MANSAS. HE STATED THE AIRPORT WAS RUN BY (FMU) FISHER. HE ALSO WITCH GAVE HIM \$25,000 IN \$20 BILLS, AND FOLLOWING THE MUNDER, CREDENTIALS BACK TO MITCH. WITH WILSOW. WILSON HAS SIGNED EXTRADITION PAPERS, AND EXTRADITION IN APPEARANCE IN LEMPHIS ON APRIL 4, 1968. THE ASSASSIMATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING AND ALSO INTERVIEW 2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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BY POLYGRAPH OFERATOR FROM MEMPHIS DIVISION.

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FOR ANY CORRECTIONS PLESASE CONTACT JACKSON

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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 (44-1842) IMMEDIATE

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ATTENTION CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT

MURKIN: 00: MENPHIS.

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

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SYERS ADAD WITH HIS WITE, BETTY LOU, AND HIS THREE CHILDREN,
DEBCARA, 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 S INCHES TALL, WEIGHED APPROXIMATELY 250 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 OUT SCARS ON HIS FACE.

HE STATED THAT WITCH STARTED DELIVERING JEWELRY TO RIM FOR THE PURPOSE OF HAVING THE STONES REMOVED FROM THE FITTINGS. HE STATED WITCH USUALLY NET HIM AT A DAR"ON VALUAT STREET WHICK WAS RUD 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 HITCH WAS BRINGING TO HIM, HE

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ASKED MITCH ABOUT IT, AND MITCH ADVISED HIM THAT IT WAS STOLEN JEVELPY. 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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WHERE AING WAS SUPPOSED TO BE. HE STATED THAT HE RECALLS GOING TO HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA; TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI; JACKSON, TENNESSEZ; ATLANTA, GEORGIA; AND GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA. HE STATED THAT WHILE AT TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI, HE STAYED IN THE RAMADA IN AND DELIEVES 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 REWORKED AT A GUNSHOP IS COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI, GN FOURTH STREET ACROSS FROM A BANK. HE STATED THAT THE LAST KNOW-LEDGE 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.

AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, AND THAT WITCH CALLED HIM AT HIS STORE IN GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI, AND TOLD HIM I HAT KING WAS COMING TO MEMPHIS FOR A RALLY AND INSTRUCTED VILSON 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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BOWARZA AIRCRAFT AND LANDED AT AN AIRPORT JUST WORTH OF HALEIGH,

CONVESSES. HE STATED THAT THE AIRPORT WAS OPERATED BY A LONG-TIME

ACQUAINTANCE OF HIS WHO HAD AITENDED A CHURCH WHICH WAS PASTORED

BY WILSON'S FATHER IN THE PAST. WILSON STATED THAT HIS DAUGHTER,

DEBOKAH, 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 WISSOURI.

HE ADVISED THAT DEBORAH AND HER MOTHER, BETTY LOW, WERE STAYING AT THE RESIDENCE OF WILSON'D FATHER-IN-LAW, VERSON HOOTEN, 3655 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 DRIMK TWO WHITE MEN APPROACHED HIM, UNE HAVING AN ACCENT SIMILAR TO A PUERTO RICAN.

THE TWO WHITE MALES FURNISHED HIM WITH FEE CHEDENTIALS, WHICH
HE STATED HAD A BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPH OF HIMSELF ON 11,
AND THEY TOOK HIM AND SHOVED HIM WHERE KING WAS TO ROLD THE HALLY.
THEY THEN TOOK VILSON TO A HOTEL ON SOUTH MAIN STREET NEAR DEALE
STREET AND TOOK HIM TO A ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR. THEY TOLD HIM

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HE WAS TO BE IN THE CHOWD AT THE HALLY AND THAT A DECOY SHOT WAS TO SE 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 I HAT THE SECOND TIME THAT HE DID SO, THE SHOTS WERE TO BE FIRED.

VILSON 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 HIW TO THE AIRPORT, AND HE GOT HIS PLANE AND FLEW BACK TO KANSAS CITY. HE STATED THAT THE AIRPORT

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THAT HE USED WAS ON THE KANSAS SIDE ON THE HIGHWAY TO OLATHE, KANSAS. HE STATED THE AIRPORT WAS RUN BY (FMU) FISHER. HE ALSO STATED THAT HE HAD PURCHASED THE DONANZA AIRCRAFT FROM FISHER.

WILSON ADVISED THAT APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK BEFORE THE MURDER, MITCH GAVE HIM \$25,000 IN \$20 BILLS, AND FOLLOWING THE MURDER, MITCH GAVE HIM ANOTHER \$25,000, AT WHICH TIME HE GAVE THE CREDENTIALS BACK TO MITCH.

WILSON ADVISED THAT HE HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF JAMES EARL RAY HAVING BEEN INVOLVED IN THE CONSPIRACY.

THE ABOVE INFORMATION REFLECTS COMPLETE DETAILS OF INTERVIEW WITH WILSON.

VILSON HAS SIGNED EXTRADITION PAPERS, AND EXTRADITION IN PROGRESS BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

APPROPRIATE RECIPIENTS REQUESTED TO REINTERVIEW RELATIVES OF WILSON IN AN EFFORT TO RESOLVE INCONSISTENCIES CONCERNING HIS APPEARANCE IN MEMPHIS ON APRIL 4, 1968.

CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO ALLOWING TWO AGENTS FROM
NEWPHIS DIVISION WHO ARE THOROUGHLY FAMILIAN WITH THE MURKIN
"MATTER TO REINTERVIEW WILSON CONCERNING HIS ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT IN
THE ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING AND ALSO INTERVIEW

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SY POLYGRAPH OFERATOR FROM PEMPHIS DIVISION.

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FOR ANY CORRECTIONS PLESASE CONTACT JACKSON

44-1242 17 29-260 DALLAS IMMEDIATE MURKIN: V ON AUGUST 18, 1970, GENE BARKSDALE, SHERIFF, SHELBY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, FURNISHED FOXLOWING: WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS BURGESS AUDIE WILSON TELEPHONICALLY CONTAGIED SHERIFF BARKSDALE AT THE SHELDY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SUB-STATION, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE: WILSON FURNISHED SHERIFF 12 20 20. Xover 20.

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INFORMATION RECARDING PLACES AND THIPS HE HAD MADE WITH BARKSDALL
WHICH INDICATED THAT WILSON WAS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE TENNESSEE

ALR NATIONAL GUARD UNIT AT MEMPHIS.

THAT HE WAS THE MAN WHO KILLED DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JA.

HE RELATED THAT HE WAS THE TRICKER MAN AND WAS STANDING ABOUT 65
FREET FROM DR. KING IN A POSITION BELOW THE SALCONY WHERE DR. KING
WAS STANDING. ABOUT THREE DAYS PRIOR TO THE DEATH OF DR. KING
WILSON'S DAUGHTER, WHOSE IDENTITY HE DECLINED TO FURMISH, DROVE
A WHITE MUSTANG FROM KAMSAS CITY, MISCOURI, TO MEMPHIS,
TENNESSEE. HE WOULD FURMISH NO INFORMATION REGARDING THE
STORAGE OR USE OF TRUS WHITE MUSTANG AFTER THE MUSTANG REACHED
MEMPHIS, TENNESSES. HE DECLINED TO FURNISH ANY INFORMATION
REGARDING THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND THE EVENTS LEADING UP TO THE
KILLING OF DR. KING OTHER THAN WOTED ABOVE, BUT STATED THAT

HOLIDAY INA, CULTPORT, MISSISSIPPI, AT 5:30 AM, AUGUST 20, 1978. BARKSDALE WAS INSTRUCTED TO ENTER THE DINING WOOM AT THE HOLIDAY INA WITHOUT A COAT AND THAT WILSON WOULD SURRENDER TO

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HIM THERE. HE INSISTED THAT DARKSDALE BE ALONE, THAT HE NOT

BE MISTREATED AFTER HE SURRENDERED AND THAT BARKSDALE NOT

INFORM THE FEL, AND IF BETRAYED, HE WOULD NOT SURRENDER.

WILSON DECLINED TO FURNISH DARKSDALE HIS LOCATION, BUT BARKSDALE

BELIEVED THAT IT WAS A LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE CALL.

AT APPROXIMATELY 11:45 PM, WILSON AGAIN TELEPHONICALLY

CONTACTED BARKSDALE AND FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

HE HAD A CLEAR CONSCIENCE, HAD TALKED WITH HIS FAMILY,

AND WAS READY TO CONFESS TO SHERIFF BARKSDALE ALONE. HE AGAIN

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HE COULD REACH CULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI IN ABOUT ONE AND ONE HALF MOURS.

FARMON, PASTOR, ST. ELIZABETH SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH, OCEAN SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI, TELEPHONE NUMBER 875-0854, TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED SHERIFF BARKSDALE AND FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

ON THE MORNING OF AUGUST 10, 1976, HAVING BREAKFAST. BURGESS
NILSON APPROACHED HIM AND RELATED INFORMATION INDICATING HE,
WILSON, HAD SHOT DR. MARTIN EUTHER KING, JR., IM MEMPHIS,
TEMNESSEE IN APRIL OF 1986. HE INFORMED REVEREND FAMOUN THAT
HE WAS TO MEET SHERIFF BARKSDALS AT THE HOLIDAY INN, GULFPORT,
MISSISSIPPI, AND REQUESTED REVEREND FAMOUN TO FOLLOW NIM TO THE
HOLIDAY INN.

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WILSON ALSO TALKED WITH SHERIFF BARKSBALE ON THIS COCASION AND ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING THE FAILURE OF SHERIFF BARKSDALE TO MEET WITH HIM AT 9450 AM ON AUGUST 10, 1978, AS HE HAD PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED. SHERIFF BARKSDALE INFORMED WILSON THAT HE HAD BEEN ON DUTY ALL RIGHT IN CONNECTION WITH THE STRIKE INVOLVING THE MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO ARRANGE MATTERS SO THAT HE COULD MEET WITH HIM. BARKSDALE INFORMED WILSON THAT HE WOULD ATTEMPT TO ARRANGE A MEETING WITH HIM. WILSON INFORMED BARKSDALE THAT HE WOULD STAY IN THE VICINITY OF THE HOLIDAY INN, GULFPORT, AND WOULD CONTACT THE DEBY CLERK AT THE HOLIDAY INN PERIODICALLY IN ORDER FOR BARKSDALE TO APRANGE TO MEET WITH HIM. WILSON FURNISHED BARKSDALE TELEPHONE MUMBER GDI-864-4340 AB THE TELEPHONE MUMBER OF A HOLIDAY INN HE WOULD PERIODICALLY CONTACT.

DARKSDALE REPORTED THAT WILSON APPEARED TO BE COMERENT AND THIS INFORMATION WAS ALSO FURNISHED TO BARKSDALE BY REVEREND FARNON.

BARKSDALL FURNISHED INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM THE BUREAU OF IDENTIFICATION, SHELBY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, INDICATING THAT BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, FBT NUMBER 879 421 E, WAS ARRESTED AT THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ON MAY 14, 1964, BY THE MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT ON MAY 25, 1964, AND BY THE

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SHELBY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ON MAY 27, 1964 AND MARCH 24, 1965, WITH RESIDENCE AT 3612 COVINGTON PIKE, MEMPHIS. WILSON WAS ARRESTED BY THE BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS AUTHORITIES ON JUNE 12, 1972 FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT DRAWING OUT OF THE CHILD SUPPORT QUESTIONED IN BEXAR COUNTY. AT THE TIME WILSON RESIDED AT 1595 WEST CANYON LAKE DRIVE, CANYON LAKE, TEXAS. HIS EMPLOYMENT WAS SHOWN AS A JEWELER.

THE FBI FINGERPRINT RECORD INDICATES THAT WILSON IS KNOWN AS BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, UR. HE IS A WHITE MALE BOAN AUGUST 28, 1931, AT FULTON, MISSISSIPPI, 5'10" TALL, 155 POUNDS, BROWN EYES AND BROWN WAIR. WHEN ARRESTED IN MAY OF 1964, HE RESIDED AT 3095 RUSKIN ROAD, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE.

DURING CONVERSATION WITH SHERIFF BARKSDALE, WILSON INDICATED HE HAS A FATHER-IN-LAW, VERNON HOUTEN, WHO RESIDES AT 3595

RUSKIN ROAD, MEMPHIS, TELEPHONE NUMBER 356-4526, AND THAT CHELSEA AND HOLLYWOOD AVENUES, MEMPHIS, AND AT THE CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH, GRENADA, WISSISSIPPI. SUPERVISOR DRAW CLARK, AUGUST 18, 1978. SUCOP MEMPHIS INDICES AND FILES REVEAL BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., TRANSPORTATION OF VIWELRY IN 1975. AT THE TIME, IT CIRCLE, VALLEY HILL MALL, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, FROM EARLY 1971 JACKSON AT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, WILL CAUSE A REVIEW OF JR., FBI NUMBER 879-421 I. RE IDENTITY OF CHILDREN OF BUNGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., NOTING RE WAS BOOKED AT BEXAL COUNTY JAIL JUNE 19, 1972, FOR CONTEMPT OF COUNT GROWING OUT OF CHILD SUPPORT QUESTION IN BEXAR COUNTY: 2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

DALLAS IMMEDIATE AUG 1 8 1978 FBI - SAN ANTONIO

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