

TELEPHONECALL TO MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, 4:05 P.M., APRIL 7, 1968
BY [REDACTED] ALEXANDER CITY, ALABAMA

The following investigation was conducted by SAS
ROY, H. EVELAND and NORMAN D. JAMES:

On April 7, 1968, ROY MOORE, Chief Deputy, Tallapoosa County Sheriff's Office, Dadeville, Alabama, advised that a search of the records of that office reflect that one [REDACTED] white male, was arrested on March 5, 1966 for public drunk and resisting arrest, and on March 7, 1966 he was released on bond. Chief Deputy MOORE recalled that at the time of [REDACTED] arrest he kicked out the windshield of the Sheriff's Office car.

According to the records of that office, [REDACTED] was described as 22 years old, 5'4", 145 pounds, medium build, dark hair.

On April 7, 1968, LEWEY JONES, Patrolman, Alexander City, Alabama, Police Department, advised that on the previous night between 7:00 and 7:30 P.M. [REDACTED] was arrested for violation of prohibition. [REDACTED] Arrested along with [REDACTED] was a cousin [REDACTED] white male, and [REDACTED] a Negro male. All of them, with the exception of [REDACTED] were released shortly after their arrest on bond. [REDACTED] was released later that evening around 9:00 P.M. on \$300 bond. These subjects were arrested by Deputy HERMAN CLAYBROOK (phonetic) and Chief Deputy STU ALFORD.

The 1967 Alexander City Directory listed [REDACTED] (wife, [REDACTED] as living at [REDACTED]. His occupation was shown as textile worker, Russell Mill.

According to Officer JONES, he did not believe that [REDACTED] lived at this address at this time, but was living at [REDACTED]

On April 7, 1968, STU ALFORD, Special Deputy, Tallapoosa County Sheriff's Department, advised that last night, April 6, 1968, he and Deputy HERMAN CLAYBROOK got a call from the Newsite, Alabama, police. They traveled to [REDACTED]

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Newsite and picked up the police officer, and then subsequently arrested a Negro male by the name of [REDACTED] for public drunk. After taking the police officer back to the station in Newsite, they headed for Alexander City, Alabama. On their way they came up on a car full of persons who were driving back and forth on the highway. They arrested [REDACTED] a white male who was driving for driving without a license. The two passengers in the car, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were drinking beer; therefore, they arrested them for violation of prohibition law.

A review of the police records at the Alexander City, Alabama, Police Department, reflected that [REDACTED] a white male, born March 17, 1947, had the following arrests: May 8, 1965, violation of prohibition law; May 15, 1965, violation of prohibition law; November 29, 1965, public drunk; April 7, 1967, violation of prohibition law.

An address for [REDACTED] in 1965 was listed as [REDACTED] Avenue, Alexander City.

On April 7, 1968, [REDACTED] was located at the residence of his father-in-law, [REDACTED] Alexander City, Alabama. [REDACTED] was intoxicated and had to be aroused before an attempt was made to interview him. He stated that he had been drinking most of the day and realized that he was in an intoxicated condition. He admitted making a telephone call to the Memphis, Tennessee, Police Department, that afternoon from his home phone at [REDACTED] in Alexander City. He gave his phone number as [REDACTED]. He advised that his cousin, [REDACTED] and a friend, [REDACTED] were at his house when he made the telephone call. He stated that he placed the call to Memphis and told the long distance operator that he wanted the Police Department. The operator told him the line was busy and asked for his telephone number, however he gave her some other number that he just made up. About 30 minutes later [REDACTED] placed a call to the Memphis Police Department, and the operator told [REDACTED] that the line was busy, and that she would call him back and asked for the phone number, which [REDACTED] gave her. The operator called back in about 10 minutes and told [REDACTED] who answered the phone, that she had the Memphis Police Department on the line. He then asked

for the phone and asked who was at the other end. A man answered that he was the U. S. Marshal or some other official-sounding name. He then told this person, "Tell the fellow who killed KING that Alabama said Congratulations." He then hung up. [REDACTED] said this telephone call was strictly "liquor talk," and that he could not give any particular reason for making it, only that he was too drunk to know what he was really doing. He stated that he knows nothing as to who might have killed Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. and knows only what he has read in the newspapers or heard over the T.V. or radio. He said that his cousin, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] also had been drinking and were slightly intoxicated. [REDACTED] stated that he was working at Number 1 Mill, Russell Manufacturing Company, Alexander City on Thursday, April 4, 1968, from 6:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

[REDACTED] is described as a white male, age 21, born March 17, 1947, Tallapoosa County, Alabama, 5'9", 148 pounds, light brown hair, blue eyes, fair complexion. He is married to [REDACTED] and they have a small child.

On April 7, 1968, [REDACTED] wife, [REDACTED] advised that she was not at home this afternoon at the time a long distance telephone call was placed to the Memphis, Tennessee Police Department. She indicated that she and her husband had been having troubles, and that she was staying at her parents' house, [REDACTED] in Alexander City. She recalled that last Thursday after her husband, [REDACTED] came home from work, between 2:15 and 2:30 in the afternoon that he remained at home for the rest of the evening until the following morning when he again went to work.

On April 7, 1968, [REDACTED] Alexander City, Alabama, was contacted at Number 3 Mill, Russell Manufacturing Company, Alexander City, Alabama, where he is employed. He advised that he and [REDACTED] visited his cousin [REDACTED] that day some time after 3:00 P.M. and remained at [REDACTED] house for around 45 minutes. When they first arrived at [REDACTED] house, [REDACTED] was on the telephone and then hung up. He did not know who [REDACTED] was talking to, and [REDACTED] did not mention anything about the telephone call. After they had been there for about five to ten minutes, the telephone rang, and [REDACTED] answered and said something to the effect

that he had not made any call. [redacted] then hung up and did not make any comments about any telephone call. No further calls were received or made by any of them at the time that he and [redacted] were at [redacted] house. He admits that the three of them had been drinking, but that he and [redacted] were not drunk. He said that [redacted] was intoxicated.

He denied knowing anything about the killing of Dr. KING or having anything to do with it, and the only thing he knew about it was through the news media. He claimed further that he was at the home of his cousin, [redacted] Alexander City, Alabama, during the afternoon of last Thursday, April 4, 1968.

[redacted] s described as a white male, age 31, born September 26, 1936, Tallapoosa County, Alabama, 5'10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", 150 pounds, light brown hair, hazel eyes; military, served in the U. S. Army, November, 1955 to October, 1957, received honorable discharge, unable to recall serial number; his father is [redacted]. He admitted having been arrested the previous evening for violating the prohibition law in Alexander City. He also claimed that he had been arrested a few times previously in Alexander City.

On April 7, 1968, a review of the arrest records at the Alexander City Police Department reflected that [redacted] white male, born September 26, 1936, had numerous arrests for offenses such as public drunk, resisting arrest, disorderly conduct, disturbing the peace, a fray, violation of prohibition law and destroying private property since November of 1961 through April 6, 1968.

The arrest records at the Alexander City Police Department reflected that [redacted] white male, born April 21, 1943, residence, 31 Oak Street, Alexander City, Alabama, had one arrest on April 6, 1966, for destroying private property (one mailbox), disposition, fined \$25.00.

On April 7, 1968, [redacted] Supervisor, Number 1 Mill, Russell Manufacturing Company, Alexander City, advised that [redacted] worked under his supervision Tuesday through Friday, April 2-5, 1968, from 6:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

On April 8, 1968, [REDACTED] 31 Oak Street, Alexander City, Alabama, advised that it was around 4:00 P.M., Sunday, April 7, 1968 when he and [REDACTED] went over to [REDACTED] house on Hillabee Road in Alexander City. He and PERVIS had been drinking most of the day, and they were slightly intoxicated. [REDACTED] had also been drinking and was drunk. [REDACTED] wife had left him that day, and [REDACTED] seemed upset and had been drinking heavily. He recalls that [REDACTED] made two or three calls on the telephone to his wife who was at her parents' place in Alexander City. Without any prompting on their part, [REDACTED] started talking about the killing of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. [REDACTED] mentioned something about KING being buried, but that the Negro people thought that he would rise and come to life again. [REDACTED] then said that he was going to call Memphis and congratulate them for Dr. KING's assassination. [REDACTED] then placed a telephone call and shortly thereafter, hung up. About 30 minutes later the phone rang, and [REDACTED] talked to the operator and then hung up. He [REDACTED] did not have anything to do with this telephone call and knows nothing concerning the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., other than what he has read in the newspapers and seen and heard on T.V. He believes that the only reason that [REDACTED] placed the telephone call was because of his intoxicated condition, and that in this condition he was brave enough and foolish enough to have made the call.

As far as he can recall, he was at the VFW Club in Alexander City on Thursday, April 4, 1968, from around 11:30 A.M. to around 10:00 to 10:30 P.M. He believes that [REDACTED] who formerly managed the club, was in and out of the club during that period of time.

He claims to have never been in Memphis, Tennessee. He stated that he has been arrested three times in his lifetime, once last Saturday a week ago for violation of prohibition law; several years ago for driving while intoxicated and in April, 1966, for destroying a mailbox.

The following is a description of [REDACTED] white male, age 24, born April 21, 1943, Tallapoosa County, Alabama, 6', 220 pounds, brown hair, crewcut, eyes, brown, heavy eyebrows,

military service, none; Selective Service Number [REDACTED]
Local Board 62, Dadeville, Alabama, classified 1-Y (kidney
trouble); education, ninth grade.

On April 8, 1968, efforts were made to locate [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], however, it was determined that he was out
of town on business. Word was left with his wife to have
her husband contact the FBI upon his return.

On April 9, 1968, [REDACTED] Robinson Road,
Route 2, Alexander City, Alabama, mother of [REDACTED]
advised that she definitely recalls that her son was at
home Thursday night, April 4, 1968, as they were together
in the living room and heard the broadcast over the tele-
vision announcing that Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING had just
been shot.

On April 10, 1968, [REDACTED] Alexander City,
Alabama, telephonically contacted the Opelika, Alabama,
Resident Agency and informed that as best he can recall
he saw [REDACTED] at the VFW Club in Alexander City during
the afternoon and early evening hours on either Wednesday
April 3, 1968, or Thursday, April 4, 1968. He advised that
he would try to definitely establish which of these two dates
it was that he saw [REDACTED] at the Club and would notify the
local FBI Resident Agency.