

FBI

Date: 4/12/68

Transmit the following in _____
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Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, NORFOLK (44-268)(P)

MURKIN
CR

OO: MEMPHIS

Re Bureau teletype to All SACs, 4/8/68.

Enclosed for Memphis are two photographs and four negatives of MARVIN RAYMOND DEWEESE.

Enclosed for Birmingham are two photographs of MARVIN RAYMOND DEWEESE.

On 4/8/68, A. D. DINKINS, Manager, Hunton YMCA, Wood and Church Streets, Norfolk, Virginia, which establishment is patronized almost solely by Negroes, advised SA HENRY A. WELKE that a white male registered at this YMCA during the afternoon and the clerk who registered this individual believed he resembled the artist's conception of the one who shot Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. Mr. DINKINS said he was registered in the name of M. R. DEWEESE of Jacksonville, Florida. He was placed in Room 206.

SAs WELKE and LEMUEL W. KERR, after some difficulty in arousing Mr. DEWEESE who was asleep in his room, interviewed him and took photographs of DEWEESE after the interview. DEWEESE furnished the following information concerning himself and his activities during the pertinent period in March and April, 1968:

- ② Memphis (Enc. ^{Mem}6) (AM)
- 2 Birmingham (Enc. 2) (AM)
- 2 Jacksonville (AM)
- 1 Norfolk
- LWK:gh (7)

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SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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APR 15 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hearney

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

Name MARVIN RAYMOND DEWEESE
 Address 13605 Lanier Road
 Jacksonville, Florida
 Height 6'1"
 Weight 200 pounds
 Hair Brown, crewcut
 Eyes Blue
 Born [REDACTED]
 Employment Narrows, Virginia
 Unemployed
 Military Service Retired from U. S. Navy,
 Rate AK-1, [REDACTED]
 Retired 7/9/65;
 U. S. Coast Guard Merchant
 Mariner's Permit Identification
 Number [REDACTED]
 Social Security # [REDACTED]
 Scars and Marks Tattoos - "Evelyn" on upper
 right arm;
 "USN [REDACTED]" on lower right
 arm;
 Smears tattoo outside right
 wrist;
 Tattoo on righthand "13"
 between thumb and index finger
 Marital Status Married
 Present Wife MARTHA E. BROWN DEWEESE
 15370 Lanier Road
 Jacksonville, Florida
 Former Wives VIOLET ELIZABETH HOWELL, deceased;
 JOAN NIECE, divorced,
 whereabouts unknown;
 BETTY SIMMS, divorced 1956,
 last known to be residing
 in Stratford, Connecticut
 Parents DANIEL FRENCH DEWEESE
 113 Hale Street
 Narrows, Virginia;
 CHERRY MAE DEWEESE
 Same address
 Brothers DANIEL DEWEESE, age 35
 Narrows, Virginia;
 EVERETT DEWEESE, age 24
 Employed Newport News Shipbuilding
 and Dry Dock Company, Newport
 News, Virginia;

Sisters

CHARLES DEWEESE, age 19 - 20
 Employed at Newport News
 Shipbuilding and Dry Dock
 Company, Newport News, Virginia
 MARY DEWEESE ADAMS, aka
 Mrs. HOWARD ADAMS
 Richmond, Virginia;
 IDA DEWEESE KESSINGER, aka
 Mrs. DONALD KESSINGER
 Bassett, Virginia;
 CORA DEWEESE CROCKETT, aka
 Mrs. WALTER CROCKETT, JR.
 Narrows, Virginia;
 BARBARA DEWEESE JONES, aka
 Mrs. CHARLES H. JONES
 Newport News, Virginia;
 MARGARET DEWEESE, who is
 married to an unrecalled
 individual, Richmond, Virginia;
 LENA DEWEESE STONE
 Percerville, Virginia

Education
 Organizational
 Affiliation

Seventh grade

American Legion Lodge
 Little Rock, Arkansas.

DEWEESE said he had last worked as a stockroom man for Samsonite Corporation, 1050 South Broadway, Denver, Colorado. His check number was 15370, and he possessed a payroll slip which showed he was paid for the week ending 3/3/68. He said that he left Denver en route to Florida; stopped by Houston, Texas; then to New Orleans; then Mobile, Alabama. Then he went to Jacksonville, Florida. He said he left Denver on 3/2/68. He said he left on a Saturday of the last week he worked. He indicated that the work week at Samsonite ended on Sunday. He said he was married to MARTHA E. BROWN, a widow with two children, and that they were at the Lanier Road address in Jacksonville, Florida. He said he was unemployed at the time and that he had obtained his USCG Merchant Seaman's papers and was attempting to catch a ship out. He said he was a member of the National Maritime Union (NMU), and he was told in Jacksonville that it would be easier to catch a ship through the Norfolk NMU than the Jacksonville NMU. He also advised he took a round

trip to Baltimore and remained in Baltimore two days staying at the Roosevelt Hotel. That was between the time he arrived in Jacksonville, Florida, and the date he got married, which was 3/18/68. He indicated further that he traveled to Baltimore in his personally-owned automobile, a 1956 Chrysler New Yorker. He also stated that he stayed in Jacksonville, Florida, until Saturday, 4/6/68, at 4:15 PM, when he caught a bus from Jacksonville to Newport News, Virginia, arriving in Newport News on 4/7/68. He indicated he came to Richmond and then transferred to Newport News.

He possessed a card which indicated that he registered in the NMU Hall, Norfolk, Virginia, at 9:04 AM, 4/8/68. He said that when he arrived in Newport News on 4/7/68, he went to his sister's house and stayed with her and her husband, CHARLES H. JONES, 735 Westward Avenue, Hampton, Virginia.

He was observed smoking incessantly, and he said he had been smoking Winston cigarettes for many years. He was observed to have blue eyes and brown hair with a crewcut, which he said he had been wearing since he was 21 years old.

He was very emphatic and positive he had not been in Memphis, Nashville, Birmingham or vicinity during the latter part of March or first part of April, 1968. He was specifically asked if he had been in Birmingham on 3/28 - 30/68, which he indicated he had not. He was also asked about his whereabouts on 4/4/68. He claimed he was in Jacksonville, Florida, during these pertinent periods. He said he was staying with his wife and their two children (his wife's children by another marriage). He said he had never been in Birmingham to his knowledge, and he went to Memphis one time several years ago.

He had in his possession a Navy identification card which indicated that he, MARVIN RAYMOND DEWEESE, was retired from the U. S. Navy on 7/9/65. He also had a Merchant Mariner's Permit Identification Card Number [REDACTED] His description was: brown hair; blue eyes; 6'; 200 pounds; born 12/3/26, Narrows, Virginia; address - 1730 Merivale Road, Jacksonville, Florida.

Mr. DINKINS, Maager, Hunton YMCA, said that Mrs. ANITA ELLIOTT, Day Clerk, was the individual who thought DEWEESE resembled the artist's conception of the assassin.

N 44-268

At the time of the interview, DEWEESE was cooperative and readily consented to having his photograph taken.

Copies are furnished Jacksonville for information in the event Memphis desires further elimination of DEWEESE.

LEADS

BIRMINGHAM AND MEMPHIS

Will display photographs of MARVIN RAYMOND DEWEESE to pertinent individuals.

No further action is being taken in connection with MARVIN RAYMOND DEWEESE at this time by Norfolk.

Copies of the interview logs and "Advice of Rights" being maintained in Norfolk file.