

KC 44-760

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The following individuals were contacted by SA RAY HOMESLEY, on May 1, 1968, in an attempt to identify (FNU) SLATTERY who took Delta Flight #55 from Birmingham to Memphis and Kansas City, on April 7, 1968:

GEORGE B. SLATTERY, 8441 Flora, Kansas City, Missouri.

Mrs. HELEN SLATTERY, 1004 East 29th Street, Kansas City, Missouri.

Mrs. MARGARET H. SLATTERY, 5628 Locust, Kansas City, Missouri.

Mrs. PANSY MOSER (SLATTERY), 632 Hardesty, Kansas City, Missouri.

Mrs. MARGARET L. SLATTERY, 600 West 96th Terrace, Kansas City, Missouri.

Mrs. SUSAN BROWN, Reservations Clerk, Delta Airlines, Kansas City, Missouri, advised she has no way of identifying passenger SLATTERY on Delta Flight #55 from Birmingham to Memphis and Kansas City, on April 7, 1968. She advised Delta Airlines records are maintained at Atlanta, Georgia, including credit records of passengers.

KC 44-760

RH:ss

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA RAY HOMESLEY at Kansas City, Missouri:

Mr. LYLE ROBINSON, 1017 Orchard Street, Liberty, Missouri, advised the Kansas City FBI Office by telephone on April 22, 1968, that his wife, ROSE ROBINSON, is a fifth grade teacher at the Forest Hill Elementary School, North Kansas City, Missouri, and taught a boy that made statements to the effect that MARTIN LUTHER KING should be shot. ROBINSON said also the boy's father, GERALD B. GERLT, residing in a trailer at 1910 Armour Road, North Kansas City, Missouri, made trips to Tennessee March 4-5, 1968, and March 14-15, 1968. Also the boy reported that the family was moving to California, but when school authorities contacted the mother, she denied they were moving. However, the family did move to El Cajon, California, on March 29, 1968. GERLT was reported to have a Citizens Band radio in his truck.

Mr. BILL CURNUTT, 1012 East 24th Street, North Kansas City, Missouri, also telephoned the Kansas City FBI Office and advised that his wife AUDRA CURNUTT teaches at the Forest Hill Elementary School and related substantially the same information as did Mr. LYLE ROBINSON. He stated he did not want he or his wife's name used as the person furnishing the information. He also related that the boy making the statements about MARTIN LUTHER KING is apparently emotionally disturbed. CURNUTT stated that the GERLT family operated a cafe on Armour Road in North Kansas City, Missouri, and lived in a trailer behind the cafe.

On April 22, 1968, Miss HELEN DONLEY, Clerk, Credit Bureau of Greater Kansas City, 1110 Grand, Kansas City, Missouri, furnished a report dated September 12, 1967, regarding GERALD B. GERLT, wife LOIS HELEN GERLT. This report shows the GERLTS have been on file at the credit bureau since April, 1955. He is shown as age 38 in 1967. Records show the following residence:

KC 44-760

2  
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1910 Armour Road, North Kansas City, Missouri  
North View Trailer Court, Falls City, Nebraska  
6020 Kansas Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas  
1800 South 55, Falls City, Nebraska  
2521 South 49, Falls City, Nebraska  
Box 733, Alpine, California  
1601 Armstrong, Kansas City, Kansas

Former Employment:

Claycomo Restaurant, North Kansas City, Missouri  
Northview Skelly Station, Falls City, Nebraska,  
January, 1967  
Jerry's Nursery, 6540 State, Kansas City, Kansas,  
February, 1967, to September, 1967

Loans:

11/30/67	Rosedale State Bank, Kansas City, Kansas, \$4177.60, secured by 1964 Great Lakes Home
7/28/67	Rosedale State Bank, Kansas City, Kansas, \$2357.79, unsecured note
10/26/67	Metropolitan National Bank, Kansas City, Missouri, \$5687.00, secured by a 1967 Cadillac DeVille, \$250.00 guaranteed by B and G Motors, Kansas City

On April 22, 1968, LEE CHAPMAN, Clerk, Kansas  
City, Missouri, Police Department, advised that no record  
for GERALD B. GERLT, 1910 Armour, North Kansas City,  
Missouri, could be located.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/17/68

Reverend BILLY MAX WUELLNER, Bethel Community Church, 21st and Military Avenue, Baxter Springs, Kansas, voluntarily appeared at the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, and furnished the following information:

On Wednesday, April 3, 1968, at approximately 2:30 PM, he attended a church board meeting at the Blue Castle Restaurant in Baxter Springs, Kansas. Around 1:45 PM, he was sitting in his church office, and LYNN RAY CLEVELAND walked into his office, unannounced, stating he wanted to rest and play the piano. He also requested a prayer session and during their brief conversation, CLEVELAND indicated he had been in a mental institution. He stated he was en route to Springfield, Missouri to contact a friend. CLEVELAND was observed to be hitchhiking and was not accompanied by anyone.

He indicated he had been on the road for approximately five days, and Reverend WUELLNER observed CLEVELAND did not have any luggage, however, was carrying a dark color tweed top-coat. He left the church office shortly before 2:30 PM, indicating he was hitchhiking to Springfield, Missouri. Reverend WUELLNER advised he could furnish no further information except to state this was the only time he had observed CLEVELAND, and further noted CLEVELAND could play the piano quite well.

Reverend WUELLNER personally confronted CLEVELAND at the City Jail in Joplin, Missouri on the night of April 9, 1968, and positively identified CLEVELAND as being the individual referred to above. He conversed with CLEVELAND, and stated there was absolutely no doubt in his mind whatever as to CLEVELAND being the individual referred to above; nor was there any doubt in his mind as to the fact he left the church shortly before 2:30 PM on April 3, 1968, as he, Reverend WUELLNER went directly from the church to his board meeting at the Blue Castle Restaurant.

Reverend WUELLNER added he could furnish no additional information and knew of no background data regarding CLEVELAND.

On 4/9/68 at Joplin, Missouri File# KC 44-760  
 by SA ROBERT E. HICKAM:ENV Date dictated 4/13/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/17/68

On April 10, 1968, fingerprints and palm prints were obtained from LYNN RAY CLEVELAND at the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, and retained as possible evidence.

While being printed, it was observed that CLEVELAND was very near sighted, having to squint and move his eyes close to a sheet of paper to read any normal printing or handwriting.

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1

Date 4/17/68

A review of the personal property in the possession of LYNN RAY CLEVELAND, when arrested by the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, revealed he had the following items on his person.

1. One five-cent piece.
2. One black billfold, containing the following items:
  - a. Receipt #2925 from One-Hour Martinizing, 1838 N. Glenstone, Springfield, Missouri, with notation "Promised Friday, 9:00 AM".
  - b. Small religious pamphlet, entitled "Is There Any Hope?"; bearing stamp "Southern Avenue Baptist Church, 3084 Southern Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee" "Dial-A-Devotion 323-2653". This pamphlet published by Faith, Prayer and Tract League, Grand Rapids, Michigan.
  - d. Library card #72 18575 in the name of LYNN R. CLEVELAND, 1870 N. Broadway, for the Public Libraries of Springfield and Greene County, Missouri.
  - e. Card bearing the printed notation Kirkwood Hotel, Kirkwood 22, Missouri, and the hand printed telephone number TH1-9791.
  - f. Identification card, First Assembly of God, 528 E. Main, Norman, Oklahoma, Reverend B. R. BRUMMETT, Pastor.
  - g. Identification card, Central Presbyterian Church, 20th and Arch Street, Little Rock, Arkansas.

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- h. Identification card, GEORGE BRITAIN, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Grants, New Mexico.
- i. Slip of paper containing the names LARRY HAYNES, RICHARD OLIVER, Missionary Pastor, 49 E. 15th Street.
- j. Slip of paper containing the name JERRY C. MURPHY, 806 N.W. 45th Street, Des Moines, Iowa.
- k. Identification card, American National Red Cross, St. Louis, bi-State Chapter, 212 E. Lockwood Avenue, Webster Groves, Missouri. This card contains the name ROSEMARY GAEBLER, Service To Military Families, printed in the lower left corner of the face of the card. The reverse side of this card contains the handwriting, Travelers Aid, Greyhound Bus Depot, 809 N. Broadway.
- l. Identification card, Haley Motor Company, Inc., 3rd and Marquette, N.W., Albuquerque, New Mexico. The hand-printed name GLEN SKIPWORTH appears on face of card.
- m. Social Security Application card in the name LYNN RAY CLEVELAND, Social Security Number [redacted] The card issued on January 2, 1968 for twenty-one days. Under the address of Social Security Office is address 907 Walnut (no city), telephone #FR4-2263.
- n. One key, bearing numbers 806 and 074233.
- o. Slip of paper containing the hand printed name BILL WILLIAMS, LA 1-5341, Dallas; and the name Rev. CLYDE BOX, Brookhollow Bapt., DeSoto, Texas.

- p. Slip of paper containing printed name and handwritten name ROBERT BECKS - Baptist.
- q. Slip of paper containing the hand printed name Reverend PAB MYERS, Box 253, Courtland, Alabama.
- r. Identification card, Mills Hotel, 442 N. Union Avenue, Ozark, Alabama, showing Mr. and Mrs. E. E. TIDWELL as managers.
- s. Weekly Gold Pass #11656, for the week of January 22 through 28, 1968, transit Bi-State System, good for free transportation service in Missouri-Illinois central fare area.
- t. Identification card, Calvary Temple Assembly of God, Springfield, Missouri, S. H. ROBINSON, Pastor.
- u. Guest card on Good Shepherd Refuge, 601 2nd Street, Albuquerque, New Mexico. This card is stamped December 18, 1967, and notes one LYNN R. CLEVELAND, St. Louis, Missouri, occupied bed #1-4 on December 4, 1967. The name Brother "EDWARDS" appears on the face of this card.
- v. Identification card Northvale Baptist Church, Durand Avenue, Harrison, Arkansas, J. A. KUHN, Pastor.
- w. Identification card, Dr. WILLIAM C. REED, Podiatrist, Suite 1405-A, The Stevens Building, 17 N. State, Chicago 2, Illinois.
- x. Guest card, Good Shepherd Refuge, 601 2nd Street, Albuquerque, New Mexico, showing LYNN R. CLEVELAND occupied bed #13, on November 21, 1967. The name Brother "GREGORY" appears on the face of this card.



KC 44-760

4

A Thermofax record was made of the front and reverse sides of all above items, copies of which have been retained.

3. Three pamphlets on the Shepherd of the Hills Farm, Branson, Missouri (no dates or notations thereon).
4. One Standard Service Station map of the United States and Eastern United States (no notations, addresses or dates thereon).
5. CLEVELAND, when arrested, was wearing blue pants, short sleeved white shirt, brown loafers, black socks, one blue suit coat (did not match pants), one blue tie, one dark color tweed coat, and a belt. All clothing was old and well worn.
6. One gold color safety razor, found in pocket of coat.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

4/17/68

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Detective Captain WALTER FLENNER, Joplin, Missouri Police Department, furnished the following information:

One LYNN RAY CLEVELAND was arrested by officers of the Joplin Police Department on April 9, 1968, and booked in the City Jail on charge of "Hold for Investigation - Homicide Other Cities". He advised the basis for the arrest was the fact some woman had observed CLEVELAND hitchhiking and felt he resembled the artist's conception of the slayer of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., which recently appeared in the local newspaper.

Captain FLENNER advised there was no other information and no evidence linking CLEVELAND with the slaying of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/17/68

Detective Captain WALTER FLENNER, Joplin, Missouri Police Department, furnished the following information:

On April 10, 1968, LYNN RAY CLEVELAND appeared in Municipal Court, Joplin, and pled guilty to a charge of Vagrancy. On April 10, 1968, CLEVELAND was sentenced to three days in the City Jail.

On April 10, 1968, one Reverend KEN RAGSDALE, Bolivar, Missouri, telephonically contacted Captain FLENNER and stated he recalled serving dinner to CLEVELAND on April 5, 1968 at approximately 3:30 PM at Bolivar, Missouri. Reverend RAGSDALE telephonically contacted the Police Department due to news accounts pertaining to the arrest of CLEVELAND. Captain FLENNER advised he did not secure any additional information from Reverend RAGSDALE, however, it was his opinion CLEVELAND had appeared in Bolivar, Missouri without funds, and sought assistance through the local ministers at Bolivar, Missouri.

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1 •

Date 4/17/68

LYNN RAY CLEVELAND was contacted at the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, and prior to being interviewed, was advised of his rights as indicated on a duly executed warning and waiver form. He stated he had no objection to orally answering questions, and he was told he was being questioned due to the fact an individual had reported him as resembling an artist's conception of the assassin of Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., the artist's conception having recently appeared in a local newspaper.

CLEVELAND was questioned in the presence of Detective Captain WALTER FLENNER, Joplin, Missouri Police Department, and furnished the following information:

CLEVELAND stated he did not shoot the Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., nor had he been in Memphis, Tennessee or Birmingham, Alabama at any time during the past two weeks. He stated he was not aware that Reverend KING had been murdered until two or three days after the incident, when he recalled someone talking about it. He advised he could furnish no information whatsoever as to the murder.

As to his exact whereabouts on April 4, 1968, he advised he was a traveling Baptist minister and evangelistic singer, and did not maintain any permanent residence. He advised he was unemployed and knew of no way to verify his whereabouts at any time unless some minister recalled being in contact with him on a certain date. He noted that for the past two to three weeks he had been intermittently at Springfield, Missouri, and when arrested by the Joplin, Police Department, on April 9, 1968, was hitchhiking from Springfield, Missouri to Tulsa, Oklahoma. He recalled he spent the night of April 8, 1968, sleeping in a truck at the Queen City Truck Stop in Springfield, Missouri. Efforts were made to trace his whereabouts, and when he could not furnish any definite information as to times, dates and places, he admitted having formerly been an inmate at the Terrill State Hospital, Terrill, Texas, on three different occasions in 1965 and 1966. He stated he entered the hospital because of "nerves".

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While he could not, in any way be exact, he vaguely recalled having left Springfield, Missouri during the latter part of March, 1968, and hitchhiked West. He noted, since he did not have any money, he normally contacted ministers at any town he was in, volunteering his services as a Baptist minister, and further noted he was an evangelistic singer and could play the piano at revival meetings. He stated this is the way he secured his food and enough money to live on.

On or about March 28, 1968, he recalled being in Kingman, Arizona, and in contact with individuals at the Assembly of God church. He believes he left Kingman, Arizona on or about March 28, 1968, hitchhiking back to Springfield, Missouri, and estimates arrival in Springfield, Missouri on or about April 4, 1968. After arriving in Springfield, he stated, to the best of his recollection, he spent the night at Hoff's Hotel on Olive Street in Springfield, Missouri. He stated the night before was spent at the Church Rectory somewhere in Oklahoma, exact location unrecalled.

When questioned as to the pamphlet in his possession, entitled "Is There Any Hope?" which bears the stamped address of The Southern Avenue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee, he advised he recalled having been in Memphis, Tennessee about one month ago and believed he stayed over-night at the bus station. He stated he was only passing through the area hitchhiking as he does continually, but believed he was in contact with a Catholic priest who bought him some breakfast at Memphis, Tennessee. He could not recall the name of the priest and knew of no one in Memphis who could verify this information. He noted he may have hitchhiked through Birmingham, Alabama a month or so ago, but did not stay overnight there and could furnish no information concerning anyone he might have contacted, or any place he might have stayed in Birmingham, Alabama.

CLEVELAND noted he had been in Springfield, Missouri more than any place else during the past several weeks, and while in Springfield, normally stayed at the YMCA, a small hotel across from the YMCA, the Midway Hotel, Calvary Mission, Hoff's Hotel, and the State Hotel. He could think of no other

KC 44-760

3

locations other than the Queen City Truck Stop, where he might have stayed in Springfield, Missouri. As to individuals with whom he was acquainted in Springfield, who might be able to furnish information pertaining to him, he furnished the following:

Reverend BARCLAY,  
Northwest Baptist Church,  
Springfield, Missouri;

Reverend TOM GEARS,  
Pythian Street Baptist Church,  
Springfield, Missouri;

RICHARD RUBLE,  
1871 N. Broadway,  
Springfield, Missouri.

CLEVELAND stated he presently had no room rented in Springfield, Missouri, and reiterated since he traveled continually, he had no way to positively establish his whereabouts on any given day.

As to prior arrests, he admitted having been arrested at Springfield, Missouri two or three weeks ago on a charge of investigation, and at Creve Coeur, Missouri, approximately one year ago; this also being on an investigation charge. He stated both arrests were because he had no personal identification on his person, or in his possession. As pertains to his having no identification, he stated his identification was stolen from him several months ago. He observed he also lost his glasses several months ago, and noted he is extremely near sighted.

CLEVELAND advised he left his home in Palmer, Texas in 1956 or 1957, and had not returned to Palmer, Texas at any time during the past year. He advised during the past year he had continually been on the road and the only place he had lived more than a few days at a time was at St. Louis Missouri where he resided at 2337 Whitmore Place, and was acquainted with one JIM FISHBACK who resided at that address. He stated he had not been in St. Louis, Missouri during the past month, and therefore no one in that area could furnish any information as to his whereabouts on a given date during the past two weeks.

KC 44-760

4

CLEVELAND advised he recalled leaving a suitcase at the Greyhound Bus Station in Springfield, Missouri about one month ago, and doubted if the suitcase was still there. He noted this contained personal clothing and he knew of no other clothing he had stored at any location.

The following description of CLEVELAND was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	LYNN RAY CLEVELAND
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of birth	
Place of birth	Palmer, Texas
Height	5'11½"
Weight	155 pounds
Build	Slender
Hair	Brown (receding and thin)(long sideburns)
Eyes	Blue
Scars and marks	1½ inch horizontal scar, right upper arm; 3 inch scar inside left forearm.
(permanent)	
Home Address	701 Main Street, Palmer, Texas
Parents	Mr. and Mrs. GARLAND FRANCIS CLEVELAND, 701 Main Street, Palmer, Texas.
Education	Claims lacked three months receiving BA Degree at Baylor University, Waco, Texas
Occupation	Baptist minister and evangelistic singer
Marital status	Single
Military Service	None
Miscellaneous	Claims formerly confined at Terrill State Hospital, Terrill, Texas during 1965 and 1966.

KC 44-760

5

After furnishing the above information, and being unable to furnish any definite information as to his whereabouts on any given date during the past two weeks, CLEVELAND was contacted by Reverend BILLY MAX WUELLNER, Baxter, Springs, Kansas, who identified CLEVELAND as having been at his church at 2:30 PM on April 3, 1968. When Reverend WUELLNER related the incidents to CLEVELAND, he was able to recall same, and recalled that he left Baxter Springs, Kansas, hitchhiking to Springfield, Missouri. His memory refreshed, he recalled he arrived in Springfield on the night of April 3, 1968, where he obtained \$20 at the Western Union Office, this money having been there approximately four or five days. The money was sent to him at his request from his father in Palmer, Texas. He noted he apparently left Springfield, Missouri prior to the money arriving there, and further recalled after he received the \$20, he stayed the night of April 3, 1968 at the State Hotel. To the best of his recollection, he stayed in Springfield, Missouri the next day and more than likely would have been in contact with RICHARD RUBLE, 1871 N. Broadway.

To the best of his recollection, he stayed the night of April 4, 1968 at the Hoff's Hotel. As to his whereabouts on March 29, 1968 and March 30, 1968, he could only state he was probably hitchhiking from Kingman, Arizona to Springfield, Missouri.

CLEVELAND's attention was called to the One-Hour Martinizing receipt in his possession which bore the notation "Promised Friday, 9:00 AM", and he was able to recall that he had some clothing at that establishment and he felt certain he would have placed the clothing there the day before, on a Thursday, April 4, 1968.

CLEVELAND was questioned as to the key in his possession when arrested and he stated, to the best of his knowledge, this possibly was a key to a locker at the Greyhound Bus Station, Springfield, Missouri, where he placed his clothing over a month ago. He noted he attempted to obtain the clothing from the locker, but the key no longer would fit the locker. He felt this was because the locker had been sealed due to the fact he had kept the key longer than the time allowed.



KC 44-760

6

Based upon above information, CLEVELAND stated he feels certain he would have been in Springfield, Missouri on April 4, 1968. He advised he would definitely state he was not in Memphis, Tennessee on that date, and that he had not been in Memphis, Tennessee or Birmingham, Alabama for at least one month. He observed that after his memory had been refreshed as to where he was, at a given time, that he was able to recall his actions immediately after leaving Baxter Springs, Kansas.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/17/68

Mr. and Mrs. GARLAND CLEVELAND, 701 Main Street, Palmer, Texas, arrived at the Joplin, Missouri Police Department to assume custody of their son, LYNN RAY CLEVELAND.

Mr. CLEVELAND, who stated he had been manager of the Barron Brick Company, Palmer, Texas, for the past 32 years, furnished the following information:

His son, LYNN RAY CLEVELAND, was born on [redacted] at Palmer, Texas. His son is an ordained Baptist minister, having been ordained at Palmer, Texas. Approximately seven or eight years ago LYNN RAY CLEVELAND suffered a nervous break-down and lacked only three months graduating from Baylor University. After suffering the nervous break-down, his son lost his church, and began a rather unstable existence with no permanent employment. He was placed in the Terrill State Hospital, Terrill, Texas, on three different occasions, during 1965 and 1966 due to his break-down and general mental condition. During the first part of 1967, his son walked away from the hospital and for the past year had been away from home, and apparently traveling over the country with no permanent residence or employment. He noted his son had not been in Palmer, Texas for the past year, and they in no way could verify his whereabouts on any given day during the past two weeks. He stated his son had never been known to carry a gun, and was considered completely harmless.

Mr. CLEVELAND noted the last word they had from their son was on or about March 26, 1968, when they received a Western Union Telegram from him requesting \$20 be sent to him at 1871 N. Broadway, Springfield, Missouri in care of RICHARD RUBLE. They sent this \$20 on March 29, 1968, from Ennis, Texas and had not seen or heard from LYNN RAY CLEVELAND since receiving the telegram. They advised this was not unusual as this was the only time they had contact with their son, that being when he needed money, and would either send them a telegram or telephone them, requesting same.

Mr. CLEVELAND stated their son had never been married, nor had he ever been in the Military Service.

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KC 44-760

2

Mr. CLEVELAND advised he was extremely upset, due to the publicity the arrest of his son had received. He stated he had already contacted an attorney and planned on suing the responsible persons for the news releases which had indicated that his son had been arrested as a suspect in the slaying of the Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mr. CLEVELAND was advised that his son was not in Federal custody, had not been arrested by the FBI, nor had any comment been made by the FBI at Joplin, Missouri, to any news media whatever.

Mr. CLEVELAND was interviewed in the presence of ADRIAN MEACHAM, Chief of Police, Joplin, Missouri.

On the evening of April 10, 1968, LYNN RAY CLEVELAND was released in custody of his father, GARLAND CLEVELAND for travel back to Palmer, Texas.

Mr. CLEVELAND advised that if it was necessary to contact his son in the future, contact could be made through him at Palmer, Texas.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/17/68

Officer D. A. MC AFEE, Joplin, Missouri Police Department, furnished the following information:

At 4:24 PM, on April 9, 1968, he was instructed by the Police Dispatcher to contact one VIRGINIA UHLER, Corral Motel, 3040 E. 7th Street, for information concerning a hitchhiker. He requested the description of the hitchhiker, and en route to the Corral Motel, observed a hitchhiker at 18th and Range Line. He checked this individual for information as to his identity and ascertained he was one LYNN R. CLEVELAND. He left the individual on the highway and proceeded to the Corral Motel, and contacted VIRGINIA UHLER, Manager of the motel.

Mrs. UHLER stated LYNN R. CLEVELAND had walked into the motel office and inquired as to directions to Tulsa, Oklahoma. While he was in the motel office, she had the television on, at which time a broadcast was being made of the MARTIN LUTHER KING funeral procession. CLEVELAND inquired as to whether or not it was the MARTIN LUTHER KING funeral, and according to UHLER, CLEVELAND appeared to be very interested in the television broadcast. After CLEVELAND departed, she telephonically contacted the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, as she felt CLEVELAND resembled an artist's conception of the individual who was being sought for the killing of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. She observed this artist's conception was recently published in the Joplin Globe Newspaper.

Due to the fact MC AFEE had not observed the artist's conception in the newspaper, he requested assistance to further check out the hitchhiker, and was assisted by officer B. W. FORNEY.

Officers FORNEY and MC AFEE arrested LYNN RAY CLEVELAND while he was hitchhiking at 31st and Range Line, and at the time of arrest, all that CLEVELAND had in his possession for identification was a library card on a Springfield, Missouri library. He also had a torn Social Security application card which was barely legible, showing Social Security Number  CLEVELAND stated he was en route to Tulsa,

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KC 44-760

2

Oklahoma from Springfield, Missouri, and had been traveling around in Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, and Tennessee. Found in his possession was one piece of religious material with the address, Memphis, Tennessee stamped on the back, which he stated he obtained from a bus station. At the time of arrest, CLEVELAND was carrying a top-coat, sports coat, and had a tie in his pocket.

It was observed CLEVELAND fit the description of the artist's conception which had appeared in the Joplin Globe, and he was therefore taken to the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, and booked on a charge of "Hold for Investigation - Homicide other cities".

At time of arrest, CLEVELAND had only five cents in his possession, and a billfold containing numerous cards from various churches.

When booked at the City Jail, CLEVELAND furnished the following information:

Name	LYNN RAY CLEVELAND
Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	33 years
Date of birth	
Place of birth	Palmer, Texas
Height	5'11½"
Weight	157 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Build	Slender
Complexion	Medium
Occupation	Musician
Father,	G. T. CLEVELAND Box 9263, Palmer, Texas
Marital status	Single
Address	2387 Witmore Place, St. Louis, Missouri

KC 44-760

3

CLEVELAND was booked in at the City Jail at 4:50 PM, to be questioned further by Detective Captain WALTER FLENNER.

Officer MC AFEE noted that neither he nor Officer FORNEY had any information whatever linking CLEVELAND with the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., other than the fact CLEVELAND resembled the artist's conception of KING's assassin as set forth above.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/18/681

Mrs. VIRGINIA E. UHLER, Owner and Manager, Corral Motel, 3040 East 7th Street, furnished the following information:

On the evening of April 9, 1968, an unknown individual, later identified as LYNN RAY CLEVELAND, walked in to her motel office and requested directions to the Tulsa, Oklahoma Turnpike. She furnished him the directions, and he then asked a question pertaining to the program that was on the television set in the motel office. She recalled at the time there was a program concerning the funeral procession of Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and CLEVELAND inquired if the program was about KING's funeral. She then recalled CLEVELAND making some sort of comment that not only KING, but BILLY GRAHAM, should devote more of their time toward other things than their own religious purposes. She stated she could not directly quote him, but felt he meant that no one should become wrapped up in their own thoughts to the exclusion of all other matters.

She stated CLEVELAND was alone, did not ask for any handouts, and she did not observe him carrying any luggage.

Mrs. UHLER advised he stayed in the motel office less than ten minutes and when he left the motel, she telephonically contacted the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, as she felt CLEVELAND resembled the artist's conception of KING's slayer which recently appeared in the local newspaper. She advised she had absolutely no reason at all to suspect CLEVELAND other than the fact he resembled the artist's conception, and he made no comment whatever indicating he had been in Memphis, Tennessee, or any comment even remotely indicating he was connected with the murder of Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mrs. UHLER advised she did recall CLEVELAND mentioning he was hitchhiking. This was the only time she had ever observed this person who was later identified as LYNN RAY CLEVELAND.

On 4/16/68 at Joplin, Missouri File# KC 44-760

by SA ROBERT E. HICKAM - lw Date dictated 4/17/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

KC 44-760

On April 23, 1968, FRANCIS MURPHY, Sheriff, Laclede County, Lebanon, Missouri, advised his records reflect DAVID L. WILSON was booked into the jail on August 5, 1967, by the Missouri State Highway Patrol, and released August 12, 1967. WILSON is described in the record as a white male, age 35 years, height 6'3", brown hair, blue eyes, medium complexion, residence - Dade City, Florida.

On April 23, 1968, records of the Magistrate Court, Laclede County, Lebanon, Missouri, revealed WILSON appeared there on August 7, 1967, and pled guilty to charge of driving intoxicated. He was fined \$100.00 and \$14.20 costs. His residence was listed as 1001 Lock St., Dade City, Florida, and he had Florida driver's license [REDACTED] and was driving a Willis Shaw truck from Springdale, Arkansas.

On April 23, 1968, Sheriff FRANCIS MURPHY, Deputies VIRGIL DAVIS and RALPH WATKINS, along with Missouri State Highway Patrol Officers Sergeant CLAUDE ARNOLD, JIM MORELAND, GLENN WILSON, and S.I. DAVID were exhibited a photo of subject, but none could give any information concerning him or make any identification.

Sheriff MURPHY advised there are only two taverns in Lebanon, Missouri--City Tavern and Mary's Tavern.

On April 23, 1968, LOUISE MUSSELMAN, City Tavern, 120 $\frac{1}{2}$  W. Commercial, and MARY SPARKS, Mary's Tavern, 107 North Madison, both Lebanon, Missouri, observed photos of subject and stated they were unable to recall him as ever being a patron in their respective taverns. Both said he is not a regular or occasional customer and they were unable to give any additional information.



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>ATLANTA</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>MEMPHIS</b>	DATE <b>5/17/68</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>4/18/68-5/15/68</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>JAMES EARL RAY, aka - FUGITIVE IO #4182 WF #442-A DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.- VICTIM</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA ALAN G. SENTINELLA</b>	TYPED BY <b>bjc</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>CR - CONSPIRACY; UFAC - ROBBERY</b>	

REFERENCE: Atlanta report of SA ALAN G. SENTINELLA, 4/18/68.

- P -

LEADS

ATLANTA

AT ATLANTA, GA.

Will continue efforts to locate subject and report results thereof.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED <b>None</b>						ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:	
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		PENDING OVER ONE YEAR	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
							PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW		
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE						44-775-682		
COPIES MADE: 5-Bureau (44-38861) 4-Birmingham (44-1740) 4-Memphis (44-1987) 1-Chicago 1-Kansas City ①-St. Louis 1-New Orleans 2-Atlanta (44-2386)						<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">                 SEARCHED _____ INDEXED _____                  SERIALIZED <i>2</i> FILED _____                  MAY 19 1968                  FBI - ST. LOUIS             </div>		
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations		
Agency								
Request Recd.								
Date Fwd.								
How Fwd.								
By								

AT 44-2386

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Rerep sets forth check of various agencies previously conducted with negative results. Upon determination by Bureau on 4/19/68, that subject of this case is JAMES EARL RAY, these agencies were appropriately rechecked, that is, airlines, banks, birth, city and telephone directories, credit, arrest, car rentals, drivers license, dancing schools, hotels, INS, laundries, motels, public utilities, MVB, Selective Service, public transportation other than airlines, labor unions, and criminal and racial informants.

In addition, the authors of want ads appearing in the metropolitan Atlanta newspaper reused cars for sale during the period 3/24-4/5/68, were contacted, all look-alike complaints resolved through interview, appropriate agency checks and neighborhood investigation where warranted.

The foregoing efforts proved negative and results are not being set forth in this report. Results of each inquiry appear in Atlanta file in appropriate form.

Copies of this report for the United States Attorneys at Birmingham and Memphis are included with copies for those offices, but not marked as such. Dissemination to be held in abeyance pending Bureau instructions.

With reference to interviews of RAYMOND LOUIS CURTIS, this individual stated he would not testify to the information he furnished because he feared for his life. It is noted that CURTIS furnished the same information to the national news media.

- B\* -  
(COVER PAGE)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of: SA ALAN G. SENTINELLA                      Office: Atlanta, Georgia  
Date: May 17, 1968

Field Office File #: AT 44-2386                      Bureau File #: 44-38861

Title: JAMES EARL RAY,  
IO Number 4182  
WF Number 442-A  
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -  
VICTIM

Character: CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY; UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID  
CONFINEMENT - ROBBERY

## Synopsis:

Results of FBI Laboratory examination of items obtained from 1966 Mustang and during search of subject's room set forth. Fibers on several items in Mustang could have come from bedspread in which rifle previously located in Memphis, Tenn., was wrapped. One latent fingerprint on map of Mexico located in room determined identical with a latent fingerprint on above rifle and binoculars also located in Memphis. Reinterviews of "GALT's" landlord did not produce information of significance. Landlord identified photograph of JAMES EARL RAY as being photograph of individual known to him as "GALT." Operator of neighborhood laundry used by "GALT" identified photograph of RAY as being good likeness of "GALT." Interviews with LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA and RAYMOND LOUIS CURTIS previously incarcerated with RAY set forth. Unable to suggest subject's whereabouts. IN VIEW OF CRIME FOR WHICH SUBJECT SOUGHT, HE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- P -

DETAILS:

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★ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1967-O-273-878

AT 44-2386

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
I. RESULTS OF EXAMINATION BY FBI LABORATORY AND IDENTIFICATION DIVISION	3
A. Re 1966 Ford Mustang	4
B. Re Search of Subject's Room	11
II. PRESENCE OF SUBJECT IN ATLANTA	17
A. Reinterviews of Landlord	18
B. Use of Laundry	26
III. INTERVIEWS OF FORMER JAIL MATES OF THE SUBJECT	28

AT 44-2386

I. RESULTS OF EXAMINATION BY FBI LABORATORY  
AND IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

AT 44-2386

A. Re 1966 Ford Mustang

**REPORT  
of the**



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535**

To **FBI, Memphis**

Re **MURKIN**

Date: **April 19, 1968**

FBI File No. **44-38861**

Lab. No.

**PC-A5627 IZ KS**

**D-560623 JK**

**PC-A5655 KS IS KZ**

**PC-A5656 KS**

**PC-A5693 KS**

**PC-A5695 KS**

Specimens received **4/12/68** when personally delivered by  
**SA A. F. Miller, from FBI, Atlanta (PC-A5627 IZ KS; D-560623 JK)**

**ITEMS FROM 1966 FORD MUSTANG:**

- Q89 Floor mat from right front floor
- Q90 Floor mat from rear floor
- Q91 Floor mat from left front floor
- Q92 Floor mat from trunk
- Q93 Air filter cartridge
- Q94 Wheel jack from trunk
- Q95 Dark blue short-sleeved sweat shirt
- Q96 One rubber sandal, size 7-8½
- Q97 One white fitted sheet
- Q98 One black and white shirt jacket
- Q99 One pillowcase
- Q100 One fitted sheet with yellow thread
- Q101 One black sport shirt
- Q102 One pair of size 34 walking shorts
- Q103 Rug from trunk
- Q104 Pillow from trunk
- Q105 Styrofoam container from trunk
- Q106 One pair of men's brown socks from trunk
- Q107 One hunting knife and sheath
- Q108 Spare tire mounting from trunk
- Q109 Lug wrench from trunk
- Q110 Blue-handled screwdriver from trunk
- Q111 Used windshield wiper blade from trunk
- Q112 One Personna razor blade
- Q113 Soil sample from spare wheel and tire
- Q114 Vacuum sweepings from front passenger side floor
- Q115 Vacuum sweepings from left front floor
- Q116 Vacuum sweepings from rear floor
- Q117 Vacuum sweepings from trunk

Specimens received 4/12/68 when personally delivered by  
SA Jack B. Simpson, FBI, Atlanta (PC-A5655 KS IS KZ)

Q143 Soil from right fender well  
Q144 Soil from right front wheel  
Q145 Soil from right rear wheel  
Q146 Soil from right rear fender well  
Q147 Debris from lower part of left fender  
Q148 Soil from left front wheel  
Q149 Soil from left rear wheel  
Q150 Scraping from front left tire tread  
Q151 Soil from underneath body in front of differential  
Q152 Soil from differential  
Q153 Soil from front of exhaust pipe  
Q154 Soil from underneath body in front section  
Q155 Soil from left fender well  
Q156 Soil from left rear fender well  
Q157 Scrapings from left rear tire tread  
Q158 Scrapings from tread of right rear tire  
Q159 Scrapings from under glove compartment  
Q160 Scrapings from tire tread, right front tire  
Q161 Scrapings from front part of engine  
Q162 Water from windshield washer bag  
Q163 Spare tire and wheel from trunk

Specimen received 4/13/68 from FBI, Memphis (PC-A5656 KS)

K30 Soil from approximately twenty feet from site where gun  
and bedspread abandoned

Specimens received 4/16/68 from FBI, Memphis (PC-A5693 KS)

K44 - K49 Soil from parking lot and area between curb and  
sidewalk near Unit 34 of Rebel Motel

Specimens received 4/16/68 from FBI, Memphis (PC-A5695 KS)

K50 - K59 Soil samples from area in rear of 418 and 422½ South  
Main Street



**Results of examination:**

The previously submitted bedspread, specimen Q13, is composed of brown cotton fibers, green cotton fibers and green rayon fibers. Brown cotton fibers, green cotton fibers and green rayon fibers that could have come from the Q13 bedspread were found on Q95, Q97 through Q104 and Q106 and in the Q117 sweepings. No such fibers were found on Q89 through Q92 or in the Q114 through Q116 sweepings.

Caucasian head hairs like the hairs previously found on the Q13 bedspread, in the Q15 zipper bag, on the Q26 towel, on the Q29 and Q30 socks and on the Q38 hairbrush were found on Q95, Q97, Q99, Q100 and Q103. These hairs could have come from the same person. It is pointed out that hairs do not possess enough individual microscopic characteristics to be positively identified as originating from a particular person. Caucasian head hairs were also found in the Q114 through Q117 vacuum sweepings. Some of these hairs are like the Q13, Q15, Q26, Q29, Q30 and Q38 hairs and could have come from the same person. Some of the hairs from Q114 through Q117 are different from the Q13, Q15, Q26, Q29, Q30 and Q38 hairs and did not come from the same person. No hairs were found on Q89 through Q92, Q93, Q101, Q102, Q104 or Q106.

The Q89 through Q91 floor mats are composed of translucent red plastic. No brand names are indicated on the mats. The letters "HIS" are hand printed on the back of each mat, apparently with a felt tip marker. The significance of the letters is not known.

Specimen Q92 is a black and gray plaid rubber mat. No marks were found on Q92.

Specimens Q94, Q103 and Q109 are standard items furnished with Mustangs.

Specimen Q95 is a dark blue short-sleeved sweat shirt of medium size. No labels or laundry marks were found on Q95.

Specimen Q96 is a black and white rubber sandal for the left foot. A label on the bottom bears the following: "MEN'S - M SHOE SIZE 7-8½ JAPAN"

Specimen Q97 is a twin-bed size, fitted, white bed sheet. Specimen Q99 is a white pillowcase. A white laundry tape is present on Q97 and Q99. The following is printed in black on each tape: "2-OR-3" It was concluded that the marks on these tapes did not originate from the machine which prepared the laundry tapes on the Q69 shorts and the Q70 T shirt.

Specimen Q98 is a black and white shirt jacket. The following is present on the label of Q98:

" M RN19788 66% DACRON 35% COTTON  
15-15½ MONTICELLO SHIRT JACKET TAPERED"

Specimen Q100 is a twin-bed size, fitted, white bed sheet. The sheet is in two pieces. The two pieces are stitched together with yellow thread and white thread. Inquiry at a department store in Washington, D. C., developed the following information concerning Q100: It is a #3 grade irregular seamed sheet. Most such sheets even if manufactured in the United States are sold in other countries. If sold in this country, they are sold in low class "illegitimate stores." Such sheets do not bear the manufacturer's name.

Specimen Q101 is a black short-sleeved shirt. The following is present on the label of Q101:

"ARTURO ROSETTI CUSTOM TAILORED -L- 100% COTTON  
MADE IN U.S.A. RN15722"

Specimen Q102 is a pair of olive green walking shorts. The following is present on the label of Q102:

"HONG KONG DIPLOMAT CUSTOM TAILORED 65% POLYESTER FIBRE  
35% SUPER FINE COTTON WAIST 34"

Specimen Q103 is a light pink, looped pile cotton rug that measures 24" by 56½". No labels were found on Q103.

Specimen Q104 is a feather pillow that measures about 19" by 24". The pillow has a specification label. The back of the label is stamped "9 1967."

Specimen Q105 is a container for a Polaroid camera, possibly a model 230. No label was found on Q105.

Specimen Q106 is a pair of men's stretch socks with no label.

Other than the laundry tapes on Q97 and Q99, no visible laundry marks were found on any of the cloth items listed above. No invisible laundry marks were found on any of these items.

No buttons are missing from any of the garments listed above.

The Q107 hunting knife has a blade that measures 3 9/16" in length. The blade is rusty. The words "GESCO JAPAN" are imprinted on one side of the blade and the number "45" is imprinted on the other side. The word "GESCO" is stamped on the sheath.

Specimen Q110 is a flat-tipped Stanley brand screwdriver.

Specimen Q111 is an "ANCO" brand windshield wiper blade. Part of the rubber has been torn off.

Specimen Q112 is a "Personna" double-edge razor blade. No hairs were found on Q112.

The K30 and K44 through K59 soils from Memphis are different from the soil found on the previously submitted Q13 bedspread in physical characteristics and composition. Therefore, the soil from the bedspread did not come from the sources of K30 and K44 through K59.

No soil similar to the soil from the bedspread was found in Q113, Q143 through Q153, Q160 and Q161 or on the Q163 tire and wheel. None of these soils from the car originated from the source of the soil on the bedspread.

Although nothing was noted which would aid in the determination of the original sources of specimens Q113, Q143 through Q146, Q148, Q149, Q151, Q152, Q154 and the soil from Q163, they are suitable for comparison purposes. Specimens Q147, Q150, Q153, Q155

through Q158, Q160 and Q161 are either too limited in amount or too mixed with miscellaneous debris to be of value for significant comparisons other than for elimination purposes.

The soils from the car were different from K30 and K44 through K59 in physical characteristics and composition and, therefore, did not come from the sources of K30 and K44 through K59.

No soil of value for significant comparison was found on Q89 through Q106 or in the vacuum sweepings, specimens Q114 through Q117. The mineral debris in Q114 through Q117 consists of typical car floor debris, a mixture of miscellaneous materials from numerous sources. No mineral debris of apparent significance was found in Q114 through Q117.

The scrapings from under the glove compartment, Q159, do not contain blood.

The Q162 liquid was identified as water. No traces of any alcohols such as used in windshield wash were identified in this specimen.

AT 44-2386

B. Re Search of Subject's Room

REPORT  
of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: FBI, Memphis (44-1987)

Date: April 23, 1968

Re: MURKIN  
CR

FBI File No. 44-38861

Lab. No. D-560880 JK  
PC-A5688 IZ

Specimens received 4/16/68

- Q174 Booklet entitled "What is the John Birch Society"
- Q175 Gulf Oil Company map of Atlanta
- Q176 "Arrow" map of Greater Atlanta
- Q177 Box of Nabisco Saltine Crackers
- Q178 Jar of French's Mustard
- Q179 Coffee cup
- Q180 Water glass
- Q181 Small can of Carnation Evaporated Milk
- Q182 Jar of Maxwell House Instant Coffee
- Q183 Box of "C & H" Sugar
- Q184 One knife (Forgecraft)
- Q185 One National's Citation pencil
- Q186 Wire electric cup heater
- Q187 One portable Zenith television model #N 2205-6
- Q188 Jar of Kraft's Catalina French Dressing
- Q189 Package of Golden Grain California Lima Beans
- Q190 Can of "Iris" ground black pepper
- Q191 Box of five National's Citation pencils
- Q192 Gulf map of Southeastern USA
- Q193 Shell map of Texas and Oklahoma
- Q194 Map of Mexico
- Q195 Map of Los Angeles published by Mitock & Sons
- Q196 Map of Los Angeles (Atlantic Richfield Co.)
- Q197 Shell map of Louisiana
- Q198 Map of California
- Q199 Enco map of Arizona and New Mexico
- Q200 Standard Oil map of Birmingham and vicinity
- Q201 Tie (Brown with brown, blue and silver diagonal stripes)
- Q202 Pair of grey trousers
- Q203 Booklet entitled "Your Opportunities in Locksmithing"

Result of examination:

Examination of Q176 ("Arrow" map of Atlanta) revealed the following markings: In area number 17, ink lines were noted on Daniel Street between Arbor Avenue and Boulevard Drive; in area number 03 an ink circle approximately 3/8 inch in diameter the center of which would be approximately on Auburn Avenue at Courtland; in area number 14, two ink circles which are approximately concentric with diameters of about 1/4 inch and 1/2 inch. The centers of these two circles lie approximately at the intersection of Simpson Road and Paines; in area number 09 an ink circle approximately 1/2 inch in diameter and the numeral 10 were noted. The center of this circle lies approximately on 14th Street between Crescent Avenue and Peachtree Road; in area number 06 an ink circle approximately 3/8 inch in diameter appears. The center of this circle is approximately at the meeting place of Highland View and Ponce de Leon Terrace.

The notations set out below were observed on Q196 ("Atlantic Richfield Co." street map of Los Angeles.") On the top of that side of this map which contains the alphabetical street listings a small pencil circle was noted in the "Van Nuys District" at the intersection of Buffalo Avenue and Oxnard Street.

On the large map on the other side of this map the following markings were noted in the Beverly Hills area. Two vertical lines in ink at the east end of the park which is located at Olympic Boulevard and Heath Avenue; vertical lines in ink at San Vicente Boulevard and Masselin Avenue; an ink line running between the two vertical lines previously mentioned generally following Pico Boulevard and Packard Street; an ink line extending from the vertical lines at the park along Olympic Boulevard to Alfred Street.

An ink line at the intersection of Beverly Glen Boulevard and Woodruff; an ink line at the intersection of Beverly Glen Boulevard and Warnall Avenue.

Also noted was an ink marking at Sunset Boulevard and Palm Drive.

Ink parentheses were noted around the words "Somma Way" and "Rocca Pl" which are located in Stone Canyon.

The pair of trousers, specimen Q202, is old and soiled. The lining and pockets are yellowed, the two front pockets have holes in them and the edge of the left front pocket is threadbare. The trousers have a "NEEDLECRAFT" label. The waist is 34 1/2 inches and the inseam is 26 inches. A name handwritten in black on the right rear pocket is probably a cleaners mark. This name appears to be "Z SOLOFF;" however, the last two letters are not clear. No invisible cleaners marks were found on Q202.

Several brown to dark brown head hairs of Caucasian origin were found on the trousers and in the pocket debris. These hairs are different from the hairs from the Mustang and Memphis scene. It was concluded that they did not originate from the same source. No hairs were found on the Q201 necktie.

No fibers were found on the Q202 trousers or on the Q201 necktie that could be associated with cloth items previously submitted in this case.

No marks or labels were found on the Q201 necktie.

Examination of the other items described above disclosed no other pertinent information.

The submitted evidence has been retained.



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

Washington, D. C. 20537

**REPORT**

of the

**IDENTIFICATION DIVISION**

LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION

YOUR FILE NO. 44-2386  
 FBI FILE NO. 44-38861  
 LATENT CASE NO. 91075

April 19, 1968

TO: SAC, Atlanta

RE: MURKIN

REFERENCE: Letter 4-15-68  
 EXAMINATION REQUESTED BY: Atlanta

SPECIMENS: Portable TV and numerous items from storage room in Rooming House at 113 Fourteenth Street, Atlanta, Georgia, Q174 through Q200, and Q203

Six latent fingerprints and one latent impression, which may be a fingerprint, impression of lower joint of a finger, or partial palm print, were developed on map of Mexico, Q194. No other latent impressions of value found or developed.

One of the latent fingerprints on the map is identical with the latent fingerprint previously reported on the rifle, Q2, and with the latent fingerprint previously reported on binoculars, Q14. Other latent prints on the map compared with latent prints previously reported in this case, but no identification effected.

15

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
 John Edgar Hoover, Director

SAC, Atlanta

April 19, 1968

Results of laboratory examination and disposition  
of specimens subject of separate report.

This report confirms and supplements Butel of  
4-17-68.

AT 44-2386

II. PRESENCE OF SUBJECT IN ATLANTA

AT 44-2386

A. Reinterviews Of Landlord

1

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 30, 1968

JIMMIE DELTON GARNER, 107 - 14th Street, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia, was interviewed at his place of employment, The Vista Cafeteria, 1052 Northside Drive, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia.

At the outset of the interview, GARNER acknowledged that he had been on a prolonged "drunk" since about Friday, April 19, 1968, and was at the time of the interview in the throes of a "terrific hangover." GARNER explained that he has had a continual drinking problem for the past few years in that he has from time to time "gone on drinking sprees" for periods lasting several days in duration.

GARNER at this time acknowledged that he was previously on one of his "drunks" from a period beginning about March 22, 1968 through about March 30, 1968 which included the first week that the man known to him as ERIC S. GALT resided at the rooming house operated by GARNER at 113 - 14th Street, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia.

GARNER said that despite his being in the throes of a "hangover" resulting from his most recent drinking binge, he now felt able to again recount his recollections of his contacts with "GALT". GARNER provided the following information:

GARNER began drinking in his room at 107 - 14th Street about Friday, March 22, 1968. On Sunday afternoon, before darkness (exact time unknown but possibly between 3:00 and 4:00 p.m.) the man whom he later knew as ERIC S. GALT appeared at GARNER's door. GARNER said he now believes the door to his room was open, and that he (GARNER) was sitting in a chair in his room in a drunken condition. GARNER recalls that "GALT" inquired regarding obtaining a single room. At the time the rooming house at 113 - 14th Street, N.E. had been closed for sometime possibly three or four weeks. This rooming house had been closed because it had become "infested with 'hippies'" and the

On 4/29/68 at Atlanta, Georgia File # Atlanta 44-2386  
 by SAs JOHN E. OGDEN and  
O. RICHARD HAMILTON JEO: hjm Date dictated 4/30/68

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only way he could get them to move from the rooming house was to close it up. When "GALT" asked for a single room, there was no single room available in the rooming house at 107 - 14th Street, N.E. so he decided to put "GALT" in the rooming house at 113 - 14th Street, N.E. Accordingly, "GALT" was the first roomer in this rooming house for several weeks.

GARNER now recalls that "GALT" produced a partly consumed quart or fifth size bottle of vodka. This bottle was square in shape but the brand name could not be recalled. He believes he may have had a drink with "GALT" in his (GARNER's) room at 107 - 14th Street, N.E. after which he accompanied "GALT" to the rooming house next door where he showed "GALT" room number 2. When "GALT" stated that the room was quite small, GARNER opened the door connecting with room number 4 which is utilized normally as a storage room and which has no windows. GARNER told "GALT" he could use the connecting room and at this time there was some mention made that "GALT" would put his television set on the desk in room number 4 as well as other articles belonging to "GALT". GARNER recalls that the connecting door is equipped with a hasp and padlock and that he (GARNER) upon unlocking and opening this door, replaced the padlock, (unlocked) on the hasp. GARNER said he did not see the television or other items belonging to "GALT" at this time and has no clear recollection of ever seeing any of "GALT's" possession prior to "GALT's" departure from this address.

GARNER also recalls that "GALT" left the partly consumed bottle of vodka with GARNER and that after showing "GALT" to his room, GARNER returned to 107 - 14th Street, N.E. where he continued to drink.

He said the vodka bottle was undoubtedly thrown away in the trash.

GARNER states that he is unable to recall any of the conversations he may have had with "GALT." When specifically asked whether "GALT" had stated how he happened to pick this particular rooming house; where he had come from; whether he had made inquiries about places to eat, laundry and drycleaning facilities or service to his automobile, GARNER said he cannot recall any conversation concerning these or similar matters.

He reiterated that his contact with "GALT" on this occasion is very hazy because of his intoxicated condition.

At this point, GARNER stated that information previously provided to Agents concerning having obtained "GALT's" name at the time of initial contact was probably erroneous because he now recalls that he did not have "GALT" write his name at this time but that this was done a week later on March 31, 1968, when "GALT" paid GARNER for a second week's rent in advance.

GARNER said that he continued his drinking activities on through the week of March 24, 1968 and did not begin to sober up until the following weekend. He cannot clearly recall any of his actions during this week but has a hazy recollection of going to "GALT's" room at 113 - 14th Street, N.E. about Tuesday night and of again having some drinks with "GALT" in this room. He states that he cannot recall any of the conversations with "GALT" at this time and he does not recall observing any of the items that might have been in room number 2. He does not recall why he happened to go to the room but suspected that he may have been "checking the building" and just dropped in to visit with "GALT" when he discovered he was in the room. He believes this was Tuesday night, March 26, 1968, but is not sure of this.

GARNER also stated that sometime during the first week possibly on Wednesday, he recalls walking across the street from his residence to Postal Sub Station C for the purpose of buying some envelopes. He said that he was still in a drunken condition but hazily recalls encountering a young man approximately 20 years of age in front of the Post Office who addressed GARNER by name. This unknown individual asked GARNER a question to the effect "Who was the man I saw you with last night in the white Mustang?" GARNER said this suggested to him that he had possibly gone with "GALT" somewhere in "GALT's" automobile while he (GARNER) was dead drunk but although he has tried to recall such an incident, he cannot recall ever being in "GALT's" car. GARNER was specifically questioned at this point as to whether he has any friends or acquaintances residing in the vicinity of Highland View Street, Ponce de Leon Terrace and Barnett Street, N.E. GARNER said that he did not know anyone in that neighborhood and cannot recall having visited that neighborhood on any occasion in the recent past.

Several efforts were made to encourage GARNER to recall additional information concerning the unknown man who questioned him concerning being in the white Mustang, but he repeatedly stated that he just does not know this person but that it is possibly someone who has been a patron at one of the restaurants which GARNER has operated in the past.

GARNER recalls no further contact with "GALT" until Sunday, March 31, 1968. At this time GARNER had "begun to sober up" and went to the rooming house at 113 - 14th Street, N.E. to check the rooms. He said he does this frequently to be sure that the "hippies" have not again invaded these premises. On this occasion, he encountered "GALT" in the hall. At this time, "GALT" said "he might as well pay him for another week." GARNER said that he did not enter "GALT's" room at this time but picked up an envelope which was lying on the table in the hall and it was at this time he had "GALT" print his name thereon with the view of transferring the name to his permanent records when GARNER returned to his own room. GARNER said he knows he was paid in cash but does not recall the denomination of the bills or any further conversation with "GALT" at this time.

GARNER said that he remained in a sober condition from March 31 until the beginning of his most recent drinking spree on April 19, 1968. He is, accordingly, sure that he did not see "GALT" again after he was paid on Sunday, March 31, 1968. He said he may have seen "GALT's" automobile parked in the rear of 113 - 14th Street, N.E. at various times during the week, but could not be positive and does not recall any specific dates. He noted that he does not recall ever seeing "GALT's" car parked in the parking lot behind the rooming house when GARNER returned from his restaurant to 14th Street about 4:00 p.m. He said that when and if he saw the car, it is his best recollection that it would have been during the early morning hours when he left to go to the restaurant or possibly late in the evening. He stated he retains the impression that "GALT" left the rooming house sometime in the morning and would not return until quite late in the evening. He conceded that it is possible that the car may have been absent from the rooming house for periods of two or three days while "GALT" was a tenant there.



GARNER related that on Friday, April 5, 1968, he went to his restaurant at 1052 Northside Drive, N.W. about 5:30 in the morning. He remained at that restaurant until about 10:00 a.m. at which time he returned to the rooming houses on 14th Street for the purpose of getting the linen ready to be picked up by an employee of the Atlanta Linen Company which performs the laundry services for GARNER. GARNER stated that when help is available, he usually takes one of the female employees from the restaurant when he goes to the rooming houses on Friday to change the linen. He recalled, however, that on Friday, April 5, 1968, he was "short of help" at the restaurant and, accordingly, went alone to get the linen. He believes he could have arrived at the rooming house between 10:00 and 10:30 a.m. at which time the driver for the Atlanta Linen Company was waiting for him. GARNER said he went to all of the occupied rooms and took the linen from the beds. Upon entering room number 2 at 113 - 14th Street, N.E., he observed that the bed was made up but from the appearance of the bed it looked as though someone had been lying on top of the spread. He found on top of the bed a note possibly written on a piece of cardboard of the type placed in shirts by the laundry. This note was apparently from "GALT" and although he cannot recall the exact wording, stated something to the effect that "GALT" had to go to Birmingham and would return in about a week to pick up his television and/or property. GARNER said he tossed the note in the waste can in the room and obtained the linen from the bed which he turned over to the employee of the Atlanta Linen Company.

While in the room, he observed that the door connecting room number 2 and the adjacent storage room had been locked but he did not enter the room at this time to determine what property had been left there by "GALT". Sometime later, he did enter the room and noted that a television set was in the room along with miscellaneous items which he cannot specifically recall that were lying on the desk in the room.

GARNER said that he has not received any word or communication from "GALT" concerning the property left there. He cannot recall seeing "GALT" talk to any of the other roomers at either of the rooming houses and knows nothing concerning any of "GALT's" activities while he resided at this address. He is certain that "GALT" did not mention having been referred to this rooming house by anyone and feels that he would have recalled this even though he was in an intoxicated condition during a great portion of the time "GALT" resided there.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/7/681

JIMMIE DELTON GARNER, 107 - 14th Street, N.E., Atlanta, was interviewed at his place of business, 1052 Northside Drive, N.W.

GARNER specifically was asked regarding any discussions he may recall with the man whom he knew as ERIC S. GALT concerning drugs and/or narcotics. GARNER replied that he could recall no conversation with "GALT" concerning these matters and can recall nothing to indicate GALT was using drugs or narcotics.

GARNER also was asked specifically whether he recalled any conversation with "GALT" concerning racial matters. GARNER said he cannot recall any such conversation.

GARNER reiterated information previously furnished that the only conversation with GALT was the one on March 31, 1968, at which time he was paid for an additional week's rent. He again stated he is positive he did not encounter "GALT" at 113 - 14th Street, N.E., on Friday, April 5, 1968, when he GARNER, went to that address to remove the dirty linens to be given to the laundry man.

GARNER said PERRY LEE ZACKERY, the cook at Garner's Cafeteria, and another employee at the cafeteria, went to the rooming houses on 14th Street on the afternoon of April 5, 1968, to make up the beds. He cannot recall the identity of the woman who accompanied ZACKERY, but knows only it was a Negro female whom he had picked up to work in the restaurant as a dishwasher. He noted that during the past several weeks, he has had numerous different women working at the restaurant, and cannot specifically recall which one was working on April 5, 1968. He suggested that EDNA JACKSON, who resides at 646 Whitaker Street, might have been the woman who accompanied PERRY ZACKERY to clean the rooming houses on April 5, 1968.

24

On 5/1/68 at Atlanta, Georgia File # Atlanta 44-2386

by SA JOHN E. OGDEN:lcc Date dictated 5/3/68

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