

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

ALL SENIOR RESIDENT AGENTS

DATE: 4/12/68

SAC, RICHMOND (44-657) - P

SUBJECT:

MURKIN (OO:MEMPHIS) Memphis 44-1987 Burīle 44-38861 Birmingham 44-1740

This is the case involving the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. on 4/4/68, at Memphis, Tennessee.

The Bureau has instructed:

- NO INDICATION TO BE GIVEN THAT THESE LEADS ARE IN CONJUNCTION WITH MURKIN CASE.
- THIS CASE MUST BE GIVEN TOP PRIORITY AND ALL LEADS MUST HÉ COVERED BY TELETYPE TO THOROUGHLY RESOLVE.

The pertinent dates in this investigation are 3/29 - 30/68 when suspect purchased murder weapon at Birmingham, Alabama, and 4/4/68 at 6 P.M., which is time of shooting in Memphis, Tennessee. If suspect cannot be eliminated by dates, efforts should be made to obtain photographs and send to Memphis and Birmingham.

Fingerprints of UNSUB are also available and it may be necessary to send fingerprints to Bureau for elimination purposes.

- l SA JESSE C. HALL, JR.
- 1 SA DEAN W. GASTETGER
- 1 SA JOHN G. MC CARTHY
- 1 SA MELVIN J. YANCEY
- 1 SA JOSEPH A. AMRHEIN, JR.
- 1 SA CLARK L. NEWTON. 1 SA JOHN A. ERWIN
- 1 SA LAURENCE E. WESCOTT
- 1 SA FREDERICK A. COOK
- 1 SA HAROLD P. SETTLE
- 1 SA WILLIAM H. THOMAS

2; - Richmond (44-657)

-REB/vlr

(13)

SEARCHED . SERIALIZED APR 1 0 1968 FBI - RICHMOND

The following is a composite description of the UNSUB:

Race Sex Age Height Weight Hair

White Male 26 - 40

5'8" - 5'11" 150 - 170 lbs.

Dark brown or sandy, combed

Eyes Build Complexion Appearance straight back Blue or green Medium

Average, smooth

Neat

RE: HARVEY LOWMEYER OR LOWMYER

It has been determined that a rifle abandoned near scene of the crime was purchased by individual using the name HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER, who is generally described as a white male, age 36, height - 5'8", weight - 150 to 160 lbs., hair black or dark brown.

The Bureau has instructed that in view of the unusual nature of the names, LOWMEYER or LOWMYER, that all Offices should immediately conduct certain checks on the surnames LOWMEYER or LOWMYER, not confining the check to HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER.

The checks directed to be made which have not been handled through Richmond Headquarters are as follows:

- (1) All City Directories
- (2) Voter Registration Records
- (3) Credit and Criminal Records

Any individuals identified from these checks as bearing the surname LOWMEYER or LOWMYER should be immediately checked out covering the pertinent period.

RE: ERIC STARVO GALT

The Bureau has advised that investigation has established that an individual using the name ERIC STARVO GALT was in Memphis Tennessee, on 4/4/68, reportedly driving a 1966 white Mustang with 1968 Alabama license 1-38993. The Bureau has further indicated that this individual is considered a prime suspect in this murder. The 1966 Mustang has been located in Atlanta, Georgia.

Concerning this name and individual, the Bureau has instructed considerable investigation be conducted which is set out below excluding investigation that has been and is being handled in Headquarters City:

Immediately check all City Directories, all financial institutions, conduct credit and criminal checks and contact other logical sources to obtain any information whatsoever resuspect, GALT.

Concerning the contacting of financial institutions, the following banks and their branches are being handled at Headquarters City:

The Bank of Virginia
First and Merchants National Bank
State Planters Bank of Commerce and Trusts

Senior RAs should assure expeditious handling of above contacts and immediately check out any individuals identified from these contacts for the pertinent periods.

Senior RAs will parcel out the leads necessary to handle thi matter. Each SRA will correlate within their territories and return all results at one time and not piecemeal.

AIRTEL

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM:

SAC, WFO (44-703)

MURKIN - CR 44-657#

ReWFO telephone call to RH (Alexandria RA) 4/11/68.

At 9:10 p.m., 4/10/68, Corporal J. E. O'CONMER, Pairfax County, Va., Police Dept., advised SA O. M. SMASAL he had learned the following from RUBY DANSBY, 9100 Richmond Highway, Ft. Belvoir, Va., who operates The Belvoir Grill, at this address, telephone 781-5841; that earlier in the evening, a man had been in The Belvoir Grill and he appeared to be a "dead ringer" of the individual whose composite picture she had seen of the subject wanted for the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr. O'CONMER stated that DANSBY had described this man as a white male, 5'7" to 5'8", sandy graying hair, thin line mustache, wearing a brown pin-strip suit and a red-blue plaid flannel shirt. She said that the man had no luggage and as far as she could ascertain, he was on foot. In conversation with this individual, DANSBY said he told her he was from Knexville and was hitchbiking to Fla.

3 - Bureau

2 - Richmond

2 - Memphis (44-1987)

1 - WPO

RWD:hs

(8)

AIRTEL.

APR 12 1968
FBI— RICHMOND

WFO 44-703

Officer O'CONNOR stated he checked out the area, but was unable to locate the individual described by DANSBY.

Officer O'CONNOR stated that DANSBY had set aside the dinner utensils that the unknown man had used at the grill.

RH obtain the dinner utensils and submit to Laboratory for fingerprint comparison.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

MURKIN case 44-657

notified the Richmond Office

The Washington Field Office telephonically advised the Alexandria, Virginia Resident Agency on April 11, 1968 that they had received a telephone call from a MR. JAMES G.L.HOWARD 7115 Leesville Boulevard in Springfield, Virginia on the night of April 10, 1968 advising that he observed x man the driver of a green Volkswagen bearing North Carolina license BY-7044 who resembled the artist's sketch of the assassin of MARTIN LUTHER KING. He advised that this individual was observed in the vicinity of Gallows Road and Route 50 in Fairfax, Virginia.

The license number was determined to be registered to a JOHN LEWIS CAMPHANE of 10027 Mosby Woods Drive in Fairfax, Virginia according to the records of the Division of Motor Vehicles located at Charlotte, North Carolina.

Special Agent ROLAND M. COCKER conducted the following investigation on April 11, 1968: MR. and MRS. BERNARD SEXTON, apartment 321 at 10027 Mosby Woods Drive advised that JOHN LEWES and PENELOPE CHAMPAGNE reside in apartment 322 at this address and are closely acquainted with the SEXTONS. They both advised that MR. and MRS. CHAMPAGNE have resided here since September 1967 and he is a student at American University working towards his Master's Degree and they know that neither MR. or MRS. CHAMPAGNE have left the area during their residence here. When shown the artist's conception of the assassin, MR. and MRS. SEXTON advised that they did not think there was any resemblance. They commented that MR. CHAMPAGNE has a conspicuous facial scar extending from his lip caused from an accident a number of years ago.

MR. JOHN LEWIS CHAMPAGNE and his wife were thereafter interviewed and advised that they have resided in this apartment since September, 1967 and have not been out of the State since. CHAMPAGNE was born July 15, 1939 at Springfield, Massachusetts, received an honorable discharge from the U.S. Army as a Captain, Serial Number 05322368 after serving from January 3, 1964 through August, 1967. He was employed with the Defense Intelligence Agency at Arlington Hall, Arlington, Virginia from SEARCHED INDEXED SERICHED THROUGH THR

Through observation and interview, CHAMPAGNE is described as a white male, $6!1\frac{1}{2}"$, left weight 195 pounds, brown eyes and hair, 3" scar from/corner of lip.

above
No additional investigation being conducted re CHAMPAGNE in view of/investigation
and variance with the description of the assassin.

Barritt

4/11/68

AIRTEL

:OF

SAC. MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM:

SAC, DALLAS (44-2649) (P)

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

Re San Francisco teletype 4/19/68.

Enclosed to Memphis are nine copies of investigative insert reflecting investigation conducted in Dallas, Texas. Also enclosed for Memphis is a Xerox copy concerning passengers who boarded American Airlines flight 296 at 1:20 PM, 3/28/68, in Dallas. It is noted Mr. G. AHRENS, apparently identical with GRANT AHRENS, was a coach passenger and accordingly it appears passengers who sat in the immediate vicinity of him were also coach passengers. Coach passengers are listed on the enclosed beginning with the name of Mr. AHRENS, those above being first class passengers.

Investigation disclosed no names of military persons appear on the enclosed list, however, two persons were on "stand-by" and did board the flight in Dallas. Both were destined for Louisville. One was Sgt. (illegible possibly REYNOLDS or REVNORES), the other one FARRIS, rank and service not indicated. It is further observed that the fenale Captain in the Afghanistan Army is not identifiable from the list enclosed. Agent was informed that the numbers to the immediate rights of the names of the individuals on the list are identifying information in a computer at the Briar Cliff Computer System, New York City. Such information will show in most cases the full data concerning reservations made by the respective persons, including contact telephone numbers and/or addresses.

It is being left to the discretion of Memphis whether this investigative lead is worthy of being pursued further in this regard.

2 - Memphis (Enc. 10)

- Louisville

2 - Dallas

MCC/sgl

(6)

Con S

DL 44-2649

It is suggested with respect to military personnel, that Louisville Office might check records of airlines out of Louisville to Richmond, Virginia, following the arrival of American Airlines flight 296 on 3/28/68, in an effort to identify the Airman who reportedly sat next to AMRENS. It is further suggested that Louisville at Fort Enox, Kentucky, might successfully identify the female Afghanistan Army Captain, perhaps more easily than through information from the airlines.

Memphis note 71 persons reportedly boarded the plane at Memphis.

Dallas Office will not pursue this matter further unless advised by Memphis.

April 11, 1968

PLAIN TEXT

AIR-TEL

Parrill

TO:

SAC, WASHINGTON FIELD

FROM:

SAC. PITTSBURGH (44-578)

44-657

MURKIN

CR

OO: MEMPHIS

RE - Confirming Pittsburgh phone call to Washington Field, 4-10-68.

At 5:00 P.M., 4-10-68, Captain NELSON PADEN, Huntington, W.Va. Police Department, telephonically advised that a reliable negro male informant of his, a taxi driver, had just taken a man to the Huntington Airport, where he boarded flight 702 of Eastern Airlines leaving Huntington 4:30 P.M., with stops at Charleston, Washington, D.C., and Allentown-Scranton.

Captain PADEN stated his informant had that day read in the Huntington newspapers a description of the man known as JOHN WILLARD and he believed that his passenger fit this description.

The following is a description furnished to Captain PADEN by his informant/the man he picked up near the Job-Corps Center in Huntington and took to the Airport:

Race

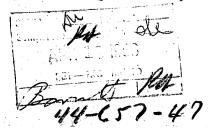
Sex Age:

Height

White Male 36 years 5', 7 to 8"

(Capt. PADEN realized that the news item described him as much taller but pointed out that his informant is quite short and for this reason still felt he should report this)

2-Washington Field 1-Memphis 1-Richmond 1-Pittsburgh IDM/MMJ (5)



April 11, 1968

PG. #44-578

Weight Build Hair

Attire

Peculiarities

180 pounds
Stocky
Sandy, brownish - Combed back
receding forehead
Blue suit, tan trench coat with
checkered lining
Carrying an attache case
Large, prominent nose

Inasmuch as the next stop that this plane could be contacted was Washington, D.C. the above information was telephonically furnished to Supervisor ELMER TODD at the Washington Field Office.

4/11/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO:

DIRECTOR AND SAC, CHARLOTTE

FROM:

SAC, WFO (44-703)

MURKIN - CR 44-657*

JAMES G. L. HOWARD, SEVEN ONE ONE FIVE LEESVILLE

BOULEVARD, SPRINGFIELD, VIRGINIA, TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED WFO

NIGHT OF APRIL TEN, LAST, THAT ABOUT EIGHT A.M., APRIL TEN,

LAST, HE OBSERVED INDIVIDUAL RESEMBLING ARTIST SKETCH OF

UNKNOWN SUBJECT IN A GREEN VOLKSWAGEN, NORTH CAROLINA LICENSE

BY SEVEN ZERO FOUR FOUR AT GALLOWS ROAD AND ROUTE FIFTY, FAIRFAX,

VIRGINIA. CAR PROCEEDED WEST ON ROUTE FIFTY.

CHARLOTTE OBTAIN IDENTITY OF REGISTERED OWNER ABOVE CAR AND SET FORTH LEADS TO PROCESS DRIVER.

AIRMAIL COPIES TO RICHMOND AND MEMPHIS FOR INFORMATION.

A AND D. P.

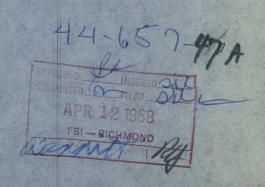
2 - Bureau

2 - Teletype Unit

1 - Memphis (Info) (AM)
7 - Richmond (Info) (AM)

2 - WFO

RWD:hs (8)



4/12/68

PLAIN TEXT

DIRECTOR, FBI; SACS MEMPHIS AND TAMPA

FROM SAC, NEWARK (44-854) (P)

STYP

MURKIN 44-657*

ON APRIL TWELVE INSTANT, ROBERT SCHLICK, LAVALETTE, N.J.,
ADVISED THAT MORRIS CLAYTON SKAGGS WORKED FOR HIM WHEN BOTH
WERE EMPLOYED BY BIRDSELL CONSULTING ENGINEERS, BELMAR, N. J.
SCHLICK HAS NOT SEEN SKAGGS FOR OVER ONE YEAR. ON TWO FIVE
LAST, HE RECEIVED A LETTER FROM ARK. HIGHWAY DEPT. REQUESTING
A REFERENCE FOR SKAGGS. SCHLICK RECEIVED TELEPHONE CALL FROM
SKAGGS ON APRIL ONE LAST AT TWO THIRTY AM FROM RICHMOND, VA.
SKAGGS WANTED JOB BUT SCHLICK TURNED HIM DOWN. SCHLICK STATED
THAT SKAGGS HAS STATED MANY TIMES THAT HE IS GOING TO KILL
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. SCHLICK STATED SKAGGS IS A VERY
BIGOTTED PERSON AND CAPABLE OF SUCH AN ACT.

1-Pittsburgh (Info.)(Mail)
1-Birmingham (Info.)(Mail)
1-Louisville (Info.)(Mail)
1-Richmond (Info.)(Mail)
1-Little Rock (Info.)(Mail)
HHR:emt
(6)

SEARCHED SERIALIZED OF FILED OF FBI — RICHMO

NK 44-854 Page Two:

SCHLICK STATED HE IS REPORTING THIS RECAUSE HE READ IN
THE NEWSPAPER THAT THE PERSON COMMITTING THIS CRIME HAD ARK.
LICENSE PLATES ON HIS CAR. SCHLICK STATED THE ARTIST'S
CONCEPTION OF SUSPECTED KILLER AS APPEARS IN THE "NY DAILY
NEWS" IS NOT SIMILAR TO SKAGGS EXCEPT THAT THE EAR AND CHIN LINE
IS SIMILAR. SKAGGS FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTION OF
SKAGGS:

WHITE MALE, TWENTY FIVE OR TWENTY SIX, SIX FEET, ONE SIXTY FIVE LBS., BLUE EYES, DLOND WAVY HAIR, CHARACTERISTICS ACNE CONDITION ON FACE, TEETH BAD ON TOP, MARITAL STATUS DIVORCED, WIFE UNKNOWN, FORMERLY RESIDED IN OCEAN GROVE, N.J. (EXACT ADDRESS UNKNOWN), ONE SMALL SON, AGE UNKNOWN, MILITARY SERVICE U.S. ARMY (SP-FOUR) (SIXTY FIVE - SIXTY SIX).

SCHLICK STATED SKAGGS NEVER CALLS HIN COLLECT BUT USES
COIN TELEPHONES AS HE CAN HEAR COINS DROPPING INTO THE BOX.

SCHLICK STATED SKAGGS'S BROTHER IS A CITY COUNSELOR IN PADUCAH, KY.
HE STATED HE BELIEVES SKAGGS IS ORIGINALLY FROM PADUCAH. SCHLICK
FEELS CERTAIN THAT SKAGGS HAS BEEN ARRESTED BUT DOES NOT KNOW
WHERE.

RECORDS OF THE MONMOUTH CO. SHERIFF'S OFFICE, FREEHOLD, N.J. HAVE NO RECORD FOR MORRIS CLAYTON SKAGGS.

NEWARK FILE FORTY SEVEN DASH THREE EIGHT TWO BIVE,
CAPTIONED MORRIS SKAGGS, SR., POSSIBLE IMPERSONATION,
PITTSBURGH FILE EIGHTY SEVEN DASH ONE ONE SIX NINE FOUR,

NK 44-854 PAGE THREE:

INDICATES THAT GRACE ROWIGH, CLERK, ORLANDO, FLORIDA, POLICE DEPT., MADE ORIGINAL COMPLAINT AND KNOWS SKAGGS'S BACKGROUND AND LOCATION OF EX-WIFE.

TAMPA, AT ORLANDO, FLA., CONTACT ROWIGH AND THEREAFTER SET OUT LEADS TO ACCOUNT FOR SKAGGS LOCATION ON DATES MARCH TWENTY NINE, AND APRIL FOUR LAST.

FBI WASH DC
627PM URGENT 4/14/68 GJM
TO ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES
FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 3P

MURKIN.

REPORTED AS HAVING ATTENDED DANCING SCHOOLS IN BIRMINGHAM,
NEW ORLEANS AND CALIFORNIA. ALL OFFICES SHOULD IMMEDIATELY
CHECK ALL DANCING SCHOOLS IN YOUR TERRITORIES FOR ANY RECORD
OF PRIOR ATTENDANCE AT ANY SUCH SCHOOLS BY GALT AND RUN OUT
ANY LEADS DEVELOPED. GALT REPORTEDLY SIGNED UP FOR A ONE
YEAR DANCING COURSE IN NEW ORLEANS IN NINETEEN SIXTYFOUR;
TOOK DANCING LESSONS FOR SEVERAL WEEKS IN BIRMINGHAM
BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN; AND TOOK A
FOUR HUNDRED NINETYNINE DOLLAR DANCE COURSE FROM DECEMBER
NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN TO FEBRUARY NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT AT LONG
BEACH, CALIFORNIA.

ONE DANCE INSTRUCTOR HAS STATED THAT GALT IS "CRAZY"
ABOUT DANCING BUT A POOR DANCER AND DIFFICULT TO TEACH
END PAGE ONE

SEARCHED INJEASO SERIALIZED DILLED DILL APR 14 1968 FBI—RICHIZAND BONNUL PUR MURSHY PAGE TWO

BECAUSE HE DOES NOT REMEMBER INSTRUCTIONS. HE WAS DESCRIBED

AS AN INTROVERT WHO VOLUNTEERS NO INFORMATION AND REPLIES WITH

YES OR NO ANSWERS WHEN ASKED; DID NOT MINGLE WITH OTHER STUDENTS

AND MADE NO EFFORTS TO MAKE FRIENDS OR CONVERSE WITH ANYONE.

ANOTHER DANCE INSTRUCTOR STATED GALT IS A GOOD DANCER,

DISPLAYED SLIGHT SOUTHERN ACCENT, RURAL CHARACTERISTICS OF

LANGUAGE AND DICTION, TEETH STRAIGHT AND CLEAN, FINGERNAILS

CLEAN AND NEATLY TRIMMED,; WORE GOLD RING WITH DARK STONE;

ALWAYS NEATLY DRESSED WITH SUIT AND SHINY SLIP ON TYPE BLACK

ALLIGATOR SHOES WITH THIN SOLES, BLACK HOSE AND WORE TIE TACK

AND CUFF LINKS. SMOKED FILTER CIGARETTES AND HAD NERVOUS

HABIT OF OCCASIONALLY PULLING, AT EAR LOBE. OWNER OF STUDIO

SATES GALT SPOKE OF ALABAMA, SAID HE WAS A MERCHANT SEAMAN;

SPOKE OF BEING IN MEXICO BUT DID NOT SPEAK SPANISH AND SPOKE

ENGLISH BADLY; WAS SOCIALLY INEPT, AN INTROVERT AND A POOR

DANCER BECAUSE HE WOULD NOT LOOSEN UP. SMILED RARELY AND

WHEN HE DID IT WAS A NERVOUS CROOKED SMILE; PAID CASH FOR LESSONS

TAKING A WAD OF BILLS FROM POCKET.

ERIC STARVO GALT DESCRIBED AS FVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES,

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTYFIVE POUNDS, BLUE EYES, BROWN HAIR, BORN

JULY TWENTY THIRTYONE, PLACE NOT GIVEN.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

GALT MAY HAVE USED THE NAME HARVEY LOWMYER OR JOHN
WILLARD OR ANY VARIATION OF THESE TWO NAMES OR ANY OTHER
NAME. IN CONNECTION WITH ANY INQUIRIES, NO INDICATION SHOULD
BE GIVEN INQUIRIES ARE IN CONNECTION WITH CAPTIONED CASE.

END

ECS

FBI RICHMOND

CE, .. HLH

FBI CHARLT

NF . . . JEG

FBI NORFOLK

#Q\$

FBI WASH DC
627PM URGENT 4/14/68 GJM
TO ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES
FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 3P

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SEARCHED HIDE AND SERIALIZED APR 14 1983

FBI — RICHILOUD

PAGE TWO

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UNSUB ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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ECS

FBI RICHMOND

CE. .. HLH

FBI CHARLT

NF . . . JEG

FBI NORFOLK

#08

AIRTEL

TO:

SAC, MEMPHIS

FROM:

SAC, ALBUQUERQUE (44-715)P

RE 1

MURKIN

OO: MEMPHIS

44-657*

Re WFO tel 4/10/68.

Enclosed for the Memphis Division are the following:

- 1. Seven snapshots of HENRY DAVID MC MINN, JR.
- 2. Two specimens of handwriting of MC MINH, one being a check in the amount of \$100, bearing his signature and the other is a power of attorney form bearing his signature.

The above items were obtained from MRS. ARTIE MC MINN, a room clerk, Chaparral Motel, Ruidoso Downs, N.M., and she requests that if they are of no evidentiary value that they be returned to her.

MRS. MC MINN furnished the following description of this possible suspect:

Name Age

Born

Meight Weight

2 - Memphis (Enc 9) (RM)

1 - WFO (44-703 (Info) (1 - Richmond (Info)

1 - Little Rock (Info)

1 - Oklahoma City (Info)

2 - Albuquerque

RSK/jvp (8) HENRY DAVID MC MINN, JR.

Either May 5 or 6, 1929 in

either Lubbock or Bockley County,

Texas

165

Medium or light brown but he used a hair oil, thereby effecting a darker hue

SEARCHED INDEXED OF SERIALIZED FILED APR 15 1968

EBI — RICHMOND

A044-715

Scars or marks Peculiarities Marital status Appendectomy, no others noticeable Immaculate dresser - Texas accent Married to LINDA MC MINN, nee AARON, whose parents believed to reside at 4600 Mason Road, Memphis, Tonnessee, believed to be currently separated. LINDA MC MINN previously married to a CARTER.

MRS. MC MINN advised on 4/11/68, that her former husband, HENRY DAVID MC MINN, JR., appeared in Ruidoso Downs, NM, at approximately 2:30PM, 4/1/68, remained until 7:30PM, at which time he departed, indicating he was proceeding to Albuquerque, NM, thence to Phoenix, Arizona.

MRS. MC MINN advised that at the time of his appearance he was in possession of a White Station Wagon, possibly a 1962 or 1963 model and make not specifically known. She indicated he usually drives Chevrolets or Fords, therefore, this could have been one or the other. Also, the vehicle has Texas license plates, believed to have the prefix BYM 969 or 696.

MRS. MC MINN advised that her former husband was previously connected with the NAACP in Little Rock, Arkansas, in approximately 1965 or 1966, however, she is unaware of what capacity he was so connected. It was her impression he either distributed or sold literature to Negroes in that particular area.

In the event the enclosures tend to implicate this individual it is suggested that Memphis set out specific leads to assist in effecting his location.

AQ44-715

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FBI

Date: 4/12/68

			!
ansmit the following in	(Type in plain text or code)		1
AIRTEL	AIR MAIL		; [
	(Priority or Method o	of Mailing)	<u> </u>
TO: SAC, A	ALBANY		
FROM: SAC, ME	EMPHIS (44-1987) P		
RE: MURKI			
the reams of mate office of origin, messages use capt example, should connection with a into the body of	effort to assist in handli erial being submitted to Me , it is requested all offic tion which will aid in hand your office have investigat a specific suspect it would text, you would utilize su - JOHN ALLEN DOE," or anot & CHECKS."	mphis Division es in submissi ling paper. F ion to report aid if, befor b-heading afte	as on of or in e enterin r referen
Suitab facilitate the ha	ole sub-headings on communi andling of material. Pleas	cations will go e comply.	reatly
1			
2 ALBANY (AM)			*
2 ALL CONTINENTA	AL OFFICES (AM)		
1 MEMPHIS			
RGJ:BN (109)		Sen. All Marie 100	7.51
O H		FBI—RIGHIMAN	\D
K 11		(Carry VI)	M

4/10/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: CHARLOTTE (44-1365)

MURKIN

RE CHARLOTTE TELETYPE APRIL NINE LAST AND CHARLOTTE TELEPHONE CALL TO BUREAU TODAY.

FREDRICK DUNSTON, WHITEVILLE, NC, ARRESTED SEVEN THIRTY
PM, APRIL NINE LAST BY WHITEVILLE PD CHARGED WITH POSSESSION
NONTAX PAID WHISKEY AND PUBLIC DRUNK. ARRESTING OFFICER RALPH
SPAULDING ADVISED DUNSTON ARRESTED BY HIM NUMEROUS OCCASIONS
FOR PUBLIC DRUNK AND DISORDERLY CONDUCT AND DUNSTON HAS
REPUTATION AS BEING A DRUNK. HE DOUBTFUL ANY INFORMATION
FURNISHED BY DUNSTON WOULD BE RELIABLE.

DUNSTON INTERVIEWED BY SA TODAY, COLUMBUS COUNTY JAIL, WHITEVILLE, NC, AND ADVISED ABOUT SEVEN PM APRIL NINE LAST HE AGAIN OBSERVED UNKNOWN WHITE MALE WHO ADMITTED KILLING KING

P - Richmond (AIRMAIL) (44-657)

1 - WFO (AARMAIL)

1 - Charlotte

CFW: lrf

(3)

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APR 15 1968

FBI — RICHMOND

PAGE TWO

RIDING IN WHITEVILLE IN NINETEEN SIXTYTWO FORD GALAXIE, BEIGE COLOR, OCCUPIED BY TWO OTHER PERSONS. DUNSTON ADVISED HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HENRY BENNETT AT THE TIME. DUNSTON ATTEMPTED TO CALL ATTORNEY GENERAL, WASHINGTON, DC, TO FURNISH THIS INFORMATION AT THE TIME HE WAS ARRESTED BUT DID NOT COMPLETE CALL. DUNSTON VIEWED ARTIST'S CONCEPTION OF KING'S ASSASSIN AND ADVISED PHOTOGRAPH APPEARS SIMILAR BUT WOULD BE UNABLE TO RECOGNIZE MAN FROM SKETCH.

DENNIS WILLIAMS, JAILER, COLUMBUS COUNTY JAIL, ADVISED DUNSTON, FOLLOWING ARREST, ATTEMPTED TO MAKE TELEPHONE CALL TO ATTORNEY GENERAL AND TELEPHONE CALL TO RALEIGH, NC; HOWEVER, HE WAS IN DRUNKEN CONDITION AND WAS UNABLE TO COMPLETE CALLS.

SARAH MOORE, ROUTE FIVE BOX ONE FIVE ZERO, WHITEVILLE,
ADVISED TODAY THAT DUNSTON RESIDES AT HER HOUSE WITH HIS WIFE
AND TWO CHILDREN. SHE STATED DUNSTON HAS REPUTATION FOR
BRINKING AND HAS BEEN ARRESTED AS PUBLIC DRUNK. SHE WAS AT
HER RESIDENCE APRIL EIGHT LAST WHEN DUNSTON ALLEGEDLY CONTACTED
BY UNKNOWN WHITE MALE. SHE STATED SHE WAS NOT AWARE OF ANYONE
BEING AT RESIDENCE AND DOES NOT BELIEVE ANYONE WAS THERE AS

PAGE THREE

SHE WOULD HAVE KNOWN. SHE DESCRIBED DUNSTON AS UNRELIABLE AND DOES NOT BELIEVE ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM HIM TO BE RELIABLE OR OF VALUE.

JOHN W. BENNETT, BROTHER OF HENRY BENNETT, ADVISED TODAY
THAT DUNSTON ANDHENRY BENNETT ARE ALCOHOLICS AND HAVE BEEN
DRINKING HEAVILY FOR THE PAST FOUR OR FIVE DAYS. HE ADVISED
ANY INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM DUNSTON OR HIS BROTHER WOULD NOT
BE TRUTHFUL AS BOTH HAVE BEEN DRINKING AND ARE UNRELIABLE.

POLICE OFFICERS, WHITEVILLE, NC, WHO HAD BEEN ALERTED TO ATTEMPT TO LOCATE UNKNOWN WHITE MALE, ADVISED THEY HAD NOT SEEN ANYONE RESEMBLING THIS PERSON AND ALSO HAD NOT SEEN THE NINETEEN SIXTYTWO FORD GALAXIE DESCRIBED BY DUNSTON. POLICE OFFICERS CHARACTERIZED DUNSTON AS DRUNK WHO IS EXTREMELY UNRELIABLE.

NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RECEIVED CONCERNING UNKNOWN WHITE MALE, WHO ALLEGEDLY CONTACTED CUNSTON APRIL EIGHT LAST.

IN VIEW OF STATEMENTS MADE BY SARAH MOORE TO EFFECT
THAT NO WHITE MALE WAS SEEN AT HER RESIDENCE WITH DUNSTON ON
APRIL EIGHT LAST, FACT THAT UNKNOWN MALE NOT OBSERVED BY POLICE,
AND FACT THAT DUNSTON IS DRUNKARD AND TOTALLY UNRELIABLE, UACB,
NO FURTHER EFFORTS BEING MADE TO LOCATE UNKNOWN WHITE MALE;

PAGE FOUR

AND UACB, RICHMOND AND WFO WILL BE ADVISED TO CANCEL ALERT WITH VIRGINIA STATE POLICE AND METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR UNKNOWN WHITE MALE.

AIRMAIL COPIES TO RICHMOND AND WFO.

P.

END.

F B I

		ite: 4/9/68		100.
mit the following inAIRTEL	(Type in pla	intext or code)		
V · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		(Priority)		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
TO: DIRECTOR, FE	SI.			
FROM: SAC, WFO	(157-1576)			
MURKIN / 44.6	57*			
	fficer PHIL H. ce telephone 3 driving dark onn. Dealers p 8, at Penn Mar ighway, Arling KI bore a reser	54-6274), adv blue 1964-65 Lates DE 1803 Service Stat ton, Va. Acc mblance to pr	ised that Malibu Ch, had thi ion, 355 ording to offile ske	evrolet, s car tch
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of suspectéd assa further described noticeably long n WFO ind re Conn. tags DE	this individuous and having ices negative and 1803.	al as well dr bloodshot ey ce YAGLENSKI;	essed whi es. NCIC neg iminal an	te male, ative
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4/10/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO:

SAC, ALBUQUERQUE

FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703),

MURKIN.

JOHN W. DOLLAR, JR., NINE ZERO TWO COMMONWEALTH AVENUE,

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA, TELEPHONE FIVE FOUR EIGHT TWO NINE SEVEN TWO, TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THIS OFFICE TELEVISION PICTURE AND DESCRIPTION OF ASSASSIN VIVIDLY FIT HUSBAND OF FRIEND ARTIE MC MINN, MOTEL MANAGER IN RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO, WORK PHONE THREE SEVEN EIGHT FIVE FIVE ONE ONE. HUSBAND, HENRY MC MINN, FORMERLY EMPLOYED AS SALESMAN MANAGER NATIONAL FOUNDATION LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA, WHO SHOULD HAVE PICTURES OF HIM, MIXED IN NEGRO CROWD IN

1 - Teletype Unit

(1) - Richmond (By Mail)

1 - Memphis (By Mail)

1 - Little Rock (By Mail)

1 - Phoenix (B) Matt) BUREAU

1 - Oklahoma City (By Mail)

2 - WFO

MLM: shy (8)

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WFO 44-703

PAGE TWO

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, WHILE EMPLOYED THAT COMPANY, IS OLDER THAN DESCRIPTION, BEING ABOUT FORTY BUT LOOKS YOUNGER. NOSE AND HAIRLINE NEARLY IDENTICAL WITH PICTURE. LAST KNOWN TO LIVE WITH PRESENT WIFE IN MEMPHIS BUT LAST SEEN ON MONDAY BEFORE ASSASSINATION BY FORMER WIFE, ARTIE, IN RUIDOSO. AT TIME WAS BROKE, CLAIMED TO HAVE COME FROM LOVETT, TEXAS, AND HEADING FOR PHOENIX, ARIZONA. DOLLAR SAYS TELEPHONED ARTIE WHO HAD NOT BEEN FOLLOWING NEWS BUT WOULD CHECK PAPERS TO VERIFY RESEMBLANCE.

ALBUQUERQUE CONTACT ARTIE MC MINN. BUREAU ADVISED,

COPIES TO RICHMOND, MEMPHIS, LITTLE ROCK AND

OKLAHOMA CITY FOR INFORMATION. P

TO

SAC, RICHMOND

DATE: 4/12/68

FROM

SA RAYMOND H. GEISEN

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

On 4/10/11 MORRIS, Attorney, Ross Building, Richmond, Va. advised that he read about the so-called confessed slayer of MARTIN LUTHER KING which the police were looking for in the paper who had tatoo "BORN TO LOSE". He related that the description set out in the paper fits generally a client of his, whomhe handled a tort case for about 3 or 4 months age. HE related that the persons name is RICHARD D. PAYNE who resided 3 months ago at 6609 Fitzhugh Ave Richmond, Va. and Akak that he was employed as mechanic at the McElhenny Construction Co. and L.B. SmithmCo.

He remlated he MNX has no reason to suspect PAYNE but just that he has the tatoo "BORN TO LOSE" on his upper right arm and two names above this tatoo.

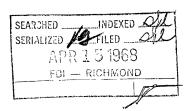
1- Richmond

This talloods

Surfect Eliminated

by Co.

44-657-55



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

Police Alerted On 'Confessed' Slayer of King

Police departments in Virginia were asked by the FBI to be on the lookout last night for a man who admitted that he had slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Police said that the white man bore a tatoo on his upper right arm that said: "Born to Lose."

The man had told someone in Whiteville, N.C. about midnight Monday that he had slain. King and was going to Washington to surrender himself to federal authorities, police said. They added that the man was thought to be hitchhiking along either U.S. 1 or Interstate 95.

In an all - unit broadcast, the man was described as being about 25, with blue eyes, black hair, mediumdark complexion and about 5 feet 10 inches tall.

He was wearing a white shirt with yellow stripes and dungarees when last seen, ponce said.

	newspaper, city and state.)
	Page B-4
	RICHMOND TIMES - DISPATCE RICHMOND YA
	Date: 4/10/68 Edition: Morning Author: Editor: Virginius Dabney Title:
	Character: or Classification: Submitting Office:Richmond Being Investigated
((- T	SEARCHED MINDERED SERIALIZED MIRIED APR 1 2 1968

FBI BIRMGHAM

1214 PM URGENT 4-15-68 JGA

TO DIRECTOR, 44-38861, MEMPHIS 44-1987 AND RICHMOND

FROM BIRMINGHAM 44-1740 P

MURKIN. CR. OO: MEMPHIS.

MEMPHIS AIRTEL APRIL ELEVEN, LAST, ADVISED OF TELEPHONIC INQUIRY CONCERNING WHETHER JAMES GEORGE ROBINSON OR ROY JAMES SOUGHT REGARDING INSTANT MATTER. APPROPRIATE LEADS TO LOCATE JIMMY GEORGE ROBINSON PREVIOUSLY SET OUT.

RICHMOND FILE ONE FIVE SEVEN - FOUR EIGHT THREE, REFLECTS ROY JAMES, WHITE MALE, SIX FEET THREE INCHES, TWO HUNDRED ELEVEN POUNDS. GREEN EYES, BROWN HAIR, BELIEVED RESIDING SIX ONE FIVE ZERO WILSON BOULEVARD, ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA, AS OF NOVEMBER THIRTEEN, NINETEEN SIXTYTHREE. ON SEPTEMBER TWENTYEIGHT, WINETEEN SIXTYTWO, ROY JAMES ASSAULTED DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING IN BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA, FOR WHICH HE WAS FINED TWENTYFIVE DOLLARS AND SENTENCED TO THIRTY DAYS IN JAIL.

RICHMOND AT ARLINGTON, VIRIGINIA, REQUESTED TO ASCERTAIN WHERE-ABOUTS OF ROY JAMES DURING PERTINENT PERIOD.

END

EJM

FBI RICHMOND

14-657-5

ARLINGTON

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APR 15 1968

FBI_RICHMOND

J. HALL 1: C.

With Serial 3, 9, 10, 14, 17+31 of 152-483

Borritt

4/11/68

AIRTEL

TO:

SAC. BIRMINGHAM

FROM:

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987 Sub E)
MURKIN / 44-657 *

A man identifying himself as BOB HUMERSTONE, "Long Island News Day," Long Island, N. Y., telephonically contacted the Memphs Office at 3:30 p.m., 4/11/68, inquiring as to whether the FBI was looking for JAMES GEORGE ROBINSON and/or ROY JAMES in connection with the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

The caller said he had no reason to believe the two were involved in the shooting of KING but based on both having assaulted KING in the past, he was trying to work up a story as to whether the FBI might be currently looking for them as suspects in the shooting of KING.

He stated the only information available to him was news clippings and based on such news clippings he furnished the following information:

JAMES GEORGE ROBINSON, white male American, born 5/22/38 at Barnum, Texas, 6'12", 155 1bs., blue eyes, brown hair, slim build, was arrested for assaulting MARTIN LUTHER KING, 1/18/65, at the Alvin Hotel, Selma, Alabama. ROBINSON received a fine and a brief jail term and subsequently returned to Selma and was again arrested at Selma on 3/8/65.

2 - Birmingham

2 - Mobile

1 - New York (Info)

(1 - Richmond (Info)

2 - Memphis WRH:gnh

(8)

ME 44-1987 Sub E

ROY JAMES reportedly is a member of the American Nazi Party (ANP) and from Hempstead, Long Island, was arrested 9/28/62 at Birmingham for assaulting KING 9/28/62 and received a 30-day jail sentence. Subsequently in 1966 JAMES was reportedly acquitted in a Federal Court on charges of having throatened FBI Agents.

The caller sated he had no further information regarding the above and was merely inquiring as to whether they were being sought as suspects. The caller asked a number of other questions regarding the FBI investigation concerning shooting of KING and was politely informed that no information could be furnished regarding this investigation at this time. The caller was courteous and said he understood the FBI's position in this matter.

LEADS:

BIRMINGHAM AND MOBILE DIVISIONS

Will review files regarding ROB INSON and JAMES and if deemed appropriate based on results of such review, set forth leads re current whereabouts.

NEW YORK DIVISION (INFORMATION:

A copy is being furnished New York inasmuch as the caller, BOB HUMERSTONE, resides New York Division and may contact the New York Office re this matter.

ME 44-1987 Sub E

RICHMOND DIVISION (INFORMATION)

Copy is being furnished Richmond as Richmond is familiar with details of the American Nazi Party (ANP) and may have information available re ROY JAHRS.

AIRTEL

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM:

SAC, RICHMOND (44-657) -P-

MURKIN CR

Re Minneapolis teletype to Bureau. 4/9/68.

ZEIGE SMALLEY, Foreman, Broadway Yards, N&W Railway, Petersburg, Va., advised on 4/11/68 that J. B. MILLER, white male, age 65, residence 1633 Circle Drive, Rt. 6, Petersburg, Va., has been employed by N&W for 50 years. SMALLEY advised that COOPER E. GILL, white male, born 3/22/17, residence, Rt. 4, Box 133X, Petersburg, was employed for approximately one year, however, he was injured 11 months ago and has been off work since injury.

MILLER interviewed and advised that an attorney by the name of LEHMEYER from Minneapolis, Minn., was driven to the Broadway Yards on either Wednesday or Thursday the last week of March by COOPER GILL. He advised GILL picked LEHMEYER up at the airport in Richmond and his reason for coming to Richmond and Petersburg was to contact him and GILL concerning injuries they received while working for the N&W.

3 - Bureau 1 - Atlanta

1 - Birmingham

2 - Memphis (44-1987) 2 - Minneapolis (157-450)

(2) - Richmond

LML:11d (11)

Barritt M.
44-657-59

RH 44-657

Indices negative in Richmond Division on MILLER and GILL.

In view of above, no further investigation being conducted concerning these individuals.

AIRTEL

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM:

SAC, RICHMOND (44-657) -P-

MURKIN CR

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Jacobys Three 146-657-59 RM 44-657

Indices negative in Richmond Division on MILLER and GILL.

In view of above, no further investigation being conducted concerning these individuals.

AIRTEL

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
Attention: FBI Laboratory

FROM:

SAC, RICHMOND (44-657) -P-

MURKIN CR

Re Albany teletype dated 4/8/68 and Richmond airtel to Bureau dated 4/8/68.

Enclosed for the FBI Laboratory are two 3" by 5" cards containing six Thermo Seal pieces of marking tape.

On 4/11/68, Mr. JOSEPH A. YOUNG, Manager, Bonnie Bright Laundry (formerly known as Farlington Laundry), 3800 South Four Mile Run Drive, Arlington, Va., advised SA JOHN W. PFAFF, JR. that his company has used white Thermo Seal marking tape exclusively for over two years. Mr. YOUNG made available six samples of Thermo Seal marking tape which were affixed to two 3" by 5" cards.

Mr. YOUNG noted the machine is capable of making six characters at one time and that the first four characters on this machine are slightly smaller than the last four characters. His company uses a coding system consisting of four alphabetic letters, a dash and one number. According to Mr. YOUNG, there is no standard coding process and each individual laundry is free to employ its own individual coding system.

3 - Bureau (Enc-2) (Registered Mail) 291-855

2 - Memphis (44-1987)

Richmond

JWP:mfh

(7)

SEARCHED

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1-4-65

FILED OLL

44-657-60

FBI RICHMOND

FBI CHARLT

URGENT 4-15-68 DCC

TO MEMPHIS AND RICHMOND

FROM CHARLOTTE (44-1365)

JURKIN 44-651 *

RE MILWAUKEE TEL TO RICHMOND APR. ELEVEN LAST.

LUCY GLEN GILL, SEVEN ONE SEVEN FAIRFIELD ST., BURLINGTON, NC. ADVISED TODAY SHE DOES NOT HAVE RELATIVE BY NAME ERIC STARVO GAULT. STATED KNOWS OF NO RELATIVE FITTING DISCRIPTION OF GAULT. & ONLY LIVING RELATIVE BY NAME OF GAULT IS JAMES GAULT WHO RESIDES CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA. STATES SINCE DEATH OF HER STEPFATHER, JAMES GAULT, IN NINETEEN FIFTYSIX, SHE HAS NOT SEEN ANY OF STEPFATHER'S RELATIVES.

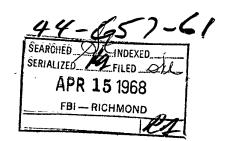
AM COPY MILWAUKEE.

END

SKT

FBI RICHMOND

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Approved: ___

Special Agent in Charge

FBI

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			Date:	4/12/68
Transmit t	the following in	(Type in plaintext or o	code)
Via	AIRTEL		(Priorit	AIRMAIL
	TO: DIRE	CTOR, FBI (4	4-38861)	
	FROM: SA	C, ALBANY (4	4-493) (P)	
	SUBJECT:	MURKIN CR	44-657,	×
		(OO: MEMPHIS	S)	
		Re Albany a	irtel to Bur	reau 4/11/68.
			LAUNDRY M	IARKS
	by Mr. DO	located at m acter tapes :	ilitary esta l 1/8" long Textile Mar	offices of Thermo-Seal blishments producing and ½" wide as provided king Machine Company, e, N.Y.
	2-Charlot 2-Chicago 2-Honolul 3-Jackson 3-Miami 2-Newark 2-New Yor 3-Norfolk 2-Philade	(44-1114) u ville (44-769 (44-854) k (44-1609) lphia d ncisco (173-6	_	SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED APR 15 1968 FBI - RIGHMOND

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

AL 44-493

For the information of San Juan, the following is furnished:

Search of premises believed occupied by UNSUB who assassinated Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING on 4/4/68, disclosed suitcase in which was located tee-shirt and undershorts bearing laundry mark on red tape with black lettering believed to be Thermo-Seal type, manufactured by Textile Marking Machine Co., Inc., Syracuse, N.Y. The tape is ½" wide and 1 1/16" long and bears letters and numbers 62B-6.

Experts at Textile Marking Machine Company advise type on this machine is unusual in that the first two characters are 15 point type and the last three characters are eighteen point type, with the middle character, the letter B, probably being narrow rather than regular type. The usual machine carries 15 point type for the first three characters and 18 point type for the last two characters.

Textile Marking Machine experts also stated this machine is defective in that it is producing a tape 1 1/16" long instead of 1 1/8" long and is not projecting the tape far enough resulting in cutting off a portion of the first letter. The code used in the Northeast part of the U. S. is as follows:

The first letter 0 stands for lot number; the first number 2 indicates the day of the week, two being Tuesday; the second letter indicates the first letter of the store name, this is the letter B; the last number is the bundle number, this is 6. Color coding of the tag may designate various things such as a different month or the identity of a store in a chain. Experts also state the use of this system on laundry items is unusual in that the system is normally used on garments being dry cleaned.

The Bureau has instructed that all textile machines using this type tape be located and machines using this code be identified.

A. J. Catalino

AL 44-493

BOSTON

Navy Exchange Naval Air Station Quonset Point, Rhode Island		32296 33431
Navy Exchange Naval Station Naval Base Newport, Rhode Island		33137 33138
CHARLOTTE		
Freight Traffic Bridge Building 1011 Camp Lejeune, North Carolina	SN SN	31306 31807 31347 31349
CHICAGO		
Navy Exchange Naval Training Officer Great Lakes, Illinois		32285 32308
HONOLULU		
Navy Exchange Naval Station Pearl Harbor, Hawaii	SN	32397
JACKSONVILLE		
Navy Exchange Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Florida	SN	31748 31773 31923

AL 44-493

JACKSONVILLE (CONT.)

Navy Exchange Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida	SN SN SN SN SN SN SN	32228 32226 32222 32229 32220 32525 32529 32509 32300 32295
Navy Exchange Naval Air Station Yukon, Florida	SN	32521
MIAMI		
Navy Exchange Naval Station Key West, Florida		31964 31969
MEMPH IS		
Navy Exchange Naval Air Station Millington, Tennessee	SN	32040 32044 32439
NEWARK		
Navy Exchange Naval Air Station Lakehurst, New Jersey	SN	33440
NEW YORK		
Army and Air Force Exchange Ship to Transport Officer Brooklyn Army Terminal First Avenue and 53 St. Brooklyn, N.Y.	SN SN	32141 32143 32143 32157