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DE DL

P 191958Z AUG 78FM DALLAS

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) PRIORITY

MEMPHIS (44-1987) PRIORITY

JACKSON (INFO)

SAN ANTONIO (INFO)

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ATTN CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRIES UNIT, ROOM 8988 JEH. MURKIN.

RE MEMPHIS TELETYPES TO BUREAU 8/18/78 AND SAN ANTONIO
TELETYPE TO BUREAU 8/18/78.

ON 8/19/78 BETTY LOU WADE, 233 SMITH RD. BURLESON, TEXAS WHO
IS FORMER WIFE OF BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, STATES SHE WAS MARRIED TO
WILSON ON 4/4/68 AND CAN POSITIVELY STATE WILSON WAS AT GRANDVIEW,
MISSOURI, THAT DATE AND COULD NOT HAVE BEEN IN MEMPHIS, TENN.,
AS HE IS CLAIMING. SHE SAID THEY RESIDED AT AN UNRECALLED
ADDRESS ON HERRICK ST. AND WILSON HAD A JEWELRY BUSINESS AT
THE KATZ DRUG STORE IN GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI. WADE SAID MR. KATZ
SUBSEQUENTLY SOLD THE DRUG STORE AND THE BUSINESS WAS MOVED TO
BELTON, MISSOURI, WHERE IS WAS ESTABLISHED IN A SMALL SHOPPING
CENTER UNDER THE NAME OF WILBUR'S JEWELRY.

44-1242-657

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FBI - SAN ANTONIO	

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new Brannsfels -

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WADE SAID WILSON NEVER OWNED OR HAD ACCESS TO A WHITE MUSTANG VEHICLE AND HER DAUGHTER DEBRA ANN JONES NEE WILSON NEVER DROVE ANY VEHICLE FROM KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, TO MEMPHIS, TENN., ON OR ABOUT 4/4/68.

WADE ADVISED SHE HAS BEEN DIVORCED FROM WILSON FOR OVER 5 YEARS. SHE SAID WILSON HAS EXPERIENCED MENTAL PROBLEMS FOR YEARS AND SHE DESCRIBED HIM AS A "LIAR AND CON ARTIST WHO CAN'T DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN TRUTH AND FANTASY". SHE SAID HE DEFINITELY NEEDS MEDICAL HELP.

WADE SAID SHE HAS RECEIVED NUMEROUS THREATENING AND HARASSING TELEPHONE CALLS FROM WILSON OVER THE PREVIOUS 5 YEARS AND HAD HIM ARRESTED AT CELBURN, TEXAS IN 1976 FOR NON-CHILD SUPPORT AND HARASSMENT. SHE SAID WILSON WAS COMMITTED TO A HOSPITAL AT NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS IN 1974-1975 FOR HIS UNSTABLE MENTAL CONDITION. WADE STATES WILSON ALWAYS CARRIES A 38 CAL. PISTOL AND SHE WOULD CONSIDER HIM DANGEROUS.

SHE FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING LIST OF WILSON'S RELATIVES WHO CAN SUBSTANTIATE HIS MENTAL CONDITION: SISTERS, LYDA MCGAHEY, 2002 EAST 5TH AVE. NORTH, COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI, TELEPHONE NUMBER 327-

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1141, CHRISTINE GUNTHORP, ROUTE 1 BOX 36, FULTON, MISSISSIPPI;
BROTHER, ALLISON WILSON, REFORM, ALABAMA; CHILDREN, STEPHEN
WAYNE WILSON, 3117 LIVINGSOON, FORT WORTH, TEXAS, TELEPHONE
NUMBER 923-9414, [REDACTED] 514 SOUTHEAST GARDENS, APT.
132, BURLESON, TEXAS, TELEPHONE NUMBER 295-2854, DEBRA ANN JONES,
2628 NEWBURG RD. LOT NUMBER 106 AT BELVDERE, ILLINOIS, TELEPHONE
NUMBER 543-9734.

DALLAS INDICES SEARCH NEGATIVE RE WILSON.

FURTHER LEADS BEING LEFT TO THE DISCRETION OF MEMPHIS.

BT

memorandum

DATE: 8/19/78
REPLY TO
ATTN OF: SA PRITZ BOHNE III
SUBJECT: MURKIN
80: MEMPHIS
TO: SAC SAN ANTONIO (44-1242)(P)

Re JACKSON TEL 8/19/78 (HQ 0047 2312035).

Ref Tel SET FORTH LEAD TO REVIEW AIR FORCE RESERVE RECORDS AT SAN ANTONIO.

ON 8/19/78, JAMES HARRING, OSI DUTY AGENT, KELLY AFB, ADVISED THAT RECORDS ON FORMER USAF EMPLOYEES ARE LOCATED AT THE FEDERAL RECORDS REPOSITORY. //

ON 8/19/78, TOM AUCKLAND, BUREAU TELETYPE ROOM CALLED REGARDING ANOTHER TELETYPE. HE WAS ADVISED OF THE RESERVE RECORDS BEING AT ST. LOUIS. HE ADVISED HE WOULD HAVE JACKSON CUT ST. LOUIS IN ON REFERENCED TELETYPE SETTING FORTH SAN ANTONIO LEAD REGARDING REVIEW OF RESERVE RECORDS FOR ST. LOUIS.

ON 8/19/78, 5:15pm, SA ARLAN W. SMITH WAS ADVISED TO COVER

ON 8/19/78, SA SMITH ADVISED THAT JO ANN CHILDRESS, FORMER SPOUSE OF WILSON ADVISED THAT WILSON HAD RECEIVED MEDICAL TREATMENT AT VA HOSPITAL SAN ANTONIO.

ON 8/19/78, JACKSON OFFICE REQUESTED TO OBTAIN MEDICAL RELEASE FORMS FROM WILSON SO VA HOSPITAL RECORDS COULD BE REVIEWED. JACKSON CALLED BACIK AND ADVISED THAT RELEASE FORMS HAD BEEN OBTAINED & ONE WOULD BE MAILED TO SAN ANTONIO.

44-1242-656

21

moody Jr



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

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
(REV. 7-76)
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6
5010-112

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FM JACKSON (62-544) (P)

TO DIRECTOR (44-3886L) IMMEDIATE
MEMPHIS (44-1987 SUB M) IMMEDIATE
SAN ANTONIO (44-1242) (IMMEDIATE)

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ATTN CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRIES UNIT, ROOM 8988, JER BUILDING.
MURKIN.

ON AUGUST 13, 1978, AT 6 PM, MR. WILLIAM DON GLADDEN,
AGE 46, W/M, RT. 3, BOX 805H-3 (MEADOW LARK DRIVE), GULF PARK
ESTATES, OCEAN SPRINGS, MS., TELEPHONE 875-3513 ADVISED AS
FOLLOWS:

HE IS EMPLOYED AS MGR. OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE IN
GULFPORT, MS. (TELEPHONE 896-3221). HE AND HIS WIFE, ALICE
A. GLADDEN, OWN A GIFT SHOP, "SEASONS AND REASONS," 2446
HIGHWAY 90 EAST, OCEAN SPRINGS, MS. (TELEPHONE 875-2551).
ON OR ABOUT JULY 26, 1978, A W/M BY THE NAME OF "BILL"

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[Handwritten signature]

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WILSON CAME TO THEIR GIFT SHOP IN OCEAN SPRINGS SAYING THAT HE PLANNED TO OPEN A WATCH REPAIR BUSINESS IN THE EDGEWATER MALL SHOPPING CENTER, BILOXI, MS., AND WOULD LIKE TO USE THE GLADDENS' GIFT SHOP AS A PICKUP POINT FOR HIS WATCH REPAIR BUSINESS. GLADDEN ADVISED NEITHER HE NOR HIS WIFE HAD EVER MET WILSON PRIOR TO THIS TIME. FOUR OR FIVE DAYS LATER, GLADDEN AGREED TO LET WILSON RENT A ROOM TO THE REAR OF GLADDEN'S GIFT SHOP IN WHICH WILSON SET UP HIS WATCH REPAIR BUSINESS. GLADDEN AGREED TO LET WILSON KEEP 20 PERCENT OF PROFITS COMING FROM THE WATCH REPAIR.

GLADDEN AGREED THAT HE AND HIS WIFE "GREW TO TRUST" WILSON FROM THE VERY BEGINNING AND CONSIDERED HIM TO BE A VERY HARD WORKER, WHO PUT A LOT OF HIS OWN MONEY INTO LOCAL RADIO ADVERTISING BUILDING UP HIS WATCH REPAIR BUSINESS. WILSON LATER TOLD GLADDEN HE HAD "POSTPONED" OPENING UP A BUSINESS IN THE EDGEWATER MALL. WILSON HAD HIS OWN JEWELRY AND WATCH REPAIR EQUIPMENT AND, ACCORDING TO GLADDEN, SPENT SEVERAL THOUSAND DOLLARS OF HIS OWN MONEY TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT AFTER RENTING THE SPACE IN GLADDEN'S BUSINESS. WILSON KEPT A KEY TO THE GIFT SHOP

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WHICH HE OPENED EVERY MORNING. HE WORKED HARD IN THE SHOP COMPLETING HIS WATCH REPAIRS AFTER WHICH HE WOULD LEAVE THE SHOP FOR PLACES UNKNOWN.

WILSON INDICATED TO GLADDEN THAT HE HAD A DRINKING PROBLEM AND WAS TRYING TO ESTABLISH HIMSELF AND WORK HARD IN THE WATCH REPAIR BUSINESS IN HOPES OF GETTING OVER THIS PROBLEM.

AT THE BEGINNING, WILSON RESIDED AT APARTMENT NO. 9, TWIN PINES MOTEL, OCEAN SPRINGS, MS., BUT AT AN UNKNOWN LATER DATE MOVED TO HOUSE 6, BOX 387, ROUTE SPRINGS (TELEPHONE 675-9542).

NEITHER GLADDEN NOR HIS WIFE HAD EVER VISITED WILSON AT THE ABOVE TWO RESIDENCES AND ONLY TOOK WILSON'S WORD THAT HE LIVED THERE. ACCORDING TO GLADDEN, WILSON COMMENTED THAT HE IS STAYING IN A HOUSE OWNED BY AN UNIDENTIFIED FRIEND AND IS NOT PAYING ANY RENT AS LONG AS HE KEEPS THE HOUSE IN REPAIR.

WILSON RECENTLY TOOK GLADDEN AND GLADDEN'S SON FOR A RIDE IN AN AIRPLANE PILOTED BY WILSON. GLADDEN CONSIDERS

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KNOW EVERYTHING THERE WAS TO KNOW ABOUT FLYING AIRPLANES IN ROUGH WEATHER.

GLADDEN FURTHER ADVISED THAT IN HIS OPINION WILSON IS AN "EXTREMELY INTELLIGENT MAN"; HOWEVER, HE IS UNAWARE OF THE EXTENT OF WILSON'S EDUCATION.

GLADDEN ADVISED THAT AT 11:45 PM, ON 8/17/78, WILSON TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED HIM AT HIS RESIDENCE SAYING HE HAD TO TALK TO GLADDEN AND HIS WIFE ABOUT SOMETHING THAT COULD NOT WAIT UNTIL THE MORNING. WILSON REFUSED TO STATE BY TELEPHONE WHY HE WANTED TO TALK TO GLADDEN AND HE REFUSED TO COME TO GLADDEN'S RESIDENCE. WILSON SAID HE NEEDED TO TALK ABOUT SOMETHING OF "NATIONAL URGENCY." THEY AGREED TO MEET AT GLADDEN'S GIFT SHOP AT OCEAN SPRINGS AT 12:15 AM, 8/18/78. GLADDEN ADVISED HE TOOK HIS WIFE AND 18 YEAR OLD SON, JOHN W. GLADDEN, TO THE SHOP WHERE HE MET WILSON AT THE ABOVE TIME. WILSON ARRIVED ALONE, DRIVING AN OLD MODEL BLUE CHEVROLET SEDAN WITH WHITE TOP, BEARING UNKNOWN LOUISIANA TAG. WILSON APPARENTLY HAD BEEN DRINKING INASMUCH AS HIS EYES WERE VERY RED AND HE SMELLED OF ALCOHOL; HOWEVER, HE DID NOT TALK LIKE AN INTOXICATED PERSON IN

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GLADDEN'S OPINION AND SEEMED TO BE "VERY DEPRESSED."

WILSON SAID "I'M THE MYSTERY MAN. I'M THE MAN THAT MURDERED MARTIN LUTHER KING." THEY TALKED FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR AND 15 MINUTES. WILSON STATED THAT HE GREW UP IN GRENADA, MS., WHERE HIS FATHER WAS A BAPTIST MINISTER. THE BLACKS (REFERRED TO AS "NEGRES AND NIGGERS" BY WILSON), WHO LIVED IN THE AREA WERE WELCOMED TO WORSHIP AT THE CHURCH; HOWEVER, WHEN THE NORTHERN BLACKS BEGAN TO COME DOWN SOUTH, WILSON'S FATHER WELCOMED THEM INTO HIS CHURCH ONLY IF THEY CAME TO WORSHIP AND NOT TO CAUSE TROUBLE. ACCORDING TO WILSON, THE BLACKS HAD COME FOR TROUBLE AND IT WAS FOR THIS REASON THAT HIS ATTITUDE BEGAN TO CHANGE TOWARD BLACKS.

WILSON TOLD THE GLADDENS, "I AM THE ONE THAT PULLED THE TRIGGER. THERE WAS A CONSPIRACY. I WAS THE LOGICAL ONE." WILSON TOLD THE GLADDENS HE HAD "BEEN WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND GOT INVOLVED IN SOME UNDECLARED WARS." (HE DID NOT FURTHER ELABORATE; HOWEVER, GLADDEN RECALLED THAT WILSON ONCE MENTIONED HE HAD BEEN IN THE AIR FORCE.) WILSON CLAIMED TO KNOW MARTIN LUTHER KING'S FATHER AND BROTHER AND STATED HE GREW UP NEXT DOOR TO A COUSIN OF MARTIN LUTHER KING AND

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"KNEW HIS ENTIRE FAMILY."

GLADDEN RECALLED THAT HE (GLADDEN) HAD ONCE PURCHASED A USED MUSTANG FOR HIS DAUGHTER. ON SEEING THE VEHICLE WILSON REMARKED HE HAD ONCE PURCHASED A WHITE MUSTANG FOR HIS DAUGHTER.

DURING THE CONVERSATION ON THE EARLY MORNING OF 8/18/78, WILSON STATED THAT HIS DAUGHTER HAD DRIVEN THE WHITE MUSTANG TO MEMPHIS AT THE TIME OF THE KING KILLING. WILSON COMMENTED THAT HE WAS IN MEMPHIS AT THAT TIME, BUT HAD DOCUMENTED HIMSELF TO BE IN KANSAS CITY AS AN ALIBI. WILSON STATED THAT JAMES EARL RAY WAS THE "FALL GUY." "RAY ONLY SAW ME TWICE, BUT I KNEW HIM. RAY WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE GOTTEN AWAY CLEAN. I'M SURPRISED RAY HAS BROUGHT IT ALL BACK UP AGAIN BECAUSE HE WOULD HAVE HIS PAROLE IN TWO YEARS."

WILSON TOLD THE GLADDENS THAT HE WOULD NOT SEE THEM ANYMORE AFTER TONIGHT AND HE WANTED THEM TO HAVE ALL HIS EXPENSIVE WATCH REPAIR EQUIPMENT.

WILSON, AGAIN REFERRING TO THE KING ASSASSINATION, STATED, "IT WAS PART OF A GROUP CONSPIRACY." HE PROVIDED NO FURTHER DETAILS STATING HE WOULD ONLY DEAL WITH THE

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"SHERIFF OF MEMPHIS (TENN.), WHO HE USED TO FLY WITH. WILSON FELT THAT THE GOVERNMENT WANTED IT TO HAPPEN TO KING. "I KNEW IT NEEDED TO BE DONE." WILSON DID NOT BELIEVE HE WOULD HAVE TO SERVE MUCH TIME FOR HIS INVOLVEMENT, STATING "I'M NOT SORRY I DID IT. THE NIGGERS ARE BETTER OFF." LATER IN THE CONVERSATION WITH THE GLADDENS, WILSON SAID HE WAS SORRY HE HAD DONE IT.

WILSON STATED HE HAD TALKED WITH THE MEMPHIS SHERIFF BY PHONE AND WAS TO MEET HIM AT THE GULFPORT, MS., HOLIDAY INN DURING THE MORNING OF 3/18/78. WILSON SPECULATED AS TO WHETHER OR NOT HE WOULD BE PROVIDED WITH A TV IN HIS CELL AND INDICATED HE PROBABLY WOULD BE GIVEN WORK AS AN INSTRUCTOR OR REPAIRMAN OF WATCHES WHILE IN JAIL.

REVERTING TO THE KING ASSASSINATION, WILSON TOLD THE GLADDENS THAT HE SHOT KING "NOT FROM 50 YARDS AWAY, BUT 50 FEET AWAY." HE WAS CLOSE ENOUGH TO SEE THE BULLET HIT AND STATED SPECIFICALLY THAT "I SHOT THE SHIT OUT OF HIM AND SAW IT FLY." WILSON NEVER MENTIONED TO GLADDEN THE TYPE OF GUN HE ALLEGEDLY USED OR THE LOCATION FROM WHICH HE ALLEGEDLY SHOT KING.

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AT ONE POINT IN THE CONVERSATION WITH THE GLADDENS, WILSON APPARENTLY FEELING A DISAPPROVING GLANCE FROM GLADDEN'S 18 YEAR OLD SON, WARNED THE SON HE HAD BETTER NOT INTERFERE.

CONCERNING THE UNIDENTIFIED MEMPHIS SHERIFF, WILSON OFFERED TO FURNISH THIS INDIVIDUAL'S NAME AND TELEPHONE NO. TO GLADDEN FOR VERIFICATION OF HIS REMARKS; HOWEVER, GLADDEN REFUSED. WILSON SAID HE HAS "GONE THROUGH TEN YEARS OF HELL, AND BECAUSE HE KILLED KING, IT RUINED 26 YEARS OF MARRIAGE; HOWEVER, HIS CONSCIENCE ONLY STARTED BOTHERING HIM IN THE LAST FEW YEARS.

APPARENTLY REFERRING TO A SKETCH OF KING'S KILLER, WILSON TOLD THE GLADDENS THAT IT WAS ALMOST AN EXACT LIKENESS OF HIM AND BECAUSE IT WAS RECENTLY SHOWN ON TV, HE DECIDED TO TURN HIMSELF IN. HE SAID HE HAS A SISTER IN FULTON, MS. (NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED), WHO TELEPHONED HIM IN OCEAN SPRINGS TO SAY THAT THE SKETCH LOOKED JUST LIKE HIM. WILSON TOLD THE GLADDENS THAT HE HAD TELEPHONED VARIOUS FAMILY MEMBERS TO LET THEM KNOW HE WAS TURNING HIMSELF IN.

WILSON ALSO STATED THAT HE, AT ONE TIME, INTENDED TO OPEN A WATCH REPAIR BUSINESS IN TUPELO, MS., BUT DECIDED

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AGAINST IT BECAUSE OF THE TENSE RACIAL SITUATION.

WILSON ALSO ONCE TOLD MRS. GLADDEN THAT HE GETS "FLIGHT PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS" AT KEESLER AIR FORCE, BILOXI, MS.

GLADDEN ADVISED THAT WILSON REPEATED HIMSELF MANY TIMES DURING THE ONE HOUR AND FIFTEEN MINUTE CONVERSATION ON 8/13/78, BUT HE PROVIDED NO FURTHER DETAILS CONCERNING THE KING ASSASSINATION, OTHER THAN THAT STATED HEREIN.

AT THE END OF THEIR CONVERSATION, GLADDEN ADVISED WILSON DEPARTED THE STORE IN HIS AUTOMOBILE AND HEADED IN AN EASTERLY DIRECTION. THE GLADDENS WERE AFRAID AND DISTURBED AT THE CONVERSATION AND PROMPTLY TELEPHONED THE JACKSON FBI OFFICE.

GLADDEN ADVISED THAT TO THE BEST OF HIS RECOLLECTION DURING THE SHORT TIME HE AND HIS WIFE KNEW WILSON, HE NEVER TALKED ABOUT HIS PAST, OTHER THAN TO MENTION THAT HE HAD BEEN IN THE U. S. AIR FORCE; HAD BEEN MARRIED FIVE TIMES, TWICE TO THE SAME WOMAN; HE GREW UP IN MISS.; AND HAD BEEN ON THE GULF COAST LESS THAN THREE MONTHS. THE GLADDENS DO NOT KNOW WHERE HE CAME FROM OR WHAT HE HAS DONE PRIOR TO HIS ARRIVING AT THEIR PLACE OF BUSINESS 7/26/78.

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GLADDEN ADVISED THAT IN HIS REGULAR BUSINESS AS SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE MANAGER HE HAS PERSONAL DEALINGS ON A FREQUENT BASIS WITH PEOPLE HAVING MENTAL PROBLEMS AND WHILE HE IS NOT A QUALIFIED PERSON IN THIS FIELD, HE IS NOT OF THE OPINION WILSON HAS MENTAL IMPAIRMENT. HE DESCRIBED WILSON AS A WHITE MALE; 5 FT. 8 INCHES; 155 LBS; MEDIUM BUILD; RUDDY COMPLEXION; GRAYING HAIR; AGE 46, WHO LIKES TO DRINK VODKA AND COKE.

ON 8/18/78, SHORTLY BEFORE NOON, WILSON TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED GLADDEN ADVISING THAT HE HAD BEEN BETRAYED, THAT HE HAD BEEN TO GULFPORT, MS., HOLIDAY INN, ALONG WITH "THE FATHER" (NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED BY WILSON), WHERE HE HAD SEEN PERSONS BELIEVED TO BE WITH THE FBI. HE WAS NOW BACK AT HIS RESIDENCE WATCHING THE WINDOWS AND WOULD BLOW THE HEAD OFF OF ANYONE WHO CAME, EXCEPT "THE FATHER."

ABOUT THREE HOURS LATER, MR. AND MRS. GLADDEN WERE SURPRISED TO SEE WILSON WALK INTO THEIR GIFT SHOP. HE WAS CLEAN SHAVEN AND NEAT. HE APPARENTLY HAD NOT BEEN DRINKING. HE IMPLIED HE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE FBI, BUT THEY WERE NOT GOING TO DO ANYTHING TO HIM. HE HAD MADE SOME KIND OF

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BARGAIN. HE NOW WANTED TO LIVE A NORMAL LIFE AND ASKED IF HE COULD KEEP HIS WATCH REPAIR BUSINESS IN THE BACK OF GLADDEN'S STORE AS USUAL.

THE GLADDENS ADVISED WILSON THEY WERE SERIOUSLY CONTEMPLATING SELLING THE BUSINESS AND HAD ALREADY CONTACTED A REALTOR.

AT 6:28 PM, 8/18/76, FIVE FBI AGENTS ESTABLISHED PHYSICAL OBSERVATION AT THE HOLIDAY INN, U. S. HIGHWAY 90, GILFPORT, MS.

AT APPROXIMATELY 6:45 PM, A 1970 PLYMOUTH BEARING JACKSON COUNTY, MS., LICENSE JAH-537 STOPPED IN FRONT OF THE HOLIDAY INN AND A WHITE MALE, WHO LATER ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE WAS BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., EXITED THE VEHICLE AND ENTERED THE HOLIDAY INN. THE WHITE MALE DRIVER OF THE VEHICLE THEREAFTER PARKED THE VEHICLE AND CAME TO THE ENTRANCE OF THE HOLIDAY INN, WHERE HE WAS APPROACHED BY SA BENJAMIN F. GRAVES AND WAS ASKED IF HE WAS FATHER NOEL FANNON AND HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE WAS.

FATHER FANNON WAS ADVISED THAT GENE BARKSDALE, SHERIFF OF SHELBY COUNTY, MEMPHIS, TENN., WAS NOT GOING TO MEET

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WILSON. HE WAS ADVISED THAT AGENTS OF THE FBI WERE IN THE MOTEL AND HE WAS REQUESTED TO TELL WILSON THAT THE SHERIFF WAS NOT GOING TO MEET HIM; HOWEVER, THE FBI AGENTS WERE AT THE MOTEL AND DESIRED TO TALK WITH HIM IF HE, WILSON, WOULD AGREE TO TALK WITH THE AGENTS. FATHER FANNON STATED HE WOULD LIKE TO TALK TO WILSON BECAUSE SHERIFF BARKSDALE HAD LIED ABOUT HIS APPEARANCE IN GULFPORT.

FATHER FANNON THEREAFTER ENTERED THE MOTEL AND TALKED WITH WILSON IN THE LOBBY. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, THEY BOTH RETURNED TO THE SIDEWALK IN FRONT OF THE MOTEL AND SA GRAVES IDENTIFIED HIMSELF TO WILSON AND ASKED HIM IF HE WERE BURGESS AUDIE WILSON. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE WAS AND LATER STATED HE WAS A JUNIOR.

WILSON WAS ADVISED THAT SHERIFF BARKSDALE WAS NOT THERE TO MEET HIM, HOWEVER, FBI AGENTS WERE THERE AND DESIRED TO TALK WITH HIM, PARTICULARLY ABOUT HIS DAUGHTER SUPPOSEDLY HAVING DRIVEN A WHITE MUSTANG FROM KANSAS CITY, MO., TO MEMPHIS, TENN. HE STATED HE HAD NO INFORMATION TO FURNISH THE FBI. WILSON INQUIRED AS TO WHETHER OR NOT HE WAS UNDER ARREST AND HE WAS ADVISED HE WAS NOT UNDER ARREST. WILSON

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COMMENTED HE WAS NOT GOING TO GIVE ANYONE ANY TROUBLE. HE WAS ASKED IF HE HAD ANY WEAPONS ON HIM AND HE STATED HE DID NOT AND THAT SA GRAVES COULD SEARCH HIM IF HE SO DESIRED. WILSON WAS THEN "PATTED DOWN" AND NO WEAPONS WERE FELT ON HIS BODY.

WILSON COMMENTED THAT HE AND FATHER FANNON HAD BEEN TO THE MOTEL AT 9:30 AM, 8/13/78, AND AGAIN AT 6:30 PM, 8/18/78, TO SEE SHERIFF BARKSDALE AND THE SHERIFF HAD LIED TO THEM.

WILSON THEN ASKED FATHER FANNON IF HE WOULD DRIVE HIM BACK TO THE PLACE HE HAD BEEN PICKED UP AND FATHER FANNON AGREED TO DO SO.

WILSON WAS AGAIN ADVISED THAT FBI AGENTS WERE AT THE MOTEL AND WERE STILL WILLING TO TALK TO HIM AND HE REITERATED HE HAD NOTHING TO SAY TO THE FBI AND, AS HE DEPARTED, COMMENTED THAT THE FBI IN THE PAST HAD HARASSED HIS FATHER WITHOUT ANY EXPLANATION.

FATHER FANNON AND WILSON THEREAFTER LEFT THE AREA OF THE HOLIDAY INN IN FATHER FANNON'S VEHICLE PROCEEDING EAST ON HIGHWAY 90. A SURVEILLANCE WAS MAINTAINED ON THE VEHICLE.

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SHORTLY AFTER WILSON AND FATHER FANNON LEFT THE MOTEL, JACKSON ASAC TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THE GULFPORT RA THAT INFORMATION HAD BEEN RECEIVED THAT NCIC REVEALED WILSON WAS WANTED BY THE NEW BRAUNSFELS, TX., PD FOR PROBATION VIOLATION ON A WARRANT ISSUED APRIL 18, 1978.

THE OCEAN SPRINGS PD WAS NOTIFIED OF THIS OUTSTANDING WARRANT AND THE SURVEILLANCE OF FATHER FANNON'S VEHICLE WAS MAINTAINED UNTIL THE VEHICLE ENTERED OCEAN SPRINGS, MS. (APPROXIMATELY 15 MILES), AT WHICH TIME THE VEHICLE WAS STOPPED BY OFFICERS OF THE OCEAN SPRINGS PD AND WILSON WAS ARRESTED AT 7:35 PM, AND INCARCERATED IN THE OCEAN SPRINGS JAIL.

WILSON WAS RIDING AS A PASSENGER IN A PLYMOUTH SEDAN OWNED AND DRIVEN BY FATHER NOEL FANNON, PRIEST AT ST. ELIZABETH SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH, OCEAN SPRINGS. WILSON ADMITTED HIS FULL IDENTITY AS BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., AND WAS TAKEN TO THE OCEAN SPRINGS PD. HE DECLINED TO TALK TO THE FBI.

ON AUGUST 18, 1978, AT 9:17 PM, REV. NOEL FANNON, PASTOR, ST. ELIZABETH SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH, OCEAN SPRINGS,

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MS., APPEARED AT THE OCEAN SPRINGS PD TO VISIT WILSON. FATHER FANNON WAS INTERVIEWED, AT WHICH TIME HE ADVISED HE FIRST MET WILSON THE MORNING OF AUGUST 18, 1978, WHILE EATING BREAKFAST AT THE MASTER GRILL RESTAURANT, HIGHWAY 98, OCEAN SPRINGS. HE HAD NEVER SEEN WILSON BEFORE THIS TIME.

WILSON INDICATED HE WANTED TO CONFIDE IN FATHER FANNON AND FOLLOWING THEIR CONVERSATION, THE NATURE OF WHICH FATHER FANNON REFUSED TO DIVULGE, FANNON AGREED TO FOLLOW WILSON IN THEIR AUTOMOBILES TO THE HOLIDAY INN, GULFPORT, MS., WHERE WILSON HAD TOLD FATHER FANNON HE WOULD MEET SHELBY COUNTY, TENN., SHERIFF GENE BARKSDALE. AFTER THE MORNING MEETING IN GULFPORT DID NOT COME OFF, AND AT THE URGING OF WILSON, FATHER FANNON PERSONALLY TELEPHONED SHERIFF GENE BARKSDALE IN MEMPHIS. DURING THEIR CONVERSATION, SHERIFF BARKSDALE ASSURED FATHER FANNON HE WOULD PERSONALLY FLY TO GULFPORT, MS., IN ORDER TO MEET WITH FATHER FANNON AND WILSON AT 6:30 PM AT THE HOLIDAY INN.

FATHER FANNON ADVISED HE CANNOT COMMENT ON WILSON PERSONALLY DUE TO THE SHORT LENGTH OF TIME HE HAD CONTACT WITH THIS INDIVIDUAL. HE CONTINUED TO POLITELY REFUSE TO

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REVEAL THE NATURE OF WILSON'S CONFIDENCE IN HIM.

FATHER FANNON WAS ADVISED BY JACKSON SA IN BRIEF CONCERNING WILSON'S REMARKS TO THE GLADDENS ABOUT HIS INVOLVEMENT IN THE KING ASSASSINATION; HOWEVER, FATHER FANNON REFUSED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THIS ALSO HAD BEEN THE SUBJECT OF WILSON'S CONFIDENCE IN HIM.

SAN ANTONIO DIVISION AT NEW BRAUNSFELS, TEXAS. CONTACT NEW BRAUNSFELS PD AND ADVISED THEM OF WILSON'S INCARCERATION AT OCEAN SPRINGS, MISS., PD, TELEPHONE 875-2211.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUING JACKSON DIVISION.

BT

SA 1

JUN 03 2310724Z

OO HQ ME SA

BT JW

O 190724Z AUG 78

FM JACKSON (62-544) (P) ✓

TO DIRECTOR (44-3886L) IMMEDIATE
MEMPHIS (44-1987 SUB M) IMMEDIATE
SAN ANTONIO (44-1242) (IMMEDIATE)
BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ATTN CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRIES UNIT, ROOM 8988, JEN BUILDING.

MURKIN. ←

ON AUGUST 18, 1978, AT 6 PM, MR. WILLIAM DON GLADDEN,
AGE 46, W/M, RT. 3, BOX 295H-3 (MEADOW LARK DRIVE), GULF PARK
ESTATES, OCEAN SPRINGS, MS., TELEPHONE 875-3518 ADVISED AS
FOLLOWS:

HE IS EMPLOYED AS MGR. OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE IN
GULFPORT, MS. (TELEPHONE 896-3221). HE AND HIS WIFE, ALICE
A. GLADDEN, OWN A GIFT SHOP, "SEASONS AND REASONS," 2446
HIGHWAY 90 EAST, OCEAN SPRINGS, MS. (TELEPHONE 875-2531).

ON OR ABOUT JULY 26, 1978, A W/M BY THE NAME OF "BILL"

DISPATCHED NEW BRAUNFELS P.O.
JUDY MAYER ADVISED
OF WILSON'S ARREST.
VLH 325 AM 8/19/78

44-1242-655

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WILSON CAME TO THEIR GIFT SHOP IN OCEAN SPRINGS SAYING THAT HE PLANNED TO OPEN A WATCH REPAIR BUSINESS IN THE EDGEWATER MALL SHOPPING CENTER, BILOXI, MS., AND WOULD LIKE TO USE THE GLADDENS' GIFT SHOP AS A PICKUP POINT FOR HIS WATCH REPAIR BUSINESS. GLADDEN ADVISED NEITHER HE NOR HIS WIFE HAD EVER MET WILSON PRIOR TO THIS TIME. FOUR OR FIVE DAYS LATER, GLADDEN AGREED TO LET WILSON RENT A ROOM TO THE REAR OF GLADDEN'S GIFT SHOP IN WHICH WILSON SET UP HIS WATCH REPAIR BUSINESS. GLADDEN AGREED TO LET WILSON KEEP 20 PERCENT OF PROFITS COMING FROM THE WATCH REPAIR.

GLADDEN AGREED THAT HE AND HIS WIFE "GREW TO TRUST" WILSON FROM THE VERY BEGINNING AND CONSIDERED HIM TO BE A VERY HARD WORKER, WHO PUT A LOT OF HIS OWN MONEY INTO LOCAL RADIO ADVERTISING BUILDING UP HIS WATCH REPAIR BUSINESS. WILSON LATER TOLD GLADDEN HE HAD "POSTPONED" OPENING UP A BUSINESS IN THE EDGEWATER MALL. WILSON HAD HIS OWN JEWELRY AND WATCH REPAIR EQUIPMENT AND, ACCORDING TO GLADDEN, SPENT SEVERAL THOUSAND DOLLARS OF HIS OWN MONEY TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT AFTER RENTING THE SPACE IN GLADDEN'S BUSINESS. WILSON KEPT A KEY TO THE GIFT SHOP

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WHICH HE OPENED EVERY MORNING. HE WORKED HARD IN THE SHOP COMPLETING HIS WATCH REPAIRS AFTER WHICH HE WOULD LEAVE THE SHOP FOR PLACES UNKNOWN.

WILSON INDICATED TO GLADDEN THAT HE HAD A DRINKING PROBLEM AND WAS TRYING TO ESTABLISH HIMSELF AND WORK HARD IN THE WATCH REPAIR BUSINESS IN HOPES OF GETTING OVER THIS PROBLEM.

AT THE BEGINNING, WILSON RESIDED AT APARTMENT NO. 9, TWIN PINES MOTEL, OCEAN SPRINGS, MS., BUT AT AN UNKNOWN LATER DATE MOVED TO ROUTE 6, BOX 367, ROUTE SPRINGS (TELEPHONE 875-9542).

NEITHER GLADDEN NOR HIS WIFE HAD EVER VISITED WILSON AT THE ABOVE TWO RESIDENCES AND ONLY TOOK WILSON'S WORD THAT HE LIVED THERE. ACCORDING TO GLADDEN, WILSON COMMENTED THAT HE IS STAYING IN A HOUSE OWNED BY AN UNIDENTIFIED FRIEND AND IS NOT PAYING ANY RENT AS LONG AS HE KEEPS THE HOUSE IN REPAIR.

WILSON RECENTLY TOOK GLADDEN AND GLADDEN'S SON FOR A RIDE IN AN AIRPLANE PILOTED BY WILSON. GLADDEN CONSIDERS

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KNOW EVERYTHING THERE WAS TO KNOW ABOUT FLYING AIRPLANES IN ROUGH WEATHER.

GLADDEN FURTHER ADVISED THAT IN HIS OPINION WILSON IS AN "EXTREMELY INTELLIGENT MAN"; HOWEVER, HE IS UNAWARE OF THE EXTENT OF WILSON'S EDUCATION.

GLADDEN ADVISED THAT AT 11:45 PM, ON 8/17/78, WILSON TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED HIM AT HIS RESIDENCE SAYING HE HAD TO TALK TO GLADDEN AND HIS WIFE ABOUT SOMETHING THAT COULD NOT WAIT UNTIL THE MORNING. WILSON REFUSED TO STATE BY TELEPHONE WHY HE WANTED TO TALK TO GLADDEN AND HE REFUSED TO COME TO GLADDEN'S RESIDENCE. WILSON SAID HE NEEDED TO TALK ABOUT SOMETHING OF "NATIONAL URGENCY." THEY AGREED TO MEET AT GLADDEN'S GIFT SHOP AT OCEAN SPRINGS AT 12:15 AM, 8/18/78. GLADDEN ADVISED HE TOOK HIS WIFE AND 16 YEAR OLD SON, JOHN W. GLADDEN, TO THE SHOP WHERE HE MET WILSON AT THE ABOVE TIME. WILSON ARRIVED ALONE, DRIVING AN OLD MODEL BLUE CHEVROLET SEDAN WITH WHITE TOP, BEARING UNKNOWN LOUISIANA TAG. WILSON APPARENTLY HAD BEEN DRINKING INASMUCH AS HIS EYES WERE VERY RED AND HE SMELLED OF ALCOHOL; HOWEVER, HE DID NOT TALK LIKE AN INTOXICATED PERSON IN

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GLADDEN'S OPINION AND SEEMED TO BE "VERY DEPRESSED."

WILSON SAID "I'M THE MYSTERY MAN. I'M THE MAN THAT MURDERED MARTIN LUTHER KING." THEY TALKED FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR AND 15 MINUTES. WILSON STATED THAT HE GREW UP IN GRENADA, MS., WHERE HIS FATHER WAS A BAPTIST MINISTER. THE BLACKS (REFERRED TO AS "NEGRES AND NIGGERS" BY WILSON), WHO LIVED IN THE AREA WERE WELCOMED TO WORSHIP AT THE CHURCH; HOWEVER, WHEN THE NORTHERN BLACKS BEGAN TO COME DOWN SOUTH, WILSON'S FATHER WELCOMED THEM INTO HIS CHURCH ONLY IF THEY CAME TO WORSHIP AND NOT TO CAUSE TROUBLE. ACCORDING TO WILSON, THE BLACKS HAD COME FOR TROUBLE AND IT WAS FOR THIS REASON THAT HIS ATTITUDE BEGAN TO CHANGE TOWARD BLACKS.

WILSON TOLD THE GLADDENS, "I AM THE ONE THAT PULLED THE TRIGGER. THERE WAS A CONSPIRACY. I WAS THE LOGICAL ONE." WILSON TOLD THE GLADDENS HE HAD "BEEN WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND GOT INVOLVED IN SOME UNDECLARED WARS." (HE DID NOT FURTHER ELABORATE; HOWEVER, GLADDEN RECALLED THAT WILSON ONCE MENTIONED HE HAD BEEN IN THE AIR FORCE.) WILSON CLAIMED TO KNOW MARTIN LUTHER KING'S FATHER AND BROTHER AND STATED HE GREW UP NEXT DOOR TO A COUSIN OF MARTIN LUTHER KING AND

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"KNEW HIS ENTIRE FAMILY."

GLADDEN RECALLED THAT HE (GLADDEN) HAD ONCE PURCHASED A USED MUSTANG FOR HIS DAUGHTER. ON SEEING THE VEHICLE WILSON REMARKED HE HAD ONCE PURCHASED A WHITE MUSTANG FOR HIS DAUGHTER.

DURING THE CONVERSATION ON THE EARLY MORNING OF 6/18/73, WILSON STATED THAT HIS DAUGHTER HAD DRIVEN THE WHITE MUSTANG TO MEMPHIS AT THE TIME OF THE KING KILLING. WILSON COMMENTED THAT HE WAS IN MEMPHIS AT THAT TIME, BUT HAD DOCUMENTED HIMSELF TO BE IN KANSAS CITY AS AN ALIBI. WILSON STATED THAT JAMES EARL RAY WAS THE "FALL GUY." "MAY ONLY SAW ME TWICE, BUT I KNEW HIM. RAY WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE GOTTEN AWAY CLEAN. I'M SURPRISED RAY HAS BROUGHT IT ALL BACK UP AGAIN BECAUSE HE WOULD HAVE HIS PAROLE IN TWO YEARS."

WILSON TOLD THE GLADDENS THAT HE WOULD NOT SEE THEM ANYMORE AFTER TONIGHT AND HE WANTED THEM TO HAVE ALL HIS EXPENSIVE WATCH REPAIR EQUIPMENT.

WILSON, AGAIN REFERRING TO THE KING ASSASSINATION, STATED, "IT WAS PART OF A GROUP CONSPIRACY." HE PROVIDED NO FURTHER DETAILS STATING HE WOULD ONLY DEAL WITH THE

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"SHERIFF OF MEMPHIS (TENN.), WHO HE USED TO FLY WITH.

WILSON FELT THAT THE GOVERNMENT WANTED IT TO HAPPEN TO KING.

"I KNEW IT NEEDED TO BE DONE." WILSON DID NOT BELIEVE HE WOULD HAVE TO SERVE MUCH TIME FOR HIS INVOLVEMENT, STATING

"I'M NOT SORRY I DID IT. THE NIGGERS ARE BETTER OFF."

LATER IN THE CONVERSATION WITH THE GLADDENS, WILSON SAID HE WAS SORRY HE HAD DONE IT.

WILSON STATED HE HAD TALKED WITH THE MEMPHIS SHERIFF BY PHONE AND WAS TO MEET HIM AT THE GULFPORT, MS., HOLIDAY INN DURING THE MORNING OF 8/18/78. WILSON SPECULATED AS TO WHETHER OR NOT HE WOULD BE PROVIDED WITH A TV IN HIS CELL AND INDICATED HE PROBABLY WOULD BE GIVEN WORK AS AN INSTRUCTOR OR REPAIRMAN OF WATCHES WHILE IN JAIL.

REVERTING TO THE KING ASSASSINATION, WILSON TOLD THE GLADDENS THAT HE SHOT KING "NOT FROM 50 YARDS AWAY, BUT 50 FEET AWAY." HE WAS CLOSE ENOUGH TO SEE THE BULLET HIT AND STATED SPECIFICALLY THAT "I SHOT THE SHIT OUT OF HIM AND SAW IT FLY." WILSON NEVER MENTIONED TO GLADDEN THE TYPE OF GUN HE ALLEGEDLY USED OR THE LOCATION FROM WHICH HE ALLEGEDLY SHOT KING.

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AT ONE POINT IN THE CONVERSATION WITH THE GLADDENS, WILSON APPARENTLY FEELING A DISAPPROVING GLANCE FROM GLADDEN'S 18 YEAR OLD SON, WARNED THE SON HE HAD BETTER NOT INTERFERE.

CONCERNING THE UNIDENTIFIED MEMPHIS SHERIFF, WILSON OFFERED TO FURNISH THIS INDIVIDUAL'S NAME AND TELEPHONE NO. TO GLADDEN FOR VERIFICATION OF HIS REMARKS; HOWEVER, GLADDEN REFUSED. WILSON SAID HE HAS "GONE THROUGH TEN YEARS OF HELL, AND BECAUSE HE KILLED KING, IT RUINED 26 YEARS OF MARRIAGE; HOWEVER, HIS CONSCIENCE ONLY STARTED BOTHERING HIM IN THE LAST FEW YEARS.

APPARENTLY REFERRING TO A SKETCH OF KING'S KILLER, WILSON TOLD THE GLADDENS THAT IT WAS ALMOST AN EXACT LIKENESS OF HIM AND BECAUSE IT WAS RECENTLY SHOWN ON TV, HE DECIDED TO TURN HIMSELF IN. HE SAID HE HAS A SISTER IN FULTON, MS. (NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED), WHO TELEPHONED HIM IN OCEAN SPRINGS TO SAY THAT THE SKETCH LOOKED JUST LIKE HIM. WILSON TOLD THE GLADDENS THAT HE HAD TELEPHONED VARIOUS FAMILY MEMBERS TO LET THEM KNOW HE WAS TURNING HIMSELF IN.

WILSON ALSO STATED THAT HE, AT ONE TIME, INTENDED TO OPEN A WATCH REPAIR BUSINESS IN TUPELO, MS., BUT DECIDED

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AGAINST IT BECAUSE OF THE TENSE RACIAL SITUATION.

WILSON ALSO ONCE TOLD MRS. GLADDEN THAT HE GETS "FLIGHT PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS" AT KEESLER AIR FORCE, BILOXI, MS.

GLADDEN ADVISED THAT WILSON REPEATED HIMSELF MANY TIMES DURING THE ONE HOUR AND FIFTEEN MINUTE CONVERSATION ON 8/18/78, BUT HE PROVIDED NO FURTHER DETAILS CONCERNING THE KING ASSASSINATION, OTHER THAN THAT STATED HEREIN.

AT THE END OF THEIR CONVERSATION, GLADDEN ADVISED WILSON DEPARTED THE STORE IN HIS AUTOMOBILE AND HEADED IN AN EASTERLY DIRECTION. THE GLADDENS WERE AFRAID AND DISTURBED AT THE CONVERSATION AND PROMPTLY TELEPHONED THE JACKSON FBI OFFICE.

GLADDEN ADVISED THAT TO THE BEST OF HIS RECOLLECTION DURING THE SHORT TIME HE AND HIS WIFE KNEW WILSON, HE NEVER TALKED ABOUT HIS PAST, OTHER THAN TO MENTION THAT HE HAD BEEN IN THE U. S. AIR FORCE; HAD BEEN MARRIED FIVE TIMES, TWICE TO THE SAME WOMAN; HE GREW UP IN MISS.; AND HAD BEEN ON THE GULF COAST LESS THAN THREE MONTHS. THE GLADDENS DO NOT KNOW WHERE HE CAME FROM OR WHAT HE HAS DONE PRIOR TO HIS ARRIVING AT THEIR PLACE OF BUSINESS 7/26/78.

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GLADDEN ADVISED THAT IN HIS REGULAR BUSINESS AS SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE MANAGER HE HAS PERSONAL DEALINGS ON A FREQUENT BASIS WITH PEOPLE HAVING MENTAL PROBLEMS AND WHILE HE IS NOT A QUALIFIED PERSON IN THIS FIELD, HE IS NOT OF THE OPINION WILSON HAS MENTAL IMPAIRMENT. HE DESCRIBED WILSON AS A WHITE MALE; 5 FT. 8 INCHES; 155 LBS; MEDIUM BUILD; RUDDY COMPLEXION; GRAYING HAIR; AGE 48, WHO LIKES TO DRINK VODKA AND COKE.

ON 8/18/78, SHORTLY BEFORE NOON, WILSON TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED GLADDEN ADVISING THAT HE HAD BEEN BETRAYED, THAT HE HAD BEEN TO GULFPORT, MS., HOLIDAY INN, ALONG WITH "THE FATHER" (NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED BY WILSON), WHERE HE HAD SEEN PERSONS BELIEVED TO BE WITH THE FBI. HE WAS NOW BACK AT HIS RESIDENCE WATCHING THE WINDOWS AND WOULD BLOW THE HEAD OFF OF ANYONE WHO CAME, EXCEPT "THE FATHER."

ABOUT THREE HOURS LATER, MR. AND MRS. GLADDEN WERE SURPRISED TO SEE WILSON WALK INTO THEIR GIFT SHOP, HE WAS CLEAN SHAVEN AND NEAT. HE APPARENTLY HAD NOT BEEN DRINKING. HE IMPLIED HE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE FBI, BUT THEY WERE NOT GOING TO DO ANYTHING TO HIM. HE HAD MADE SOME KIND OF

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BARGAIN. HE NOW WANTED TO LIVE A NORMAL LIFE AND ASKED IF HE COULD KEEP HIS WATCH REPAIR BUSINESS IN THE BACK OF GLADDEN'S STORE AS USUAL.

THE GLADDENS ADVISED WILSON THEY WERE SERIOUSLY CONTEMPLATING SELLING THE BUSINESS AND HAD ALREADY CONTACTED A REALTOR.

AT 6:23 PM, 8/18/78, FIVE FBI AGENTS ESTABLISHED PHYSICAL OBSERVATION AT THE HOLIDAY INN, U. S. HIGHWAY 90, GLENNPORT, MS.

AT APPROXIMATELY 6:45 PM, A 1970 PLYMOUTH BEARING JACKSON COUNTY, MS., LICENSE JAH-637 STOPPED IN FRONT OF THE HOLIDAY INN AND A WHITE MALE, WHO LATER ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE WAS BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., EXITED THE VEHICLE AND ENTERED THE HOLIDAY INN. THE WHITE MALE DRIVER OF THE VEHICLE THEREAFTER PARKED THE VEHICLE AND CAME TO THE ENTRANCE OF THE HOLIDAY INN, WHERE HE WAS APPROACHED BY SA BENJAMIN F. GRAVES AND WAS ASKED IF HE WAS FATHER NOEL FANNON AND HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE WAS.

FATHER FANNON WAS ADVISED THAT GENE BARKSDALE, SHERIFF OF SHELBY COUNTY, MEMPHIS, TENN., WAS NOT GOING TO MEET

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WILSON. HE WAS ADVISED THAT AGENTS OF THE FBI WERE IN THE MOTEL AND HE WAS REQUESTED TO TELL WILSON THAT THE SHERIFF WAS NOT GOING TO MEET HIM; HOWEVER, THE FBI AGENTS WERE AT THE MOTEL AND DESIRED TO TALK WITH HIM IF HE, WILSON, WOULD AGREE TO TALK WITH THE AGENTS. FATHER FANNON STATED HE WOULD LIKE TO TALK TO WILSON BECAUSE SHERIFF BARKSDALE HAD LIED ABOUT HIS APPEARANCE IN GULFPORT.

FATHER FANNON THEREAFTER ENTERED THE MOTEL AND TALKED WITH WILSON IN THE LOBBY. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, THEY BOTH RETURNED TO THE SIDEWALK IN FRONT OF THE MOTEL AND SA GRAVES IDENTIFIED HIMSELF TO WILSON AND ASKED HIM IF HE WERE BURGESS AUDIE WILSON. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE WAS AND LATER STATED HE WAS A JUNIOR.

WILSON WAS ADVISED THAT SHERIFF BARKSDALE WAS NOT THERE TO MEET HIM, HOWEVER, FBI AGENTS WERE THERE AND DESIRED TO TALK WITH HIM, PARTICULARLY ABOUT HIS DAUGHTER SUPPOSEDLY HAVING DRIVEN A WHITE MUSTANG FROM KANSAS CITY, MO., TO MEMPHIS, TENN. HE STATED HE HAD NO INFORMATION TO FURNISH THE FBI. WILSON INQUIRED AS TO WHETHER OR NOT HE WAS UNDER ARREST AND HE WAS ADVISED HE WAS NOT UNDER ARREST. WILSON

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COMMENTED HE WAS NOT GOING TO GIVE ANYONE ANY TROUBLE. HE WAS ASKED IF HE HAD ANY WEAPONS ON HIM AND HE STATED HE DID NOT AND THAT SA GRAVES COULD SEARCH HIM IF HE SO DESIRED. WILSON WAS THEN "PATTED DOWN" AND NO WEAPONS WERE FELT ON HIS BODY.

WILSON COMMENTED THAT HE AND FATHER FANNON HAD BEEN TO THE MOTEL AT 9:30 AM, 8/18/78, AND AGAIN AT 6:30 PM, 8/18/78, TO SEE SHERIFF BARKSDALE AND THE SHERIFF HAD LIED TO THEM.

WILSON THEN ASKED FATHER FANNON IF HE WOULD DRIVE HIM BACK TO THE PLACE HE HAD BEEN PICKED UP AND FATHER FANNON AGREED TO DO SO.

WILSON WAS AGAIN ADVISED THAT FBI AGENTS WERE AT THE MOTEL AND WERE STILL WILLING TO TALK TO HIM AND HE REITERATED HE HAD NOTHING TO SAY TO THE FBI AND, AS HE DEPARTED, COMMENTED THAT THE FBI IN THE PAST HAD HARASSED HIS FATHER WITHOUT ANY EXPLANATION.

FATHER FANNON AND WILSON THEREAFTER LEFT THE AREA OF THE HOLIDAY INN IN FATHER FANNON'S VEHICLE PROCEEDING EAST ON HIGHWAY 90. A SURVEILLANCE WAS MAINTAINED ON THE VEHICLE.

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SHORTLY AFTER WILSON AND FATHER FANNON LEFT THE MOTEL, JACKSON ASAC TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THE GULFPORT RA THAT INFORMATION HAD BEEN RECEIVED THAT NCIC REVEALED WILSON WAS WANTED BY THE NEW BRAUNSFELS, TX., PD FOR PROBATION VIOLATION ON A WARRANT ISSUED APRIL 15, 1973.

THE OCEAN SPRINGS PD WAS NOTIFIED OF THIS OUTSTANDING WARRANT AND THE SURVEILLANCE OF FATHER FANNON'S VEHICLE WAS MAINTAINED UNTIL THE VEHICLE ENTERED OCEAN SPRINGS, MS. (APPROXIMATELY 15 MILES), AT WHICH TIME THE VEHICLE WAS STOPPED BY OFFICERS OF THE OCEAN SPRINGS PD AND WILSON WAS ARRESTED AT 7:35 PM, AND INCARCERATED IN THE OCEAN SPRINGS JAIL.

WILSON WAS RIDING AS A PASSENGER IN A PLYMOUTH SEDAN OWNED AND DRIVEN BY FATHER NOEL FANNON, PRIEST AT ST. ELIZABETH SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH, OCEAN SPRINGS. WILSON ADMITTED HIS FULL IDENTITY AS BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., AND WAS TAKEN TO THE OCEAN SPRINGS PD. HE DECLINED TO TALK TO THE FBI.

ON AUGUST 15, 1973, AT 9:17 PM, REV. NOEL FANNON, PASTOR, ST. ELIZABETH SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH, OCEAN SPRINGS,

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MS., APPEARED AT THE OCEAN SPRINGS PD TO VISIT WILSON.

FATHER FANNON WAS INTERVIEWED, AT WHICH TIME HE ADVISED HE FIRST MET WILSON THE MORNING OF AUGUST 18, 1978, WHILE EATING BREAKFAST AT THE MASTER GRILL RESTAURANT, HIGHWAY 90, OCEAN SPRINGS. HE HAD NEVER SEEN WILSON BEFORE THIS TIME.

WILSON INDICATED HE WANTED TO CONFIDE IN FATHER FANNON AND FOLLOWING THEIR CONVERSATION, THE NATURE OF WHICH FATHER FANNON REFUSED TO DIVULGE, FANNON AGREED TO FOLLOW WILSON IN THEIR AUTOMOBILES TO THE HOLIDAY INN, GULFPORT, MS., WHERE WILSON HAD TOLD FATHER FANNON HE WOULD MEET SHELBY COUNTY, TENN., SHERIFF GENE BARKSDALE. AFTER THE MORNING MEETING IN GULFPORT DID NOT COME OFF, AND AT THE URGING OF WILSON, FATHER FANNON PERSONALLY TELEPHONED SHERIFF GENE BARKSDALE IN MEMPHIS. DURING THEIR CONVERSATION, SHERIFF BARKSDALE ASSURED FATHER FANNON HE WOULD PERSONALLY FLY TO GULFPORT, MS., IN ORDER TO MEET WITH FATHER FANNON AND WILSON AT 6:30 PM AT THE HOLIDAY INN.

FATHER FANNON ADVISED HE CANNOT COMMENT ON WILSON PERSONALLY DUE TO THE SHORT LENGTH OF TIME HE HAD CONTACT WITH THIS INDIVIDUAL. HE CONTINUED TO POLITELY REFUSE TO

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REVEAL THE NATURE OF WILSON'S CONFIDENCE IN HIM.

FATHER FANNON WAS ADVISED BY JACKSON SA IN BRIEF CONCERNING WILSON'S REMARKS TO THE GLADDENS ABOUT HIS INVOLVEMENT IN THE KING ASSASSINATION; HOWEVER, FATHER FANNON REFUSED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THIS ALSO HAD BEEN THE SUBJECT OF WILSON'S CONFIDENCE IN HIM.

SAN ANTONIO DIVISION AT NEW BRAUNSFELS, TEXAS. CONTACT NEW BRAUNSFELS PD AND ADVISED THEM OF WILSON'S INCARCERATION AT OCEAN SPRINGS, MISS., PD, TELEPHONE 875-2211.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUING JACKSON DIVISION.

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FM SAN ANTONIO (44-1242)

TO DIRECTOR (44-33861) IMMEDIATE

JACKSON (62-544) IMMEDIATE

MEMPHIS (44-1987 SUB M) IMMEDIATE

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ATTENTION CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT

MURKIN; OO: MEMPHIS.

RE JACKSON TELS TO SAN ANTONIO AUGUST 18, 1978.

INSTANT DATE JO ANN CHILDRESS, 113 MILL, SAN MARCOS, TX,
ADVISED SHE MET BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., AKA BILL WILSON, AT
SATLER, TX, IN SEPTEMBER OF 1977, AND THEY WERE MARRIED IN
NOVEMBER OF 1977. THEY SEPARATED FEBRUARY 15, 1978 AND
DIVORCE FINALIZED APRIL 26, 1978. ON AUGUST 12, 1978 SHE RECEIVED
TELEPHONIC MESSAGE FROM WILSON INDICATING THAT HE WAS IN THE
STATE OF TENNESSEE AND WAS INVOLVED IN A CAR ACCIDENT. WILSON
STATED THAT AS A RESULT OF THIS ACCIDENT BOTH OF HIS LEGS WERE
AMPUTATED. CHILDRESS ADVISED THAT WILSON IS A "VERY CONVINCING
LIAR AND A CON MAN". HE HAS NEVER MENTIONED THE DEATH OF

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PAGE TWO SA 44-1242 UNCLAS E F T O

MARTIN LUTHER KING AND HAS NEVER DISPLAYED ANY HATRED OR DISLIKE FOR MEMBERS OF THE BLACK RACE. ACCORDING TO CHILDRESS, SHE BELIEVES THAT WILSON WAS IN THE U. S. ARMY DURING 1968, AND WILSON HAS STATED THAT HE WAS A P.O.W. DURING VIETNAM CONFLICT. SHE IS AWARE THAT WILSON VISITED THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, BUT SHE POSSESSES NO KNOWLEDGE OF HIM SUFFERING FROM ANY PSYCHIATRIC PROBLEMS. BY A PREVIOUS MARRIAGE WILSON HAS 3 CHILDREN, 2 SONS, AND 1 DAUGHTER, LOCATIONS NOT KNOWN BY CHILDRESS.

CHILDRESS ADVISED THAT IT IS HER PERSONAL OPINION THAT WILSON IS SICK AND SHE IS NOT IN THE POSITION TO PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION REGARDING HIS WHEREABOUTS IN 1968 OTHER THAN THE FACT THAT HE DID MENTION THAT HE ONCE RESIDED IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE.

LEAD: SAN ANTONIO AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, WILL ATTEMPT TO VERIFY VISITS TO VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL.

BT

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FM SAN ANTONIO (44-1242)

TO DIRECTOR (44-33861) IMMEDIATE HQ

JACKSON (62-544) IMMEDIATE JN

MEMPHIS (44-1987 SUB N) IMMEDIATE ME

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ATTENTION CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT

MURKIN; OO: MEMPHIS.

RE JACKSON TEL TO SAN ANTONIO AUGUST 13, 1973.

INSTANT DATE JO ANN CHILDRESS, 113 MILL, SAN MARCOS, TX, ADVISED SHE MET BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., AKA BILL WILSON, AT SATLER, TX, IN SEPTEMBER OF 1977, AND THEY WERE MARRIED IN NOVEMBER OF 1977. THEY SEPARATED FEBRUARY 15, 1978 AND DIVORCE FINALIZED APRIL 26, 1978. ON AUGUST 12, 1978 SHE RECEIVED TELEPHONIC MESSAGE FROM WILSON INDICATING THAT HE WAS IN THE STATE OF TENNESSEE AND WAS INVOLVED IN A CAR ACCIDENT. WILSON STATED THAT AS A RESULT OF THIS ACCIDENT BOTH OF HIS LEGS WERE AMPUTATED. CHILDRESS ADVISED THAT WILSON IS A "VERY CONVINCING LIAR AND A CON MAN". HE HAS NEVER MENTIONED THE DEATH OF

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LEAD: SAN ANTONIO AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, WILL ATTEMPT TO VERIFY VISITS TO VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL.

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JACKSON IMMEDIATE

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UNCLAS E F T O

ATTN CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRES UNIT, ROOM 3988, JER BUILDING.
MURKIN.

RECORDS, IDENTIFICATION BUREAU, BEXAR COUNTY JAIL,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, ON AUGUST 13, 1978, INDICATE BURGESS
AUDIE WILSON, JR., WHITE MALE, BORN AUGUST 28, 1931,
5 FT, 11 INCHES, BLACK HAIR, BROWN EYES, BOOKED INTO BEXAR
COUNTY JAIL JUNE 19, 1972 ON CONTEMPT OF COURT OUT OF STATE
DISTRICT COURT 57 (CASE NUMBER F 248-034). WILSON SERVED
TWELVE DAYS AND WAS RELEASED JUNE 30, 1972.

CENTRAL RECORDS, BEXAR COUNTY DISTRICT COURT, WILL
NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW UNTIL AUGUST 21, 1978.

ADMINISTRATIVE: RE MEMPHIS TEL, AUGUST 13, 1978.
SAN ANTONIO INDICES AND FILES REVEAL BURGESS AUDIE WILSON,
JR., WHITE MALE, BORN 8/28/31, TEXAS DRIVERS LICENSE (TDL) 44-1242-653

X JK

PAGE TWO: SA 44-1242 EFTO

NUMBER 7911315 EXPIRING 8/28/80, PREVIOUS ADDRESS, 113 MILLS STREET, SAN MARCOS, TEXAS IS SUBJECT OF SAN ANTONIO FILE 29-2620 CAPTIONED "BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR.: BF&E"; OO: SAN ANTONIO. WILSON ALLEGEDLY DEFAULTED ON A \$1,000 NOTE AT KYLE STATE BANK, KYLE, TEXAS AND IN A SECURITY AGREEMENT AND FINANCING STATEMENT FILED WITH THE HAYES COUNTY DISTRICT CLERK'S OFFICE, WILSON INDICATED THAT THE \$1,000 NOTE WAS OBTAINED TO PURCHASE CATTLE.

NCIC INQUIRY REVEALED BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., BORN 8/28/31 IN MISSISSIPPI, SSAN 422-34-1275, TDL 77911315 WANTED BY NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS POLICE DEPARTMENT AS PROBATION VIOLATOR, DATE OF WARRANT 4/18/78.

SAN ANTONIO AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, WILL REVIEW BEXAR COUNTY DISTRICT COURT RECORDS RE IDENTITY OF CHILDREN OF BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR. IN EFFORT TO LOCATE FORMER WIFE FOR INTERVIEW.

AT NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS, WILL CAUSE A REVIEW OF RECORDS OF LOGICAL POLICE AGENCIES REGARDING BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., SSAN 422-34-1275.

AT SAN MARCOS, TEXAS, WILL CONDUCT DISCREET INQUIRY TO DETERMINE IF RESIDENCE OF FORMER WIFE AND FAMILY FOR INTERVIEW.

BT

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☒ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☐ Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

☒ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☒ E F T O
☐ CLEAR

v Date 8/18/78

FM SAN ANTONIO (44-1242) P

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) IMMEDIATE *HQ*MEMPHIS 44-1987 SUB M) IMMEDIATE *ME*

JACKSON IMMEDIATE *SN*
 DALLAS IMMEDIATE *DL*
 BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ATTN CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRES UNIT, ROOM 8988, JEH BUILDING.
 MURKIN.

RECORDS, IDENTIFICATION BUREAU, BEXAR COUNTY JAIL,
 SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, ON AUGUST 18, 1978, INDICATE BURGESS
 AUDIE WILSON, JR., WHITE MALE, BORN [REDACTED]
 5 FT, 11 INCHES, BLACK HAIR, BROWN EYES, BOOKED INTO BEXAR
 COUNTY JAIL JUNE 19, 1972 ON CONTEMPT OF COURT OUT OF STATE
 DISTRICT COURT 57 (CASE NUMBER F 248-084). WILSON SERVED
 TWELVE DAYS AND WAS RELEASED JUNE 30, 1972.

CENTRAL RECORDS, BEXAR COUNTY DISTRICT COURT, WILL
 NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW UNTIL AUGUST 21, 1978.

ADMINISTRATIVE: RE MEMPHIS TEL, AUGUST 18, 1978.

SAN ANTONIO INDICES AND FILES REVEAL BURGESS AUDIE WILSON,
 JR., WHITE MALE, BORN * [REDACTED] TEXAS DRIVERS LICENSE (TDL)

44-1242-653

TEM:tem

Approved: *m/x*

Transmitted

94

(Number)

23502

(Time)

Per *RA*

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☐ Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ E F T O
☐ CLEAR

Date _____

PAGE TWO SA 44-1242 EFTO

NUMBER [REDACTED] [REDACTED] EXPIRING 8/28/80, PREVIOUS ADDRESS, 113 MILLS STREET, SAN MARCOS, TEXAS IS SUBJECT OF SAN ANTONIO FILE 29-2620 CAPTIONED "BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR.: BF&E"; OO: SAN ANTONIO. WILSON ALLEDGEDLY DEFAULTED ON A \$1,000 NOTE [REDACTED] AT KYLE STATE BANK, KYLE, TEXAS AND IN A SECURITY AGREEMENT AND FINANCING STATEMENT FILED WITH THE HAYES COUNTY DISTRICT CLERK'S OFFICE, WILSON INDICATED THAT THE \$1,000 NOTE WAS OBTAINED TO PURCHASE CATTLE.

NCIC INQUIRY REVEALED ~~W~~ BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., BORN [REDACTED] ~~WM~~ IN MISSISSIPPI~~X~~, SSAN [REDACTED] TDL [REDACTED] WANTED BY NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS POLICE DEPARTMENT AS ~~WM~~ PROBATION VIOLATOR, DATE OF WARRANT 4/18/78.

~~WMR~~ SAN ANTONIO AT SAN ANTONIO; TEXAS, WILL REVIEW BEXAR COUNTY DISTRICT COURT RECORDS RE IDENTITY OF CHILDREN OF BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR. *IN EFFORT TO LOCATE FORMER WIFE FOR INTERVIEW.*

AT NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS, WILL CAUSE A REVIEW OF RECORDS OF LOGICAL POLICE AGENCIES REGARDING BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., SSAN [REDACTED]

AT SAN MARCOS, TEXAS, WILL CONDUCT DISCREET INQUIRY TO DETERMINE IF RESIDENCE OF FORMER WIFE AND FAMILY FOR INTERVIEW.

BT

Approved: _____

Transmitted _____ (Number) (Time)

Per _____

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DE JN

I 19 2242Z AUG 78

FM JACKSON (62-544) (P)

TO DIRECTOR (44-33861) IMMEDIATE

BIRMINGHAM IMMEDIATE

DALLAS IMMEDIATE ALL OFFICES VIA FBIHQ

MEMPHIS (44-1987 SUB M) IMMEDIATE

SAN ANTONIO (44-1242) IMMEDIATE

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ATTENTION CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT

MURKIN; OO: MEMPHIS.

BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., INMATE, OCEAN SPRINGS CITY JAIL, OCEAN SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI, WAS INTERVIEWED BY FBI AGENTS, AUGUST 19, 1978, REGARDING HIS ALLEGED KNOWLEDGE AND INVOLVEMENT IN THE ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING AFTER HAVING WAIVED HIS RIGHTS, AND HE FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

WILSON ADVISED THAT THE TIME PRIOR TO THE MURDER OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, HE WAS LIVING IN GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI, IN A HOUSE ON

44-1242-652

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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PAGE 2 JN 62-544 UNCLAS E F T O

EYER'S ROAD WITH HIS WIFE, BETTY LOU, AND HIS THREE CHILDREN, DEBORAH, STEVE, AND MARK. HE WAS IN THE AIR FORCE RESERVE AND ALSO OPERATED A JEWELRY STORE.

IN THE COURSE OF HIS JEWELRY BUSINESS, HE MET A WHITE MALE ITALIAN WHO WAS IN HIS LATE SIXTIES AND WAS APPROXIMATELY 5 FEET 9 INCHES TALL, WEIGHED APPROXIMATELY 230 POUNDS, AND WHO OPERATED A JEWELRY TRADE SHOP ON WALNUT STREET. HE STATED THAT THIS WHITE MALE INTRODUCED HIM TO ANOTHER WHITE MALE ITALIAN BY THE NAME OF MITCH (LNU), WHO WAS IN HIS MID FIFTIES AND WAS APPROXIMATELY 5 FEET 10 INCHES TALL, AND WEIGHED APPROXIMATELY 190 POUNDS, WHO HAD BLACK, WAVY HAIR AND HAD SOME CONNECTION WITH A BONDING COMPANY, AND ALSO MITCH'S BROTHER, NAME NOT RECALLED, WHO FIT THE SAME PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION AS MITCH, BUT WHO HAD NUMEROUS CUT SCARS ON HIS FACE.

HE STATED THAT MITCH STARTED DELIVERING JEWELRY TO HIM FOR THE PURPOSE OF HAVING THE STONES REMOVED FROM THE FITTINGS. HE STATED MITCH USUALLY MET HIM AT A BAR ON WALNUT STREET WHICH WAS RUN BY A WHITE FEMALE AND IT ALSO APPEARED THAT MITCH MIGHT HAVE BEEN A PART OWNER OR HAD AN INTEREST IN THIS BAR. HE STATED THAT DUE TO THE VOLUME OF JEWELRY THAT MITCH WAS BRINGING TO HIM, HE

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ASKED MITCH ABOUT IT, AND MITCH ADVISED HIM THAT IT WAS STOLEN JEWELRY. MITCH TOLD HIM, HOWEVER, THAT HE, WILSON, WAS IN AS DEEP AS HE, MITCH, WAS AND THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO CONTINUE WORKING WITH MITCH. HE STATED THIS RELATIONSHIP WITH MITCH CONTINUED UNTIL 1970.

HE STATED THAT MITCH BROUGHT UP THE IDEA OF KILLING KING AND SAID THAT THERE WAS A \$50,000 CONTRACT ON HIM. HOWEVER, HE NEVER SAID WHO PUT OUT THE CONTRACT BUT SAID THAT HE COULD GET THE MONEY FOR WILSON IF HE KILLED KING.

WILSON STATED THAT MITCH WAS WELL AWARE OF HIS, WILSON'S, THOUGHTS CONCERNING KING AND THE BLACK CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT, IN THAT HIS FATHER, WHO WAS A PASTOR OF THE CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH AT GRENADA, MISSISSIPPI, DIED OF A HEART ATTACK WHICH HE, WILSON, THOUGHT WAS CAUSED AS A RESULT OF RACIAL TENSIONS AT GRENADA BROUGHT ON BY THE FORCEFUL INTEGRATION OF HIS FATHER'S CHURCH.

WILSON STATED THAT APPROXIMATELY FIVE OR SIX MONTHS BEFORE KING'S MURDER, HE STARTED GATHERING INFORMATION ON THE MOVEMENTS, HABITS, AND WHEREABOUTS OF KING.

WILSON ADVISED THAT HE HAD A RED AND WHITE BONANZA AIRPLANE, REGISTER NUMBER 34L, AND A CESSNA 310 TWIN-ENGINE AIRCRAFT, WHICH

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WAS BLUE AND WHITE, WHICH PLANES HE USED TO FLY TO DIFFERENT PLACES WHERE KING WAS SUPPOSED TO BE. HE STATED THAT HE RECALLS GOING TO HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA; TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI; JACKSON, TENNESSEE; ATLANTA, GEORGIA; AND GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA. HE STATED THAT WHILE AT TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI, HE STAYED IN THE RAMADA INN AND BELIEVES THAT IN THE OTHER PLACES HE VISITED HE STAYED IN HOLIDAY INNS.

HE STATED THAT MITCH FURNISHED HIM A JAPANESE SNIPER RIFLE. HE STATED THAT HE KEPT THE RIFLE AND THAT JUST BEFORE CHRISTMAS OF 1975, HE HAD IT REMORKED AT A GUNSHOP IN COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI, ON FOURTH STREET ACROSS FROM A BANK. HE STATED THAT THE LAST KNOWLEDGE HE HAD OF THE RIFLE, HIS OLDER SON, STEVEN WAYNE WILSON, HAD THE RIFLE AND A SHOTGUN BUT HAD TOLD HIM THAT HE HAD SOLD IT.

MR. WILSON ADVISED THAT THERE WAS A GARBAGE STRIKE IN PROGRESS AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, AND THAT MITCH CALLED HIM AT HIS STORE IN GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI, AND TOLD HIM THAT KING WAS COMING TO MEMPHIS FOR A RALLY AND INSTRUCTED WILSON TO COME TO MEMPHIS WHERE HE WAS TO MEET TWO MEN AT THE WONDER BAR LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF SUMMER AVENUE AND WHITE STATION ROAD.

MR. WILSON ADVISED THAT HE FLEW TO MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, IN THE

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BONANZA AIRCRAFT AND LANDED AT AN AIRPORT JUST NORTH OF RALEIGH, TENNESSEE. HE STATED THAT THE AIRPORT WAS OPERATED BY A LONG-TIME ACQUAINTANCE OF HIS WHO HAD ATTENDED A CHURCH WHICH WAS PASTORED BY WILSON'S FATHER IN THE PAST. WILSON STATED THAT HIS DAUGHTER, DEBORAH, PICKED HIM UP AT THE AIRPORT IN HER 1965 WHITE MUSTANG, WHICH WILSON HAD PREVIOUSLY BOUGHT FOR HER AND WHICH WAS REGISTERED IN HIS NAME IN MISSOURI.

HE ADVISED THAT DEBORAH AND HER MOTHER, BETTY LOU, WERE STAYING AT THE RESIDENCE OF WILSON'S FATHER-IN-LAW, VERNON HOOTEN, 3295 RUSKIN ROAD, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE. HE STATED THAT HOOTEN HAD HAD A HEART ATTACK AND THAT HIS WIFE AND DAUGHTER WERE TEMPORARILY STAYING AT THE HOOTEN RESIDENCE.

WILSON ADVISED THAT HE WENT TO THE WONDER BAR AND WHILE HAVING A DRINK TWO WHITE MEN APPROACHED HIM, ONE HAVING AN ACCENT SIMILAR TO A PUERTO RICAN.

THE TWO WHITE MALES FURNISHED HIM WITH FBI CREDENTIALS, WHICH HE STATED HAD A BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPH OF HIMSELF ON IT, AND THEY TOOK HIM AND SHOWED HIM WHERE KING WAS TO HOLD THE RALLY. THEY THEN TOOK WILSON TO A HOTEL ON SOUTH MAIN STREET NEAR BEALE STREET AND TOOK HIM TO A ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR. THEY TOLD HIM

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HE WAS TO BE IN THE CROWD AT THE RALLY AND THAT A DECOY SHOT WAS TO BE FIRED AND THAT HE WAS THEN TO SHOOT. THEY SAID THAT KING HAD A HABIT OF RAISING HIS ARMS OVER HIS HEAD WHEN HE WAS MAKING A SPEECH AND THAT THE SECOND TIME THAT HE DID SO, THE SHOTS WERE TO BE FIRED.

WILSON STATED THAT ON THE DAY OF THE MURDER HE WAS IN THE CROWD STANDING NEAR A WOOD FENCE APPROXIMATELY 60 FEET FROM WHERE KING WAS STANDING AND THAT WHEN KING RAISED HIS ARMS THE SECOND TIME HE SHOT HIM.

MR. WILSON ADVISED THAT HE HAD THE RIFLE WHICH HE USED STRAPPED TO HIS BELT UNDER A SUIT COAT AND ATTACHED TO HIS BELT ON A SWIVEL. HE STATED THAT THE BARREL PROTRUDED FROM BELOW HIS COAT BUT NO ONE QUESTIONED HIM CONCERNING IT. HE SAID THAT HE HAD PRACTICED A GREAT DEAL SWIVELING THE RIFLE AND FIRING IT.

HE ADVISED THAT AFTER THE SHOOTING, HE WAS STOPPED BY THE MEMPHIS POLICE, BUT HE SHOWED THEM THE CREDENTIALS, AND THEY LET HIM GO, AND HE WALKED ON DOWN THE STREET APPROXIMATELY TWO BLOCKS TO WHERE HE HAD LEFT THE MUSTANG PARKED. HE ADVISED THAT HE GOT IN THE MUSTANG AND DROVE BACK TO THE HOOTEN RESIDENCE, AND HIS DAUGHTER, DEBORAH, THEN TOOK HIM TO THE AIRPORT, AND HE GOT HIS PLANE AND FLEW BACK TO KANSAS CITY. HE STATED THAT THE AIRPORT