LINDH WAS HITCH-HIKING FROM SAN FRANCISCO TO VERMONT. STEWART DOES NOT RECALL ANY REFERENCE TO MARTIN LUTHER KING. NEPHEW NOW RESID-
ING FOUR ZERO ONE ZERO AND ONE-HALF, VAN DYKE, SAN DIEGO, CALIF.,
AND ATTENDING UNKNOWN COLLEGE IN SAN DIEGO.

SAN DIEGO INTERVIEW LINDH RE DETAILS OF ABOVE.

END

FBI SAN FRAN

252 PM URGENT 4/26/68 VLT

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), BOSTON, CHICAGO (44-1114), MIAMI,
MEMPHIS (44-1987) & SAN DIEGO
FROM SAN FRANCISCO (173-65) (P) 2P

MURKIN

RE: DONALD STOUT - SUSPECT CO-CONSPIRATOR

RE CHICAGO TEL, APRIL TWO FIVE, LAST, AND BUREAU, CHICAGO,
AND PITTSBURGH TELS TODAY.

FOR INFORMATION SAN DIEGO, PITTSBURGH SUBMITTED LHM, DATED
SEPTEMBER SEVEN, ONE NINE SIX SIX, CONCERNING DONALD STOUT, WHITE MALE
FIVE FEET SEVEN OR EIGHT INCHES, TWO ONE ZERO POUNDS, DARK HAIR WITH
WAVE IN FRONT. HARRY P. STEWART, UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE REPORTED
HIS NEPHEW, STEWART LINDH, SAN FRANCISCO, CLAIMED HE AND TWO OTHERS
THROUGH NEWSPAPER AD OBTAINED RIDE WITH STOUT. AT KANSAS CITY, STOUT
DISAPPEARED WITH THEIR EFFECTS. BEFORE STOUT DISAPPEARED, HE TOLD
THEM HE WAS GOING TO SHOOT KING.

RECORDS, FBI CHICAGO, REVEAL SIMILAR MODUS OPERANDI BY DONALD
LAWRENCE STOUT, AKA LAWRENCE DONALD STOUT, FBI NUMBER FOUR NINE FIVE
NINE THREE EIGHT ZERO, WHITE MALE, BORN [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], DETROIT, MICHIGAN, SIMILAR DESCRIPTION, WHO HAS WORKED AS
MERCHANT SEAMAN. STOUT CONVICTED MARCH TWELVE, ONE NINE FIVE FIVE,
FEDERAL CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION, SEAGOVILLE, TEXAS, VIOLATION NATIONAL
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PAGE TWO

MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT ACT, ONE YEAR ONE DAY. LATEST ARREST RECORD, IDENTIFICATION DIVISION FILES, APRIL TEN, ONE NINE FIVE EIGHT, POLICE BERLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE, THEIR NUMBER FOURTEEN, DRIVING NON-REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLE, FIVE DOLLAR FINE PAID. COPIES OF RECORD AND PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN IN ONE NINE FIVE FIVE BEING MAILED AMSD TO SAN FRANCISCO THIS DATE. BUREAU UNABLE TO DETERMINE WHERE RECENT PHOTOGRAPH OF STOUT MAY BE OBTAINED.

FRANCES LINDH, ONE FIVE FOUR FIVE GREEN STREET, APARTMENT ONE ZERO FOUR, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, THIS DATE ADVISED SON STEWART MARSHALL LINDH, AGE TWO FOUR YEARS, ATTENDING SAN DIEGO STATE COLLEGE FULL TIME. RESIDES FOUR ZERO ONE ZERO ONE-HALF VAN DYKE, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA. MOTHER UNABLE TO IDENTIFY OTHERS WHO ACCOMPANIED SON.

SAN DIEGO LOCATE STEWART LINDH FOR ANY ADDITIONAL DETAILS AND DISPLAY PHOTOGRAPH WHEN RECEIVED OF DONALD LAWRENCE STOUT TO DETERMINE WHETHER HE IS DONALD STOUT WITH WHOM HE RODE TO KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI. PHOTOGRAPH ON ARRIVAL FROM BUREAU WILL BE SENT AMSD TO SAN DIEGO.

BOSTON REFER CHICAGO TEL APRIL TWO SIX, INSTANT, IF PHOTOGRAPH AVAILABLE OF LAWRENCE DONALD STOUT, AKA, TAKEN BERLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE, FORWARD COPY AMSD TO SAN DIEGO TO SHOW STEWART LINDH. SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

RML

FBI MIAMI

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FBI MIAMI

FBI MEMPHIS

459PM URGENT 4-26-68 MCP

TO DIRECTOR, MIAMI, AND HOUSTON
FROM MEMPHIS 44-1987 1P

MURKIN.

RE MIAMI TEL THREE ZERO TWO P.M., APRIL TWENTYSIX.

REFERENCE MIAMI TEL SETS FORTH INFO RECEIVED FROM PAUL ALVIN LAIL, FORMER MISSOURI STATE PEN INMATE. OF INTEREST IN CONNECTION WITH INTERVIEW OF LAIL IS STATEMENT THAT HE FELT RAY MIGHT GO TO PLACE ABOUT SIZE OF HOUSTON, TEXAS. SINCE NEIL ABNEY ALSO KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN RESIDENT OF HOUSTON AREA, REQUEST MIAMI REINTERVIEW LAIL TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER OR NOT HE HAD ANY REASON FOR PICKING OUT CITY SIZE OF HOUSTON, OR IF HE HAS INFO SUGGESTING RAY MAY HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH ABNEY OR ANYONE ELSE IN HOUSTON. AM COPIES TO ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, KANSAS CITY.

A & D. P. END

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FBI MIAMI

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PM URGENT 4-26-68 PJL
TO DIRECTOR, HOUSTON, AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM MIAMI (44-1854)

MURKIN.

RE METEL PM, INSTANT TO DIRECTOR, MIAMI AND HOUSTON RE
INFO RECEIVED FROM PAUL ALVIN LAIL.

LAIL REINTERVIEWED THIS DATE AND ADVISED ONLY REASON FOR
PICKING HOUSTON WAS SIZE OF CITY AND HIS FAMILIARITY WITH IT.

NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE AS TO ABEY'S WHEREABOUTS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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44-1854-326

FBI MIAMI

FBI BIRMGHAM

537PM URGENT 4-26-68 HEP

TO DIRECTOR, KANSAS CITY, MEMPHIS, MIAMMI
FROM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) 2P

MURKIN

RE MIAMI TEL TO BUREAU, APRIL TWO FIVE, LAST.

MADISON COUNTY SO AND MADISON COUNTY CREDIT BUREAU,
HUNTSVILLE, ALA., HAVE NO RECORD GUY E. RAY AND WIFE DIANE.
POSTMASTER, OWENS CROSS ROADS, ALA., ADVISED NO RECORD OR
KNOWLEDGE OF GUY E. RAY EVER RECEIVING MAIL OR RESIDING IN
THAT SMALL RURAL COMMUNITY.

JESSE A. KELLER, ATTORNEY, FLORENCE, ALA., ADVISED APRIL
TWO SIX, INSTANT, HE HAS KNOWN GUY ERSKINE RAY FOR ABOUT TWO
YEARS. RAY HAS BEEN IN THE HOME REPAIR BUSINESS AND NOW
OPERATES THE MID SOUTH CONSTRUCTION CO., SIX ONE FOUR EAST
WAVERLY STREET, MUSCLE SHOALS, ALA. HE RESIDES KILLEN, ALA.,
ROUTE ONE, BOX ONE FOUR A, BUT TRAVELS EXTENSIVELY IN HIS
HOME REPAIR BUSINESS. KELLER STATES GUY ERSKINE RAY IS TWO
NINE YEARS OLD, SIX FT. ONE, TWO TEN - TWO TWENTY LBS., HAS
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PAGE TWO.

NOTICEABLE SCAR NEAR MOUTH AND JAW, BLACK WAVY HAIR, HEAVY BUILD, AND DOES NOT RESEMBLE PHOTO OF JAMES EARL RAY. ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO RAY OPERATED HOME REPAIR BUSINESS IN FLORENCE, ALA. AREA, BUT MOVED AWAY WITH A NUMBER OF OUTSTANDING DEBTS; HOWEVER, RETURNED TO THE AREA ABOUT THREE MONTHS AGO.

DIANE RAY, OFFICE MANAGER, MID SOUTH CONSTRUCTION CO., ADVISED APRIL TWO SIX, INSTANT, SHE HAS BEEN MARRIED TO GUY ERSKINE RAY FOR THREE AND ONE HALF YEARS, AND THEY HAVE LIVED IN A NUMBER OF STATES, INCLUDING ALA., FLA., AND VA. IN NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE OR SIXTYSIX, RAY WAS CHARGED WITH EMBEZZLEMENT AT DANVILLE, VA., AND THE FBI HAD A UFAP CHARGE AGAINST RAY. THE EMBEZZLEMENT MATTER WAS SETTLED BY RAY BEFORE HE WAS APPREHENDED BY FBI AND THE UFAP CHARGE WAS DISMISSED. MRS. RAY STATES HUSBAND BORN [REDACTED], GURLEY, ALA., SIX FT. ONE, TWO TEN LBS., BROWN WAVY HAIR, LONG NOTICEABLE OPERATION SCAR UNDER RIGHT JAW, FATHER ERSKINE RAY, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, MOTHER AILENE RAY, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK. SHE OBSERVED PHOTO OF JAMES EARL RAY, AND STATES HE DID NOT RESEMBLE HER HUSBAND, GUY ERSKINE RAY.

NO COMMUNICATION FOLLOWS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

FH

FBI MIAMI

4/27/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, KANSAS CITY
FROM: SAC, MIAMI (44-1854) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Miami teletype to Bureau, Atlanta, Birmingham, Jacksonville, and Kansas City, 4/26/68.

Enclosed herewith are ten copies each of the interview with PAUL ALVIN LAIL for Kansas City and Memphis; one copy each for Atlanta and Birmingham.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

2 - Kansas City (Enc 10)
2 - Memphis (Enc 10)
1 - Atlanta (Info) (Enc 1)
1 - Birmingham (Info) (Enc 1)
1 - Miami
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FBI MIAMI

FBI ST LOUIS

8:31 AM 4-27-68 URGENT REM

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND MIAMI

FROM: ST. LOUIS (44-775) 1P

MURKIN

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE DATED APRIL TWENTYSIX, SIXTYEIGHT.
PAUL ARTHUR LAIL, JR. SENTENCED STODDARD COUNTY, MISSOURI,
JUNE TWENTY, SIXTYTHREE, ON FRAUDULENT CHECK CHARGE. ESCAPED
JUNE TWENTYTWO - TWENTYTHREE, SIXTYTHREE BY SAWING BARS.
UFAC PROCESS ISSUED AND LAIL APPREHENDED GALESBURG, ILLINOIS,
OCTOBER TWELVE, SIXTYTHREE. RETURNED TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES.
CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS BECAUSE HE HAD A TWENTYTWO
CALIBER GUN.

RELATIVES IDENTIFIED AND WILL BE FURNISHED TO MIAMI IF
DESIRED.

AIRMAIL COPY FORWARDED TO MEMPHIS.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

P.

END

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FBI MIAMI

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