FD-36 (Rev. 12-13-56)

FBI

Date: 5/9/68

Transmit the following in _____ (Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AM (Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: SAC, ATLANTA

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN

In connection with investigation conducted to date in instant case, the Memphis Office has prepared a listing of pertinent dates, activity, and residences as known to Memphis concerning subject JAMES EARL RAY. This information may be subject to amplification as additional information becomes known.

Date	Miscellaneous	Place
4/23/67	Escape	Missouri State Penitentiary Jefferson City, Missouri
7/18/67	Harkay Apts., $450 lease, 7/18/67 - 1/18/68 H. ROTHMAN, owner, $75 per month. GALT skipped out.	Montreal, Canada
7/26/67	Canadian Postal Money Order	Montreal, Canada
8/26/67	2608 Highland Avenue (Rented room.)	Birmingham, Alabama
8/28/67	Birmingham Trust Nat'l Bank (Rented safety deposit box.)	Birmingham, Alabama

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED

ALL COPIES AIRMAIL:

2	ATLANTA	2	LOS ANGELES
2	BIRMINGHAM	2	MIAMI
2	CHICAGO	2	MOBILE
2	DALLAS	2	NEW ORLEANS
2	JACKSON	2	SPRINGFIELD
2	KANSAS CITY	2	ST. LOUIS

RGJ:BN
(24)

ME 44-1987

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/24/69

Through the cooperation of Mr. and Mrs. WALTER C. MADDOX, Managers, Travelodge Motel, 821 South 20th Street, Agents were allowed to search a storeroom on the second floor of the motel wherein registration cards are maintained in a large box and on shelves for previous guests at the motel. From an entire list of guests which is prepared each date, a notation appeared on the list dated March 29, 1968, under the name "GALT" who was assigned Room 307, with the guest registration card indicated as being number 18586. No other entry listing of guests during the pertinent period reflected the name "GALT," nor was there noted any name which during previous investigation might have any connection with the registration of "GALT."

After a diligent search, it was determined that one packet of the registration cards beginning with the number 18500 and contained 500 such cards was not located with the registration cards of that period; however, card number 18586 was subsequently located on the said day in the packet which had been removed from the box, and the following information obtained from this card:

ERIC S. GALT, residence 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, registered on March 29, 1968, and was assigned Room 307.

There was only one in his party and he was charged for one day at a rate of $8.00, plus. 48¢ State Tax, total $8.48. He was in possession of a 1966 Mustang automobile with Alabama license 138993. No telephone calls, local or long distance, were charged to the room from which he departed at an unspecified time on March 30, 1968.

Mr. and Mrs. WALTER C. MADDOX, Travelodge Motel, are maintaining possession of this registration card should its production in court in the future be desired.

INDEXED
FILED

FBI—MEMPHIS

On 4/11/69 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740
ME 44-1987-Sub-M-525

by SA RALPH N. BUTLER
SA HENRY A. SNOW HAS:bsg Date dictated 4/18/69

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-10673)

DATE: 4/30/68

FROM : ASAC JOSEPH T. SYLVESTER, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Investigation at Los Angeles, Calif., has established that JAMES EARL RAY departed Los Angeles on 3/17 or 18/68, presumably alone and via his 1966 white Mustang car bearing Alabama license 1-38993.

Investigation at New Orleans has established that an individual possibly identical with RAY was in New Orleans on the evening of 3/21/68. The exact date of his arrival and departure from New Orleans has not been established.

Investigation at Atlanta, Ga., has established that RAY rented a room in a rooming house in Atlanta on 3/24/68. Investigation has not established the date of RAY's arrival in Atlanta.

It is essential that the details of RAY's movements during the period 3/17-24/68 be determined.

Investigation has established that RAY stayed at the Provincial Motel, 1024 Chartres Street, New Orleans, during the period 12/17-19/67. He registered at this time as ERIC S. GALT.

It is logical to presume that RAY, upon his return to New Orleans in March, 1968, again stayed somewhere in the French Quarter. It is also to be noted that during March, 1968, RAY continued to use the alias ERIC S. GALT.

Set forth below are a list of all hotels and motels located in the French Quarter and, in some instances, hotels or motels located on the fringe of the French Quarter.

You are requested to contact the motels and/or hotels assigned to you and examine the register for registrations in the

Physically

SERIALIZED FILED
APR 30 1968
FBI — NEW ORLEANS

EJC:epk
(2)

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

157-10673-706

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping In Space Below)

Ray Had Restless Year After Escaping Prison

James Earl Ray, the man suspected of killing Dr. Martin Luther King, spent a restless year after his escape last April from Missouri State Penitentiary.

The moves and cross-country journeys of Ray, the man authorities first identified as Eric Starvo Galt, are retraced chronologically from reports of news media, the FBI and eyewitnesses:

April 23, 1967—James Earl Ray escapes from Missouri State Penitentiary.

Aug. 26, 1967—Eric Starvo Galt rents a room in a Birmingham boarding house run by Peter Cherpes, telling Cherpes he plans to stay three or four months.

Aug. 30—Buys a 1966 white Mustang from William D. Paisley of Birmingham, paying about $2,000 in cash for the car.

September — Sometime this month Galt receives a package in the mail from Chicago weighing 20-25 pounds, 3 feet long by 1 foot wide.

Oct. 7—Checks out of the Birmingham boarding house after staying only six weeks, not the three or four months he told Cherpes he was going to stay. Says he is going to Mobile to look for a job.

December — Sometime during this month he closes a safe deposit box he obtained at Birmingham Trust National Bank last August.

Dec. 14—On or about this evening in Los Angeles, offers to drive Hollywood song writer Charles Stein to New Orleans and back free of charge if Stein will sign former Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace's qualifying petition for California's June primary ballot.

Dec. 15—On or about this date, drives Stein to Wallace headquarters in North Hollywood. Later that afternoon, accompanied by Stein, drove in white Mustang to New Orleans. During the two-day drive tells Stein he has just sold a bar in Mexico.

Mid-December — Ray signs up for dancing lessons at the National Dance Studios in Long Beach, paying five $20 bills for the $100 deposit, then returns with $365 to pay the balance. During a dance lesson, tells one of his

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-18 Los Angeles Times

Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 4/22/68
Edition: Home
Author:
Editor: Nick B. Williams
Title: MURKIN

Character:
or
Classification: LA 44-1574
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-38

SEARCHED ___ INDEXED ___
SERIALIZED ___ FILED ___
APR 1968
FBI — LOS ANGELES

FD-302 (Rev. 4-15-64)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 12, 1968

CHARLES STEPHENS, driver, United Cab Company, 255 Forsyth Street, advised that on April 5, 1968, a Friday, at 8:41 a.m., he was traveling in his cab west on Memorial Drive when he was flagged down by an individual between Frazier and Capital Streets. He stated that this individual was a white male, age approximately 29-30 years, 6 feet tall, approximately 175 pounds, slender build, neat appearance, wearing a beige colored trench coat or car coat. STEPHENS stated that he was unable to further describe this individual. He stated that he could not remember the hair coloring or other identifying features of this individual. He stated that this individual requested transportation to the Greyhound Bus Depot in Atlanta. STEPHENS stated that as far as he could remember there was no further conversation between this individual and himself. STEPHENS stated that he dropped this individual off in front of the Greyhound Bus Depot and the fare came to $.93. He stated that the individual gave him two single dollar bills and told him to keep the change. STEPHENS stated that he did not recall this individual having any luggage or carrying any items with him. He stated he did not recall where this individual went after he left the cab.

STEPHENS viewed two artist's conception composite photographs and stated that neither of these were familiar to him.

On 4/12/68 at Atlanta, Georgia File # Atlanta 44-2386 - 152

by SA THOMAS J. BARRETT and SA RICHARD D. RACKLEFF TJB:swo Date dictated 4/12/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

5010-106

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-2386) DATE: 4/11/68

FROM : SUPV. CHARLES S. HARDING

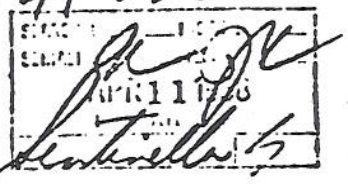
SUBJECT: MURKIN

At 7:05 PM SAC JOE GAMBLE, Birmingham, called and stated that ERIC STARVO GALT moved into residence 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, on 8/26/67. A check of cab records reflects that one of the cab companies, which SAC GAMBLE did not identify, picked up a passenger at 2909 Highland on 8/26/67, and took him to 2608. This passenger was carrying three suitcases. The driver of Cab #42 who handled this was RAY JAMES. JAMES is now employed at the Marriott Hotel in Atlanta as a bellboy and lives at 4241 Hendrix Drive, Forest Park, Georgia, Apartment G-7. Mr. GAMBLE requested that when we receive the photographs, that we should interview JAMES to determine if he recalls this event and whether he can identify any of the photographs or composites.

CSH:jlh
(6)

lee lee 148

44-2386-147



OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27
5010-106

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-2386) DATE: 4/15/68

FROM : SA JAMES J. ROSE

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
(OO: MEMPHIS)

Re: JIMMY D. GARNER

Miss ROBBIE LEE GARNER, Dixieland Apartments, 1295 Donnelly St., SW, Atlanta, Ga., apartment unknown, reportedly found envelopes addressed to ERIC S. GALT at 113 14th St. on the mail table near the front door, on either 4/13 or 14/68. She brought the findings of these envelopes to the attention of her brother, JIMMY D. GARNER, who is manager of above apartment house. Miss GARNER allegedly had informed her brother that this was the same name as the name of the person in the news and radio broadcasts that they are looking for in connection with the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. GARNER allegedly responded by saying that a lot of people had the same name.

LEAD:

Will locate and interview Miss ROBBIE LEE GARNER re above matter and attempt to determine brother's reaction to findings of envelopes addressed to GALT. She should be closely questioned in this regard because of purpose of this interview to determine veracity of GARNER. GARNER has given different stories in different interviews and question has arisen as to whether or not he is covering up GALT's activities or not.

Lead assigned to SA LEWIS.

44-2386-306

2 - Atlanta
JJR:rjb
(2)

Lewis

FD-302 (Rev. 4-15-64)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/16/68

Miss ROBBIE LEE GARNER, Apartment D-8, 1295 Donnelly Avenue, S. W., furnished the following information:

She is the only sister of JIMMIE D. GARNER who operates rooming houses at 107 and 113 - 14th Street. She has a key to GARNER's room at 107 - 14th Street and visits him occasionally. On Saturday, April 13, 1968, she visited his room about Noon. GARNER was not in his room and she stayed for only a brief time. In looking about the room she obsened the name "GALT" written in dark blue ink on a piece of paper, size about 2" x 4". The paper was either white or light blue in color. She was not positive if the paper was a separate slip or the back of an envelope. She believes it was located on a table near the phone.

She had heard of the name GALT in connection with the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

About 8:00 P.M., April 13, 1968, she again visited her brother. He was in bed and appeared to be very drowsy and tired. She did not enter the room but merely opened the door and attempted toconverse with him. She mentioned that she had seen the name "GALT" written on a paper in his room, but this did not cause any particular reaction, as GARNER seemed to be about half asleep. He did say something about the name GALT being a common name.

She said her brother does not keep up on current affairs and may not have even been aware of the news about GALT. She said that in addition to running the rooming houses, he also runs GARNER's cafeteria on Northside Drive. She stated he gets up about 4:00 A.M. and works about a 16-hour day. She advised that GARNER attended Mississippi Southern and was an Army officer during World War II. She stated her brother is in very poor financial condition. She stated she never heard of her brother belonging to any kind of organizations or clubs and she does not believe he has any political interests or motivations. She said she was certain that GARNER would not assist nor shield anyone involved in any criminal activity.

Miss GARNER advised she is a teacher at Sandtown School on Campbellton Road.

On 4/15/68 at Atlanta, Georgia File # Atlanta 44-2386 -517

by SA ROBERT K. LEWIS:lcc Date dictated 4/16/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

A COPY OF THIS FORM WILL BE MAILED TO YOU FOR YOUR RECORDS

LOCKSMITHING INSTITUTE • Little Falls, New Jersey, 07424

Please enroll me for the complete course in Professional Locksmithing (subject to your liberal Money-Back Agreement). I agree to follow your plan of teaching and to submit at least one lesson and/or payment every month. I will pay the tuition fee according to the payment plan checked below:

PLAN A ☒ I enclose $10 enrollment fee. I will pay $7.50 with each completed lesson (not less than $7.50 per month) until I have paid $229.50. I may proceed as rapidly as I wish.

PLAN B ☐ DOUBLE-QUICK PLAN. I enclose $25 enrollment fee. I will pay $15 with each completed lesson (not less than $15 per month) until I have paid $219.50. I may proceed as rapidly as I wish. I SAVE $10.00.

PLAN C ☐ I enclose $199.50 in full payment. I may proceed as rapidly as I wish and I SAVE $30.00.

17.5

NAME ERIC S. GALT
(Please Print Clearly)

STREET 2559 RUE NOTRE DAME EST.

CITY MONTREAL, CANADA STATE QUEBEC ZIP CODE

LESSONS INCLUDE TOOLS AND SUPPLIES AT NO EXTRA CHARGE!

ENROLLMENT FORM

36-1-151 BUS167

151.89

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27
5010-106

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (44-2386)(P) DATE: 4/24/68

FROM : FRANK V. HITT, SAC

SUBJECT: MURKIN

CLEM MC GOWAN called from the Bureau at 10:20 A.M. today, 4/24/68, and pointed out the possibility that RAY did not plan this job until after he arrived in Atlanta. This position is supported by his having given a change of address to the Locksmith Company after his arrival. This address was accurate.

Based on the foregoing premise, MC GOWAN instructed that we check stolen auto reports, going back to 3/23/68, on the possibility that RAY stole an auto and rented a garage someplace and stashed the car, planning for a subsequent getaway. This area should be explored immediately, it being noted we have already considered and looked into this possibility for a shorter period of time.

All possible storage garages within a several-block area of RAY's residence should be identified and investigated. This would be private as well as commercial.

MC GOWAN also instructed that based on the foregoing premise, we determine the purchases of Georgia Drivers Licenses starting on or about 3/23/68, up until the time of RAY's departure from this area. He may have obtained a drivers license in an effort to establish a new identity.

MC GOWAN also suggested the possibility that RAY became involved in a fracas in this area with a Negro and this may have set off his assassination activities. I told MC GOWAN that we had not determined any such information through police records. This matter should be rechecked through Police records.

MC GOWAN also suggested that with reference to review of newspaper articles for automotive purchases from private owners, we expand our search back to the time of 3/23/68.

FVH:lcc
(2)

44-2386-1102

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
APR 24 1968
FBI—ATLANTA

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27
5010-106

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) DATE: 4/30/68

FROM : SA CHARLES S. HARDING

SUBJECT: MURKIN

It is noted that MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. was in Los Angeles, Calif., and left there 3/16/68, for Atlanta. It is further noted that JAMES EARL RAY is believed to have left Los Angeles on or about 3/17/68 and arrived in Atlanta on or before 3/24/68. It is possible RAY has followed KING around for a period of time. In this connection, Miss DORA MC DONALD, Secretary to Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., should be reinterviewed to determine if she has a record of KING's travels for the past year.

CSH:lcc

44-2386-1497

SEARCHED — INDEXED
SERIALIZED — FILED
APR 30 1968
FBI—ATLANTA

MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574) DATE: 4/19/68

FROM : SA WILLIAM S. BURTON

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 4/19/68, writer contacted FRANK DEERSON, Chief of Intelligence and Law Enforcement, U. S. Coast Guard District Office, 19 Pine Avenue, Long Beach, California. DEERSON was contacted because telephone number 437-2941, listed to U. S. Coast Guard Office, was called on 12/4/67 from 469-8096, which number was in service at 1535 Serrano, Apartment No. 6, from November, 1967 through January, 1968 when ERIC STARVO GALT lived at this address.

DEERSON advised that no record of incoming calls was maintained at the Coast Guard Office. DEERSON advised that some persons call the office for the purpose of ascertaining the method of obtaining a license to become a Marine cook or steward or for information on how to become a seaman.

DEERSON advised that all inquiries concerning seamen's licenses would be referred to Commandor HERB JOHNSON, Marine Inspection Office, Wilmington, California, telephone number 831-9281, Ext. 471. DEERSON advised that all inquiries concerning licenses for cooks and stewards would be referred to Marine Cooks and Stewards Union, Long Beach, California.

In view of information developed 4/19/68 that GALT's true name is JAMES EARL RAY, agents whom leads assigned should make inquiry for this name also.

LEADS

LOS ANGELES

AT LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA: In view of ERIC STARVO GALT's background in bartending school and because he has said that he worked on a river boat, the following leads are set forth:

44-1574-442

SEARCHED ___ INDEXED ___
SERIALIZED ___ FILED ___
APR 19 1968
FBI — LOS ANGELES

(3) - Los Angeles

WSB/dlp
(3)

WRITING NOTES

FBI-King Vol 13, xxxxSerial 1576-1730 (Very pale copies, machine not right-hard to read)

1579 masking part of identification of lab specimen Q215, all except Ray's Canadian return address. Claim of all things is 7D. Also withheld is all information relating to the Ray comparison specimen, even its lab number. Little doubt all this is public anyway.

1581- C and D used to withhold first graf that refers to what was reported and to which it responds.

1582 withholds part of complaint filed "in case entitled JAMES EARL RAY - FUGITIVE , UFAP," all fxxxlowing withheld. Claim to b2. Complaint filed before U.S.Commissioner secret? Two copies complaint said attached not attached.

1602 is confirmation of the second actual name of a real James Earl Ray other than the accused assassin. This one may be first in time. This one a truck driver. 1611 spelling is Wray.

1604 public information about John Ray withheld under C. Also name of St. Louis police official

1617 Withholding in this sentence claimed under 7D:"Re; aERIC STRAVO GALT - - - - -." So also is information relating to a publication.

1618-names agents withheld. Same 1629.

1635 information about John Ray withheld under 7C Almost nothing is not known and has not been published about him, including his criminal records,employment, shacking up, etc. These records also hold all such information and it was released

1647 4/18/68 LA TT - Avalon Cleaners identified mark on sheet recovered Atlanta as that of Galt, who also had six shirts laundered.

1666 withholds name of Captain Memphis Police Dept. Claim 7C

1685 withheld w/o claim to exemption. "Refer to CIA.2 All of 1686 also withheld under 7C&D. No 1687. In worksheets no pages indicated and remarks only initials VTL.

1725 well publicized info about Jerry Ray and others in family withheld under 7C.