

WFO 44-703

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On April 13, 1968, Sargeant BERNARD F. KELLY, Homicide Squad, Metropolitan Police Department, telephonically advised SA JAMES J. MC CLOSKEY that JAMES K. BROWN, a cab driver, was in his office and had some information concerning the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING.

JAMES K. BROWN, 4811 Quarles Street, N.E., Apartment 1, telephone 397-2910, furnished the following information to SA MC CLOSKEY on April 13, 1968.

He drives Taxicab Number 264 for the Yellow Cab Company and normally drives between the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 or 2 a.m. He stated that he did not know if the following information is significant; however, after reading the local newspapers and noting that a suspect in the Dr. KING assassination was in the Merchant Marines, he decided he should relate his experience.

On Thursday evening, April 11, 1968, at about 6:30 p.m., he picked up three fares at the Greyhound Bus Depot. Two of the passengers were Negro males and the third was a white male. After delivering the two Negro males to their destination, he proceeded to the 1800 block of 23rd Street, S.E., as requested by the white male, who was described as follows:

Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Age:	Middle or late 30s
Height:	5 feet 9 inches - 5 feet 10 inches
Weight:	175 pounds
Build:	Slender
Hair:	Black and grey - bushy, unruly, uncombed

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Other than the fact that this individual had a very firm chin, he was unable to recall any other physical characteristics. He assumed this individual was a fireman; however, when the passenger departed from the cab, he explained that he was in the Merchant Marines and had just flunked out of school and was returning home. This individual was attired in a new summer khaki uniform similar to the type worn by the Army and members of the fire department. His collar was open and he wore no tie or hat. He also wore a black waist-length jacket. He carried one brown suitcase and a soft back brown notebook. He said this individual appeared to be very relaxed and he does not recall him having any accent or brogue.

BROWN said this individual was apparently familiar with the area, as he attempted to direct BROWN to his residence on several occasions. He did not give a particular address, but BROWN recalls that he stopped near a post marked, 1818 23rd Street, S.E. The passenger, after leaving the cab, walked towards a group of apartments on the side of the street where the address post marked 1818 is located. He did not observe this individual in any particular apartment building, but recalls that there are three or four buildings in that location.