

2/4/70

Date

RAYMOND LEON YOUNT, Missouri State Penitentiary
was interviewed at his request at the Missouri State
Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri.

At the start of the interview **YOUNT** was shown a
six page statement which had been made available by Warden
HAROLD SWENSON. **YOUNT** read this six page statement and stated
that he had prepared this statement a few days prior to this
interview and the statement was true and correct, however, he
did not wish to sign it.

"I, **Raymond Yount**, do hereby offer
this statement completely freely and voluntarily. I
issue this statement without any threats or promises
being imposed upon me. To the best of my knowledge,
all facts given are true to the best of my memory.

"During the latter part of the month of June,
or the first part of July of 1966, I was in Oxford,
Mississippi. I state this date to be true as I recall
that it was just a very few days from the 4th of July
holiday.

"It was here (Oxford) that I met with another
young fellow which I had served time with in the FREQO.
This man's last name was Bean. I don't think I even
knew his first name. He had the nickname of "Carnie"
as he was a previous carnival worker. Bean appeared to be
prosperous, well dressed and with funds. I had known
Bean since 1961 at this time.

"I registered in a motel in Oxford. I do
not recall the name of the motel unit. It was a
two-story structure located approximately 4 blocks
north of the main city square of Oxford. The name
used here was either **Billye R. Sellers** /or **James G.
Sellers**. This will be on the motel records as I believe
a worthless check was left there or else the bill for

*Bean was
imprisoned
as a
counterfeiter -
were Jimmy's
rolls of
\$20s real?*

On 1/26/70 at Jefferson City, Missouri

by SA KEITH H. HUNTER-jco

44-1987-Sub-M-931

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Hester

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the room was abandon. It was here that Bean and I talked, drank and that he told me of "some people I want you to meet".

"The next day, we together drove to another Mississippi city to get new I.D. cards. I am unable to recall the name of this town but believe that I could re-trace the route on a map. The I.D. I obtained was under the name of Bruce Richard Caldwell, 412 Elm Street, Windsor, Ontario, Canada. This I.D. was received out of a case located in the rear of a printing firm. The odd thing that I noted here was all of the packs of I.D. that we looked through were of Canadian origin and that they were not counterfeit, rather real, used I.D. cards. There were several packs of I.D. card_ we looked through to find one that I fitted.

"Note: I was later arrested with this very I.D. on me in Douglas County Nevada. This was on Aug. 13, 1966. I understand that the I.D. cards were returned to an "Inspector" in Windsor.

"Later in the evening of the day which I received the I.D. cards, Bean arranged for us to meet with three men in a motel in the same city. I do recall various things about the location of this motel and the motif of the structure. Bean arranged this meeting by means of a phone call from the printing firm. Obviously it was a local call.

"Upon entry into the motel room the first thing I noticed was the tension about every one present. Drinks were poured and small talk exchanged.

"The three men were well dressed and obviously did not occupy the room full-time as there was no luggage or extra clothes. I would approximate their ages at 28, 35 and 39. I would recognize any of these men if I ever saw them again.

"The oldest man did most of the talking. He was a large man, wearing a wine-colored silk jacket. He spoke with a accent with I quickly classified as a New Orleans-French. I was familiar with this pronunciation. He wore his pants very high around his waist line which I automatically connected also with the New Orleans French Quarters. At no time did he state that he was from New Orleans or from anywhere.

"He asked me where all I had served time and for what?

"If I liked "Niggers"?

"If I had ever been in the armed service?

"If I could fire a rifle with accuracy?

"If I was interested in making some fast easy money?

"With this, I was shown three large stacks of bills with a brown paper band around each stack.

"Note: These questions were not all asked at the same time, but rather over the course of an hour or so.

"During all this time I was listening more than talking and trying to figure out what the proposition was. No exacting details were given.

"Small talk continued for some time, one of the men, the middle aged one, of approximately 35 years left the room and returned about 30 minutes latter.

"Shortly thereafter, I was ask if I would go to Jackson, Mississippi on the next day with two other men. Martin Luther King was given, by name, as the target. He was to speak in public on the next evening. The three of us were to arrange ourselves on roofs of nearby buildings and then "open-fire" at

the same time. The closet door of the motel room was opened and there were three rifles leaning against the wall. The stacks of money was on the dresser. I knew, in my own mind that these men were serious and did intend to have this man killed. However, it was also obvious to me that there was no way to "get away" with such a crime and I even doubted that payment would be fulfilled. The general plan was not to realistic, for the three on the roofs. To be honest, I was more scared than anything.

"There was no decision made at this time. I told them that I would let them know in a couple of hours, with this Bean and I left the motel room. The younger fellow followed us outside. He handed Bean a motel room key which was to the next unit. The three of us went inside. I told Bean that I was going to the car to get some clothes and bath articles to clean up with. The young fellow stood in the doorway. As quickly as I was in the car, I turned the key and was gone!

"Somewhere north, approximately 50-75 miles of Jackson I stopped at a service station and phoned the F.B.I. office in Jackson Mississippi. I refused to tell the Agent who nor where I was. I only told him that there was a plot to kill Martin Luther King and to keep him out of public in Jackson the next day. The agent tried to hold me on the phone as long as he could. I talked all of 60 seconds. I explained myself clearly. This call should be on file in the Jackson Office. I hung-up the phone and left. I drove on into Jackson, left the car at the airport and boarded a plane for San Francisco, California."

YOUNT advised that the abbreviation FRERO refers to the Federal Reformatory at El Reno, Oklahoma. YOUNT advised he has never seen a picture of JAMES EARL RAY and he could not say if RAY was present in Oxford, Mississippi, when this matter was discussed in July, of 1966.

YOUNT described the three other unknown males that were at the meeting in a motel room in Oxford, Mississippi, as follows:

Unknown subject #1
 Race White
 Sex Male
 Age Middle or late 20s
 Height 5'10" to 5'11"
 Weight 155 to 160 lbs.
 Hair Black, worn medium long
 Complexion Dark
 Manner Quiet
 Dress Wears flashy clothes

Unknown subject #2
 Race White
 Sex Male
 Age About 35 years old
 Dress Well dressed

Unknown subject #3
 Race White
 Sex Male
 Age About 39 years old
 Height 6'1"
 Weight 230 to 240 lbs., obese
 Hair Dark
 Accent New Orleans-French

*Ferry ?
 Caruthers
 lives in St. Louis.*

Paul ?

low shoulders ?

had some things to do

*Whitey ?
 Barber ?*

YOUNT advised that he has not seen any of these individuals again, however, he told this story to JOHN EMERSON, 412 West Musser Street, Carson, Nevada, a minister who can be contacted at the above address or through 409 South Tacoma Street, Carson, Nevada.

YOUNT stressed that he had cooperated with U. S. Postal authorities in the past at Little Rock, Arkansas, in November, 1965, concerning some stolen money orders.

YOUNT advised that he had not furnished this information until this time because he felt that the assassination had been averted, but now feels that this information should be given to the proper authorities.

YOUNT stated that unknown subject #1 hangs around the Itt'll Do Club in Dallas, Texas, and that he had met this individual prior to their meeting in Oxford, Mississippi, however, he did not mention this meeting to unknown subject #1.

YOUNT also stated that unknown subject #3 could be identified through an unknown individual who broke his arm in May of 1966 and was treated at Charity Hospital, New Orleans, Louisiana. YOUNT stated that this unknown individual is a "barker" on Bourbon Street in New Orleans.

YOUNT stated that unknown subject #1 could be identified by URETHA (phonetic) who is a cocktail waitress at Love Field Cocktail Lounge, Dallas, Texas. YOUNT stated that he was with URETHA at the Itt'll Do Club in Dallas when unknown subject #1 tried to start a fight with him, and URETHA knew unknown subject #1 at that time.

YOUNT also advised that his fourth wife, BILLYE RUTH SELLERS, was with him on a check cashing spree at the time of this meeting in Oxford, Mississippi, in July, 1966. YOUNT stated that perhaps SELLERS is wanted by the FBI in regard to these check writing activities. He stated that SELLERS is also known as BILLYE RUTH YOUNT, and BILLYE RUTH HARRIS, and was employed for a time at 201 West King, Carson, Nevada, with the State of Nevada Insurance Division. YOUNT stated that SELLERS could not be contacted through 1027 East Walnut, Springfield, Missouri, or through her children who reside at 1012 Ivy, Cassville, Missouri, or DEBORAH KAY SELLERS, a student at Southwest Missouri State College, Springfield, Missouri.

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	RAYMOND LEON YOUNT
Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	6'
Weight	173 lbs.
DOB	September 21, 1940
Place	Fort Smith, Arkansas
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Hazel
Scar	Left wrist