

MP 44-1987
CE 44-1365
CFW:lrf

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RE: JOHN WOOLARD, ALSO KNOWN AS RUSTY

By communication dated April 8, 1968, the Norfolk Office advised as follows:

On April 8, 1968, [REDACTED] Chesapeake, Virginia, Police Department, advised that JOHN WOOLARD, also known as Rusty, is a possible suspect in the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. He described WOOLARD as a white male, in his mid-twenties, who resides on Route 4, Box 203, Washington, North Carolina. He said WOOLARD is an expert hunter and a former baseball player and last Christmas had a Remington .30-06.

[REDACTED] advised that he knows of no extremist sympathies on the part of WOOLARD, however, he fits the general description of the assassin of KING. He stated he does not know whether WOOLARD has been in military service but he is believed to have been arrested locally on minor charges and believed to be employed at New Bern, North Carolina.

The following investigation was conducted by SA EDWARD W. LUDEMANN:

AT VANCEBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

On April 9, 1968, Mrs. MOZELLE BARROW, Route 1, Vanceboro, North Carolina, advised that JOHN WOOLARD, also known as Rusty, is her son-in-law and resides with her. She advised that he has eaten every meal at her home for the past ten days and has been in bed at a reasonable hour every night during this period.

AT MOREHEAD CITY, NORTH CAROLINA

Mr. BILL LANIER, Supervisor of National Harrison's Associates, Morehead City, advised that WOOLARD worked on March 29, 1968, and on April 4, 1968, but was off on Saturday, March 30, 1968.

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