

ME 44-1987

The following is subject's identification record as furnished by the FBI Identification Division on April 23, 1968, under FBI # 405 942 G:

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Army	James Earl Ray [REDACTED]	2/19/46		
Sheriff's Office Los Angeles, Calif.	James Earl Ray #B-119908	10/11/49	suspicion of burglary	
PD, Los Angeles Calif	James Earl Ray #139648	10/11/49	suspicion 459 Penal (burglary)	8 months County Jail suspended; 2 years proba- tion served; first 90 days County Jail; 146 12/30/49 Cs129438
SO Cedar Rapids, Iowa	James E. Ray #5937	4/18/50	vagrancy	
PD Alton, Ill.	James Earl Ray #7514	7/23/51	no opera- tor's lic- ense - no City License	released to pay later
PD Chicago Ill	James Ray #D90696	5/6/52	robbery (Gun)	Grand Jury \$3000
Cook County Jail Chicago Ill	James Ray #131165	5/9/52	robbery	6/13/52 sen- tenced to peni- tentiary 1 to 2 years
State Peni- tentiary, Joliet, Ill.	James E. Ray #32419	6/13/52	robbery	1 to 2 years

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CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
State Peni- tentiary Pontiac, Ill.	James E. Ray #19121	7/7/52 1952 in transfer from Joliet	robbery	1 to 2 years 3/12/54 discharged
SO Edwards- ville, Ill.	James Earl Ray #2640	8/30/54	burglary & larceny	
PD Hannibal Missouri	James E. Ray #40714	3/23/55	investigation of breaking & entering Post Office	
State High- way Patrol Macon, Mo.	James Earl Ray #B-3376	3/23/55	cashing stolen pos- tal money orders	released to Postal Inspec- tor Kansas City Mo., 3/24/55
USM Kansas City, Mo.	James Earl Ray #12018	3/28/55	forgery U.S. Postal Money Order	sentenced to 15 months custody Attorney General
SO Kansas City Mo.	James Earl Ray #29637	3/28/55	forgery - Government	3/7/55, 3 years and 9 months
U. S. Peni- tentiary Leavenworth, Kan.	James Earl Ray #72498-L	7/7/55	Post Office Laws Forge Money Orders	3 years and 9 months 5/20/58, conditional re- lease 3/31/59, maximum 4/5/58, conditional re- lease on charge of Post Office forgery Post Office Money Orders
PD St. Louis, Mo.	James Earl Ray #81071	10/10/59	suspicion of robbery	

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CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
PD St. Louis Mo.	James Earl Ray #81071	10/16/59	suspicion of robbery stealing & fugitive other authorities	
State Peni- tentiary Jefferson City, Mo.	James Earl Ray #00416	3/17/60	"TC" operating motor vehi- cle without permission of owner robbery first "b/m DDW" (2 charges)	20 years (20, 7, 5, con- current)

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The following is a description of the subject,
obtained from sources set out elsewhere in this report:

Name:	JAMES EARL RAY, aka
Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Date of Birth:	[REDACTED]
Place of Birth:	Alton, Illinois
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	163 - 174 pounds
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Blue
Social Security No.:	[REDACTED]
Army Serial Number:	[REDACTED]
FBI Number:	405 942 G

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(D) RACIAL INFORMANTS - RACIAL MATTERS -- Our informants are reporting more and more information concerning violent statements made by members of militant black organizations, as well as individual extremists. Such wild statements could trigger irrational action by unbalanced individuals.

Recently we have been advised by informants that militant black nationalist organizations, as well as independent Negro extremists are talking of taking such action as dynamiting the Empire State Building in New York City, throwing dynamite on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange and possibly assassinating some white political candidates as a means of retaliating for the killing of Martin Luther King, Jr. We have also received information that militant black racial extremists feel that all white people should be killed and one has stated that he believes if the right contact is made with the White House staff, a plan might be formulated to poison 500 to 600 people attending functions at the White House.

If any of the actions discussed above were carried out it could bring about a national catastrophe.

As you have been previously instructed, you must insure that full details are obtained from informants especially when they are reporting discussions concerning acts of violence or other dire activities. With the increased number of violent statements coming to the attention of the Bureau, you must be alert to promptly run out all rumors of violence connected with racial activity for the purpose of either proving or disproving these rumors.

In addition, our experience in the past has shown that often when an individual is confronted concerning a violent statement he is alleged to have made, it will deter him from taking any such action. In view of this, whenever possible, interview individuals who are alleged to have made violent statements. These interviews must be well planned and conducted by two Agents in such a manner that the safety of the Agents will be protected and no incidents will occur which could bring embarrassment to the Bureau. Concerning these interviews you are reminded of Bureau policy concerning interviews of individuals connected with educational institutions, the news media and those employed in sensitive positions. Prior Bureau authority is required concerning interviews with any of the above-type individuals.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover

Director

6/4/68

SAC LETTER 68-32

- 3 -

44-1609-616

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 5 1968	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Stanley

6/5/68

PLAIN TEXT

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, PHILADELPHIA (44-1368)

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (44-1609)

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS
(OO: MEMPHIS)

RE OBSCENE PEN - PAL CLUBS.

Re WFO airtel to the Bureau, 5/31/68.

"Black Book", 160 West 46th Street, NYC, is a book for male and female "singles" (as opposed to group) who wish to write to each and is published every six to seven weeks. Subscription cost is \$3.00 for six issues and subscription list totals about 3,000 per ~~year~~ Ottheinrich Werner, publisher.

Mr. RAY, 219 East 5th Street, Chester, Pennsylvania, is a subscriber to "Black Book". Philadelphia determine if Mr. RAY is identical with subject JAMES EARL RAY.

SUBJECT RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

2- Philadelphia
1- Memphis (44-1987) (INFO)
1- New York

JFS:jrf
(5)

1- SUPV. #23

44-1609-617

SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED a
INDEXED _____
FILED a



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Buffalo, New York 14202
June 5, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY, Also known
as Eric Starvo Galt

ASSASSINATION OF REV. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR., MEMPHIS,
TENNESSEE, April 4, 1968

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Alleged Plot
In New York City, New York, to
Harm or Kill a Prominent
Negro Woman

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS,
November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

On June 4, 1968, there was received at the Buffalo, New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, a letter, dated May 31, 1968 from TAYLOR CALDWELL, 34 Audley End, Buffalo (26), New York, the contents of which will be set forth below.

TAYLOR CALDWELL is a world famous novelist, whose true name is Mrs. JANET T. C. REBACK. She is referred to from time to time in news articles as an outspoken foe of Communism. She is known as and admits to be an inveterate letter writer. She has frequently engaged in literary battles with persons who opposed her private and public statements. Close associates have described her imagination as vivid, and many of her statements as tending toward exaggeration.

On one occasion, Miss CALDWELL wrote an article which appeared in the October, 1960, issue of "The American Mercury," in which she alleged that an unnamed, American-born distinguished professor, in one of the large universities, was a Communist. When an attempt was made by a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to arrange an interview

44-1608-618

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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JUN 7 1968	
FBI - NEW YORK	

JAMES EARL RAY, Also known
as Eric Starvo Galt

ASSASSINATION OF REV. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR., MEMPHIS,
TENNESSEE, April 4, 1968

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Alleged Plot
In New York City, New York, to
Harm or Kill a Prominent
Negro Woman

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS,
November 22, 1963

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with Miss CALDWELL concerning this story, her husband, MARCUS REBACK, a former official of the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service, and who scheduled appointments for Miss CALDWELL, stated it would serve no purpose for the Federal Bureau of Investigation to interview Miss CALDWELL regarding the article in "The American Mercury" because the unnamed professor was non-existent, a figment of Miss CALDWELL's imagination and a hypothetical situation employed by Miss CALDWELL to provoke public opinion.

On another occasion in September, 1964 when Miss CALDWELL was being interviewed by a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the presence of her husband concerning an occurrence she had brought to the attention of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Miss CALDWELL's husband flatly stated that the true circumstances of the occurrence were completely different from the version given by Miss CALDWELL, after which the latter materially modified her earlier statement.

The above mentioned letter received from Miss CALDWELL on June 4, 1968, reads as follows:

"As I am always wary of giving you any information which even vaguely sounds 'kooky' to me, I now deeply regret that I did not

JAMES EARL RAY, Also known
as Eric Starvo Galt

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inform you of something which my terrified Negro
businessman friend in New York wrote me last
October. It still disturbed me, however - though
it sounded very improbable - that I incorporated
it as a sort of warning in my article in the Buffalo
Evening News concerning events of 1968, earlier
this year, which you may have read, yourself. ESP
had nothing to do with that!

"He wrote me, if I remember accurately - as
I immediately destroy his letters at his urgent
request - that a meeting was held in New York
the latter part of last September, in which
plans were laid to 'throw the country into
chaos and revolution.' It was suggested that
a prominent Negro leader be assassinated, or at
least badly injured, in early 1968, 'as a start
to revolution.' He said that New York lawyer
and novelist, about whom I have written you
before, discussed this at length, and then re-
marked the matter would be given considerable
thought - later. My friend was not invited
'later,' for some reason or other which alarmed
him. But he was able to gether together a few
facts last October and write me about them.
He did not give me the source of his informa-
tion.

JAMES EARL RAY, Also known
as Eric Starvo Galt

ASSASSINATION OF REV. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR., MEMPHIS,
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"The man finally chosen was a white man, between the ages of 25 and 30, named Robert W---, some simple name such as Watson or Watkins or Wellock or Wilkins, from the vicinity of New Jersey, a crack shot, of fair complexion, light eyes either very light brown or blue-gray, medium brown hair, long thin face, very agile - and a 'Marxist.' My friends say you have had a dossier on him for several years in either New Jersey or New York. He followed Martin Luther King for several months before the assassination, which was scheduled for early March, not April, but the opportunity did not arise. 'They' wanted a larger city than Memphis, especially Washington. 'They' had thought of Carmichael or Brown, then settled on King. It was remarked that they had 'failed' with Mr. Kennedy, because they had thought to start nationwide riots against 'right wing extremists,' and a general blood-bath, and nothing happened. 'Only Oswald got caught,' they remarked, which led my friend to believe that others were implicated, too, in the Marxist assassination. Apparently 'they' don't believe in the Warren Commission Report, either, for good and sufficient reasons.

JAMES EARL RAY, Also known
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"Now he writes that 'something much worse' is
'going to happen soon.' He doesn't know what it
is, because he is being included less and less in
'conferences,' and is very frightened. He had
asked me to write you last October about the
planned assassination, and I did not, and he
now wonders 'if I can trust you.'

"He writes that a woman will be the focus-
point of the 'much worse,' and almost immediately,
but does not know who the woman is. She is a
Negro, however. He also writes that the man you
are looking for is working either in New Jersey or
'just outside of New York,' and is or was in the
Army and received a 'discharge without prejudice,'
whatever that means, though not an honorable dis-
charge. I thought they were the same. At any rate,
he is often in New York at 'conferences.' Then
it was decided to send him to Washington with the
'Poor People,' and is probably there now. (By the
way, he had accomplices in Memphis.)

"He never liked Martin Luther King, my friend
wrote last September, but reproaches me that if I
had written you in October you might have prevented
him from being murdered.

JAMES EARL RAY, Also known
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"This new information is also vague, but it may serve some purpose, though I don't see how. But remembering that letter of last October I thought it only right to let you know now. My friend also says that Mr. Johnson and Mr. Humphrey 'had better not' show themselves too openly in Washington, or be too available, in the very near future, but what threatens them he does not know. He just overheard 'hints.'"

"He fears, now, that he is suspected, so if you do any investigation on this information, don't try to find him or question him. He has a family. I know I will do all I can to protect him.

"Sincerely,

"(Miss) /s/ Taylor Caldwell

"P.S. My poor husband now lies at the point of death in the hospital - where he has been since March, 1967 - after he was attacked in our house by two of Earl Warren's pampered thugs. He is completely shattered in body and mind. He was a most brilliant man, and he has now become a confused, wandering, disoriented old shadow, and is unable even to feed himself or even to sit up, and is attended constantly

JAMES EARL RAY, Also known
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by private nurses. I brought a specialist from New York to see him recently, a Dr. Donald Louria; he told me frankly that my husband's destruction of mind and body had led to his present dying condition. If I knew who the thugs were I'd kill them, myself, so that some 'rule' of Earl Warren's would not set them free again to murder over and over.

"N.B. By the way, the Internal Revenue Service Center at Andover, Mass., has been opening letters addressed to me from all over the country, and then stamping the envelope: 'Opened by mistake.' I thought they were genuine 'mistakes,' and threw away all letters but one - and you may see it if you wish. For instance, how could a letter addressed to me by a fan from Syracuse, N.Y., find its way to Andover, Mass.? That was the one I kept. I can't imagine what the rascals are up to, but I have long had reason to suspect them, as files in your office will show."

On June 4, 1968, a telephone call was made to Miss CALDWELL by a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, requesting an interview with her for any additional details she might be able to furnish in connection with the contents of the above letter.

JAMES EARL RAY, Also known
as Eric Starvo Galt

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Miss CALDWELL stated she is extremely busy and upset, that her husband is at the brink of death in the hospital, that she is in the midst of preparing two speeches for delivery in California later this month, and that she would have no time for a personal interview for at least two weeks or perhaps longer. She stated all the facts known to her are set forth in her letter. She pointed out that under no circumstances would she disclose the identity of the friend who had supplied her with the information set forth in the letter. She said she no longer has any of his letters because in keeping with a promise made to him, she burns them immediately after reading them.

When asked for the name of the New York lawyer she mentions in the second paragraph of her letter, Miss CALDWELL replied that this lawyer's name is WILLIAM KUNSTLER, adding she had previously advised the Federal Bureau of Investigation that KUNSTLER in her opinion is a Communist.

Miss CALDWELL was then asked if she could furnish any data on the source of her information which would aid in evaluating the reliability of this source. She then replied she has never met this source, but that he is a person who started writing to her about five years ago after reading one of her books. He has

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described himself in his letters as a Negro businessman who owns a business in Harlem. He has written to Miss CALDWELL from four or five different addresses, which she states indicates to her that he has had to move around for fear of his life. She has written back to him on several occasions, and two or three of her letters were returned to her marked "Unknown at this address," but most of her letters were delivered. On several occasions when she knew she was going to be in New York City, she wrote to her friend requesting that he come to see her at her hotel, but he never came. She recalled that one address he had given her was somewhere on West 114th Street.

Miss CALDWELL added she believes her friend is a member of the John Birch Society, because he has made reference frequently to articles she has written for the publication of this society entitled "American Opinion." She added that when this man first started writing to her, the letters were merely friendly and pleasant, expressing admiration of her writing and dealing with general political observations of World War I and World War II. However, commencing in the Fall of 1967, he began writing about his knowledge of the assassination plot of a prominent Negro leader, ultimately designated as Rev. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

JAMES EARL RAY, Also known
as Eric Starvo Galt

ASSASSINATION OF REV. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR., MEMPHIS,
TENNESSEE, April 4, 1968

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Alleged Plot
In New York City, New York, to
Harm or Kill a Prominent
Negro Woman

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS,
November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

She said her first reaction was that his statements along this line sounded "kooky" so she ignored them, except for the fact that in a newspaper article she wrote in October, 1967, which was not published until February, 1968, and in which she made a predication of major events to occur in 1968, she did predict the assassination of a prominent Negro leader, being influenced in this predication by what her friend had written to her.

Miss CALDWELL was then asked whether she would suggest to her friend that he contact the Federal Bureau of Investigation in New York City. She replied she knows he would not do so, because he had written to her in the past that about four years ago he had contacted the Federal Bureau of Investigation to furnish information that "an FBI under-cover agent in an organization" was under suspicion. However, according to the friend, the Federal Bureau of Investigation wanted more and more information, so he broke off contact with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The friend also claimed that shortly after contacting the Federal Bureau of Investigation, he had begun to receive anonymous threatening letters, making him realize that his contacts with the Federal Bureau of Investigation had been observed. Miss CALDWELL stated that based on the letters received from her friend, she believes him to be a very intelligent man, but who is now completely terrified by the plot of which he is aware and also apparently by the fear that

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he himself is under suspicion, as indicated by a comment
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Miss CALDWELL stated at one point in the
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Miss CALDWELL then proceeded to state that
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Miss CALDWELL continued by stating her husband's critical condition and the resultant "messing up" of her own life is all the fault of "Warren of the Supreme Court who let all those criminals loose," and made it possible for them to viciously attack her husband and rob their house.

In this connection, it is noted that according to articles which appeared in the local press, two armed men had broken into Miss CALDWELL's residence on March 20, 1967 when she, her husband, and their housekeeper were all present, had demanded jewelry, and beaten and attempted to smother Miss CALDWELL, but then had fled empty-handed.

On March 27, 1967, Miss CALDWELL had written a letter to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in which she related the circumstances of the above break-in, and in which she stated that the man who had seized her husband at the time of the break-in had forced him down on the stairs with a gun at his back, but "made no effort to otherwise hurt my husband." Miss CALDWELL in the letter said she believed the objective of the break-in had not been robbery, but an attempt to kill her because of her anti-Communist activity.

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In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Buffalo, New York 14202
June 5, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY, Also known
as Eric Starvo Galt

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On June 4, 1968, there was received at the Buffalo, New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, a letter, dated May 31, 1968 from TAYLOR CALDWELL, 34 Audley End, Buffalo (26), New York, the contents of which will be set forth below.

TAYLOR CALDWELL is a world famous novelist, whose true name is Mrs. JANET T. C. REBACK. She is referred to from time to time in news articles as an outspoken foe of Communism. She is known as and admits to be an inveterate letter writer. She has frequently engaged in literary battles with persons who opposed her private and public statements. Close associates have described her imagination as vivid, and many of her statements as tending toward exaggeration.

On one occasion, Miss CALDWELL wrote an article which appeared in the October, 1960, issue of "The American Mercury," in which she alleged that an unnamed, American-born distinguished professor, in one of the large universities, was a Communist. When an attempt was made by a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to arrange an interview

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with Miss CALDWELL concerning this story, her husband, MARCUS REBACK, a former official of the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service, and who scheduled appointments for Miss CALDWELL, stated it would serve no purpose for the Federal Bureau of Investigation to interview Miss CALDWELL regarding the article in "The American Mercury" because the unnamed professor was non-existent, a figment of Miss CALDWELL's imagination and a hypothetical situation employed by Miss CALDWELL to provoke public opinion.

On another occasion in September, 1964 when Miss CALDWELL was being interviewed by a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the presence of her husband concerning an occurrence she had brought to the attention of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Miss CALDWELL's husband flatly stated that the true circumstances of the occurrence were completely different from the version given by Miss CALDWELL, after which the latter materially modified her earlier statement.

The above mentioned letter received from Miss CALDWELL on June 4, 1968, reads as follows:

"As I am always wary of giving you any information which even vaguely sounds 'kooky' to me, I now deeply regret that I did not

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inform you of something which my terrified Negro
businessman friend in New York wrote me last
October. It still disturbed me, however - though
it sounded very improbable - that I incorporated
it as a sort of warning in my article in the Buffalo
Evening News concerning events of 1968, earlier
this year, which you may have read, yourself. ESP
had nothing to do with that!

"He wrote me, if I remember accurately - as
I immediately destroy his letters at his urgent
request - that a meeting was held in New York
the latter part of last September, in which
plans were laid to 'throw the country into
chaos and revolution.' It was suggested that
a prominent Negro leader be assassinated, or at
least badly injured, in early 1968, 'as a start
to revolution.' He said that New York lawyer
and novelist, about whom I have written you
before, discussed this at length, and then re-
marked the matter would be given considerable
thought - later. My friend was not invited
'later,' for some reason or other which alarmed
him. But he was able to get together a few
facts last October and write me about them.
He did not give me the source of his informa-
tion.

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"The man finally chosen was a white man, between the ages of 25 and 30, named Robert W---, some simple name such as Watson or Watkins or Wellock or Wilkins, from the vicinity of New Jersey, a crack shot, of fair complexion, light eyes either very light brown or blue-gray, medium brown hair, long thin face, very agile - and a 'Marxist.' My friends say you have had a dossier on him for several years in either New Jersey or New York. He followed Martin Luther King for several months before the assassination, which was scheduled for early March, not April, but the opportunity did not arise. 'They' wanted a larger city than Memphis, especially Washington. 'They' had thought of Carmichael or Brown, then settled on King. It was remarked that they had 'failed' with Mr. Kennedy, because they had thought to start nationwide riots against 'right wing extremists,' and a general blood-bath, and nothing happened. 'Only Oswald got caught,' they remarked, which led my friend to believe that others were implicated, too, in the Marxist assassination. Apparently 'they' don't believe in the Warren Commission Report, either, for good and sufficient reasons.

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"Now he writes that 'something much worse' is
'going to happen soon.' He doesn't know what it
is, because he is being included less and less in
'conferences,' and is very frightened. He had
asked me to write you last October about the
planned assassination, and I did not, and he
now wonders 'if I can trust you.'

"He writes that a woman will be the focus-
point of the 'much worse,' and almost immediately,
but does not know who the woman is. She is a
Negro, however. He also writes that the man you
are looking for is working either in New Jersey or
'just outside of New York,' and is or was in the
Army and received a 'discharge without prejudice,'
whatever that means, though not an honorable dis-
charge. I thought they were the same. At any rate,
he is often in New York at 'conferences.' Then
it was decided to send him to Washington with the
'Poor People,' and is probably there now. (By the
way, he had accomplices in Memphis.)

"He never liked Martin Luther King, my friend
wrote last September, but reproaches me that if I
had written you in October you might have prevented
him from being murdered.

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"This new information is also vague, but it may serve some purpose, though I don't see how. But remembering that letter of last October I thought it only right to let you know now. My friend also says that Mr. Johnson and Mr. Humphrey 'had better not' show themselves too openly in Washington, or be too available, in the very near future, but what threatens them he does not know. He just overheard 'hints.'"

"He fears, now, that he is suspected, so if you do any investigation on this information, don't try to find him or question him. He has a family. I know I will do all I can to protect him.

"Sincerely,

"(Miss) /s/ Taylor Caldwell

"P.S. My poor husband now lies at the point of death in the hospital - where he has been since March, 1967 - after he was attacked in our house by two of Earl Warren's pampered thugs. He is completely shattered in body and mind. He was a most brilliant man, and he has now become a confused, wandering, disoriented old shadow, and is unable even to feed himself or even to sit up, and is attended constantly

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by private nurses. I brought a specialist from New York to see him recently, a Dr. Donald Louria; he told me frankly that my husband's destruction of mind and body had led to his present dying condition. If I knew who the thugs were I'd kill them, myself, so that some 'rule' of Earl Warren's would not set them free again to murder over and over.

"N.B. By the way, the Internal Revenue Service Center at Andover, Mass., has been opening letters addressed to me from all over the country, and then stamping the envelope: 'Opened by mistake.' I thought they were genuine 'mistakes,' and threw away all letters but one - and you may see it if you wish. For instance, how could a letter addressed to me by a fan from Syracuse, N.Y., find its way to Andover, Mass.? That was the one I kept. I can't imagine what the rascals are up to, but I have long had reason to suspect them, as files in your office will show."

On June 4, 1968, a telephone call was made to Miss CALDWELL by a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, requesting an interview with her for any additional details she might be able to furnish in connection with the contents of the above letter.

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Miss CALDWELL stated she is extremely busy and upset, that her husband is at the brink of death in the hospital, that she is in the midst of preparing two speeches for delivery in California later this month, and that she would have no time for a personal interview for at least two weeks or perhaps longer. She stated all the facts known to her are set forth in her letter. She pointed out that under no circumstances would she disclose the identity of the friend who had supplied her with the information set forth in the letter. She said she no longer has any of his letters because in keeping with a promise made to him, she burns them immediately after reading them.

When asked for the name of the New York lawyer she mentions in the second paragraph of her letter, Miss CALDWELL replied that this lawyer's name is WILLIAM KUNSTLER, adding she had previously advised the Federal Bureau of Investigation that KUNSTLER in her opinion is a Communist.

Miss CALDWELL was then asked if she could furnish any data on the source of her information which would aid in evaluating the reliability of this source. She then replied she has never met this source, but that he is a person who started writing to her about five years ago after reading one of her books. He has

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described himself in his letters as a Negro businessman who owns a business in Harlem. He has written to Miss CALDWELL from four or five different addresses, which she states indicates to her that he has had to move around for fear of his life. She has written back to him on several occasions, and two or three of her letters were returned to her marked "Unknown at this address," but most of her letters were delivered. On several occasions when she knew she was going to be in New York City, she wrote to her friend requesting that he come to see her at her hotel, but he never came. She recalled that one address he had given her was somewhere on West 114th Street.

Miss CALDWELL added she believes her friend is a member of the John Birch Society, because he has made reference frequently to articles she has written for the publication of this society entitled "American Opinion." She added that when this man first started writing to her, the letters were merely friendly and pleasant, expressing admiration of her writing and dealing with general political observations of World War I and World War II. However, commencing in the Fall of 1967, he began writing about his knowledge of the assassination plot of a prominent Negro leader, ultimately designated as Rev. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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In this connection, it is noted that according to articles which appeared in the local press, two armed men had broken into Miss CALDWELL's residence on March 20, 1967 when she, her husband, and their housekeeper were all present, had demanded jewelry, and beaten and attempted to smother Miss CALDWELL, but then had fled empty-handed.

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F B I

Date: 6/5/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
 FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (44-374) (P)
 MURKIN
 (OO Memphis)

UNSUBS; Alleged Plot in
 New York City, New York,
 to Harm or Kill a Prominent
 Negro Woman

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
 FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS,
 TEXAS, 11/22/63

POCAM
 CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY

There are enclosed herewith for Bureau 10
 copies of an LHM setting out a letter received at
 Buffalo Office on 6/4/68 from TAYLOR CALDWELL, which

- 6 - Bureau (Enc. 12) (RM)
 - (1 - 62-10960) (ASSASSINATION OF PRES.
J. F. KENNEDY)
 - (1 - 100-106670) (WILLIAM MOSES KUNSTLER)
 - (1 - 157-8428) (POCAM)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 2) (RM)
- ③ - New York (Enc. 3) (RM)
 - (1 - 100-146994) (WILLIAM MOSES KUNSTLER)
- 5 - Buffalo
 - (1 - 62-1827) (ASSAS. OF PRES. J. F. KENNEDY)
 - (1 - 62-1305) (Mrs. JANET REBACK)
 - (1 - 157-623) (POCAM)

TJS:cah
 (16)

44-1609-619

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 1968	
FBI - NEW YORK	

PS

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

BU 44-374

deals with all four captioned matters. Two copies of LHM are enclosed for Memphis as OO in MURKIN case, and three copies of LHM are enclosed for New York, since it is alleged locus of plots set forth, with one of these copies being for New York file on WILLIAM MOSES KUNSTLER.

For info of Bureau, information previously received on various matters from TAYLOR CALDWELL has been set forth in following communications to Bureau:

- (1) Buffalo let to Bureau, 7/23/62, captioned "AMERICAN NAZI PARTY, RM."
- (2) Buffalo let to Bureau, 8/15/63, captioned "MRS. JANET T. C. REBACK, aka, INFO CONCERNING."
- (3) Buffalo let to Bureau, 12/18/63, captioned "TAYLOR CALDWELL, aka, INFORMATION CONCERNING."
- (4) Buffalo let to Bureau, 9/16/64, captioned "WILLIAM KUNTZLER, aka, SM-C," (Bureau file 100-106670).
- (5) Buffalo let to Bureau, 4/30/65, captioned "TAYLOR CALDWELL, aka, INFO CONCERNING."
- (6) Buffalo let to Bureau, 10/27/65, captioned "TAYLOR CALDWELL, aka, INFO CONCERNING."
- (7) Buffalo airtel to Bureau, 11/18/66, captioned "ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY, 11/22/63, DALLAS, TEXAS."

These communications have been itemized so Bureau itself can better evaluate Miss CALDWELL and information furnished by her.

The above communications and a review of Buffalo Office files reflect that TAYLOR CALDWELL (whose true name is Mrs. JANET T. C. REBACK) is a world famous novelist, that she is an inveterate letter writer, possessed of a vivid imagination, and is inclined to intermingle fact with fiction indiscriminately; that she is prone to carry on literary battles through the mails and in publications

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with various and sundry persons throughout the world; and that she has a proclivity for furnishing information to other government agencies in addition to the FBI.

The information set forth in the LHM is being furnished to the Bureau and interested Offices, principally because of the serious nature of the charges, Miss CALDWELL's prominent position, and the possibility that she may at some future time claim she furnished pertinent information to the FBI, which received no attention.

Buffalo is making no local dissemination of the LHM, and whether or not any dissemination should be made at Washington, D.C., is being left to the discretion of the Bureau.

No action, other than possible dissemination at the Seat of Government to Secret Service because of intimation of threats of harm to President JOHNSON and Vice President HUMPHREY included in the material furnished by Miss CALDWELL, is recommended, on the basis that prior experience with Miss CALDWELL reflects she is unreliable and possibly demented. It would appear that a person in her position would place the welfare of the U.S. above an alleged loyalty to a correspondent, whom she has never met, and that she would disclose the identity of her correspondent so he could be located and questioned if he does, in fact, exist and if he did in fact send her the information she claims to have received.

It is pointed out that in the telephonic interview conducted with Miss CALDWELL by SA THADDEUS J. SZYMANSKI on 6/4/68, it was suggested to her that in the future she send any letters received from her friend to the FBI, deleting his signature if she feels so obligated, but so the FBI would have his exact wording for purposes of evaluation. She first replied this would be a violation of her promise to destroy her friend's letters. She then stated possibly she could Xerox the letters, and send the Xerox copies to the FBI, and then destroy the originals, which would mean she was honoring her promise. Finally, she stated that doing this would bother her conscience, and that anyway she felt her friend would not write anymore because he sounded

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so terrified in his last letter. Miss CALDWELL's responses throughout the telephonic interview of 6/4/68 emphasized her unwillingness to be interviewed in person concerning this matter, and reflected a desire on her part to go into great detail on extraneous matters rather than on the alleged plots.

It is acknowledged by the Buffalo Office that there is considerable detail in the LHM dealing with Miss CALDWELL herself and prior FBI experiences with her. It is felt this data is essential to an appropriate evaluation of the serious charges contained in her letter should the Bureau feel compelled to disseminate the LHM.

Unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau, the Buffalo Office will make no further effort to personally interview Miss CALDWELL re instant matters, and will simply acknowledge receipt of any further data from her in this matter without incorporating the information into LHMs for the Bureau.

F B I

Date: 6/5/68

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(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL - REGISTERED
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (44-374) (P)

✓ MURKIN
✓ (OO Memphis)

44-16098 #28

✓ UNSUBS; Alleged Plot in
✓ New York City, New York,
✓ to Harm or Kill a Prominent
Negro Woman✓ ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
✓ FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS,
TEXAS, 11/22/63✓ POCAM
✓ CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY

There are enclosed herewith for Bureau 10
copies of an LHM setting out a letter received at
Buffalo Office on 6/4/68 from TAYLOR CALDWELL, which

- 6 - Bureau (Enc. 12) (RM)
 (1 - 62-10960) (ASSASSINATION OF PRES.
 J. F. KENNEDY)
 (1 - 100-106670) (WILLIAM MOSES KUNSTLER)
 (1 - 157-8428) (POCAM)
 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 2) (RM)
 3 - New York (Enc. 3) (RM)
 (1 - 100-146994) (WILLIAM MOSES KUNSTLER)
 5 - Buffalo
 (1 - 62-1827) (ASSAS. OF PRES. J. F. KENNEDY)
 (1 - 62-1305) (Mrs. JANET REBACK)
 (1 - 157-623) (POCAM)

TJS:cah
(16)

44-1609-69

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FBI - NEW YORK	

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

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deals with all four captioned matters. Two copies of LHM are enclosed for Memphis as OO in MURKIN case, and three copies of LHM are enclosed for New York, since it is alleged locus of plots set forth, with one of these copies being for New York file on WILLIAM MCSES KUNSTLER.

For info of Bureau, information previously received on various matters from TAYLOR CALDWELL has been set forth in following communications to Bureau:

- (1) Buffalo let to Bureau, 7/23/62, captioned "AMERICAN NAZI PARTY, RM."
- (2) Buffalo let to Bureau, 8/15/63, captioned "MRS. JANET T. C. REBACK, aka, INFO CONCERNING."
- (3) Buffalo let to Bureau, 12/18/63, captioned "TAYLOR CALDWELL, aka, INFORMATION CONCERNING."
- (4) Buffalo let to Bureau, 9/16/64, captioned "WILLIAM KUNTZLER, aka, SM-C," (Bureau file 100-106670).
- (5) Buffalo let to Bureau, 4/30/65, captioned "TAYLOR CALDWELL, aka, INFO CONCERNING."
- (6) Buffalo let to Bureau, 10/27/65, captioned "TAYLOR CALDWELL, aka, INFO CONCERNING."
- (7) Buffalo airtel to Bureau, 11/18/66, captioned "ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY, 11/22/63, DALLAS, TEXAS."

These communications have been itemized so Bureau itself can better evaluate Miss CALDWELL and information furnished by her.

The above communications and a review of Buffalo Office files reflect that TAYLOR CALDWELL (whose true name is Mrs. JANET T. C. REBACK) is a world famous novelist, that she is an inveterate letter writer, possessed of a vivid imagination, and is inclined to intermingle fact with fiction indiscriminately; that she is prone to carry on literary battles through the mails and in publications

Ref.

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with various and sundry persons throughout the world; and that she has a proclivity for furnishing information to other government agencies in addition to the FBI.

The information set forth in the LHM is being furnished to the Bureau and interested Offices, principally because of the serious nature of the charges, Miss CALDWELL's prominent position, and the possibility that she may at some future time claim she furnished pertinent information to the FBI, which received no attention.

Buffalo is making no local dissemination of the LHM, and whether or not any dissemination should be made at Washington, D.C., is being left to the discretion of the Bureau.

No action, other than possible dissemination at the Seat of Government to Secret Service because of intimation of threats of harm to President JOHNSON and Vice President HUMPHREY included in the material furnished by Miss CALDWELL, is recommended, on the basis that prior experience with Miss CALDWELL reflects she is unreliable and possibly demented. It would appear that a person in her position would place the welfare of the U.S. above an alleged loyalty to a correspondent, whom she has never met, and that she would disclose the identity of her correspondent so he could be located and questioned if he does, in fact, exist and if he did in fact send her the information she claims to have received.

It is pointed out that in the telephonic interview conducted with Miss CALDWELL by SA THADDEUS J. SZYMANSKI on 6/4/68, it was suggested to her that in the future she send any letters received from her friend to the FBI, deleting his signature if she feels so obligated, but so the FBI would have his exact wording for purposes of evaluation. She first replied this would be a violation of her promise to destroy her friend's letters. She then stated possibly she could Xerox the letters, and send the Xerox copies to the FBI, and then destroy the originals, which would mean she was honoring her promise. Finally, she stated that doing this would bother her conscience, and that anyway she felt her friend would not write anymore because he sounded

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so terrified in his last letter. Miss CALDWELL's responses throughout the telephonic interview of 6/4/68 emphasized her unwillingness to be interviewed in person concerning this matter, and reflected a desire on her part to go into great detail on extraneous matters rather than on the alleged plots.

It is acknowledged by the Buffalo Office that there is considerable detail in the LHM dealing with Miss CALDWELL herself and prior FBI experiences with her. It is felt this data is essential to an appropriate evaluation of the serious charges contained in her letter should the Bureau feel compelled to disseminate the LHM.

Unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau, the Buffalo Office will make no further effort to personally interview Miss CALDWELL re instant matters, and will simply acknowledge receipt of any further data from her in this matter without incorporating the information into LHMs for the Bureau.

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

6/6/68

SAC, WFO (44-703) (P)

MURKIN

Re One hundred dollar bet on KING's life.

Re NY teletype 4/24/68; WFO teletype 4/29/68.

Enclosed for Memphis are 15 copies of IRF re interview of ROBERT ROULSTON.

WFO conducting no further investigation.

NY furnish ~~ME~~ predication for interview.

*Re NY tel was sent to
Memphis & is self explanatory*

2 - Memphis (Enc. 15)
② - New York (44-1609)
1 WFO
RWD
(5)

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SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

6/6/68

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