

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/68

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[redacted] telephone [redacted] after being advised of the interviewing Agent's identity, furnished the following information:

[redacted] HERBERT A. (BUCK) FERRELL, [redacted] 716, who formerly resided in Memphis, Tennessee. FERRELL has advised [redacted] if MARTIN LUTHER KING went to Memphis they would kill him. FERRELL did not further identify "they."

[redacted] was watching television on the date that KING was shot and when the news appeared on television he telephoned FERRELL's home to advise FERRELL, but he was not at home. FERRELL's wife, MARY ELIZABETH, answered the telephone and she was crying, appeared to be terribly upset and said, "Oh my God, I hope it isn't someone we know. You'll have to call back later if you want to talk to BUCK. I'm too torn up now."

[redacted] telephoned FERRELL at home about an hour later and FERRELL stated he had been told by an "informant" (not otherwise identified by FERRELL) that "they" had tried to get KING two weeks ago and would try again.

FERRELL and his wife have been in Memphis frequently lately as her mother died in January, 1968, and they have been back and forth settling her estate.

FERRELL has a son JIMMIE, age 16 or 17, at home, and a son BILLY in the U. S. Marines. He has another son LAWRENCE A. FERRELL (wife BOBBIE), age 23 to 26, 7135 Fenton, Dallas, telephone DI 8-7916. LAWRENCE has a red Mustang with black top and a Volkswagen and is a motorcycle enthusiast. LAWRENCE

On 4/9/68 at Dallas, Texas

by SA FORREST F. JOHN/jmh

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Memphis 44-1987

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Forrest F. John *JFK*

has been unemployed for a period of time and about two or three weeks ago when asked by [REDACTED] what he was going to do, he stated that he was going to work for Blue Cross in their Dallas office. LAWRENCE was in the U. S. Air Force and after discharge he spent a year bumming around in Mexico. He rides with motorcycle clubs and would apparently like to be a "hippie."

MARY ELIZABETH FERRELL, wife of HERBERT A. FERRELL, has reportedly done a lot of work for GARRISON of New Orleans, and she has had GARRISON's people in her home, going to Love Field Airport at times to get them. This work done by her has apparently all been in Dallas. She has had Mrs. OSWALD, ex-wife of LEE HARVEY OSWALD, in her home.

FERRELL's daughter CAROL ANN is married, has two children and resides in the 4000 or 4100 Block of Holland, Dallas.

FERRELL has a 1964 or 1965 Lincoln financed through the Ford Motor Company, Dallas; recently purchased a 1968 Dodge Monaco from Dodge City, Dallas, financed at a local bank; and has a 1967 Dodge Dart for CAROL ANN financed at the First National Bank, Dallas.

FERRELL's home is financed at Oak Cliff Bank and Trust Company, Dallas, and he has gas credit cards with Mobil, Gulf and Shell Oil Company. FERRELL has bank accounts at the Texas Bank and Republic Bank and Mrs. FERRELL has her own bank account and her own credit (Femme Sole). FERRELL is employed by United Savings Life Insurance Company, Dallas, as a Division Manager. He is gone most of the time during the week in connection with his employment and during the past year he has stayed in the Holiday Inn Motel, Mt. Pleasant; at motels in Dangerfield and at hotels in Tyler, returning home on the weekends.

JAMES FERRELL, brother of HERBERT A. FERRELL, is a conductor on a railroad out of Memphis and has a violent dislike for Negroes and has his family thinking the same way. He has rifles and ammunition and has taught his three or four sons to use these.

Last fall or early this year, FERRELL, went to Arkansas and purchased some land for himself and also some land for JAMES FERRELL deep in the hills and has advised [REDACTED] that this land was purchased so they would have some place to go in the event the Negro problem got too bad in Memphis. FERRELL has stated that he made the down payment on this land and some of the payments for JAMES FERRELL.


On Saturday evening, April 6, 1968, [REDACTED] telephoned FERRELL's home and asked JIMMIE, FERRELL's 16 or 17 year old son, where FERRELL was and JIMMIE stated that his father had gone to Arkansas immediately following a business meeting which usually ends at about 5:00 PM on Saturdays.

MARY ELIZABETH FERRELL at one time worked for the Greenhill school and while there the FERRELL family became very close to a boy named SCOTTY BARONSON (Phonetic) from Mexico, whose father controls all the adhesive surfaced paper products in the Mexico City area and has property in Mexico, Europe and Dallas and has ships. SCOTTY went to school in Plano, but quit, married a local girl and now is employed by her father who owns a dry cleaning business in Dallas.

In addition to JAMES, FERRELL has a younger brother HERBIE who is in a management position in an insurance company in Memphis and another brother who is an officer in the U. S. Air Force, but his name and location is not known.

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 stated that the FERRELL brothers are very close, but that their wives do not get along too well.

He described HERBERT A. FERRELL as a white male, 50 years of age, and he stated that all of the FERRELL men he has seen have dark sandy hair, fair complexions, weigh from about 160 to 200 pounds and are from 5'8" to 5'11" in height.