

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/26/68

1

MARIE MARTIN, St. Francis Hotel, Room 201, 5533 Hollywood Boulevard, advised that she was nervous, excited, and confused during previous interviews. She stated she had been drinking excessively for an extended period of time prior to the previous interviews. She added that she was not intoxicated at the time of the interviews. She advised that subsequent to her prior interviews, she has reduced her intake of alcoholic beverages, and that her recollection of the events concerning her association with JAMES EARL RAY has improved.

She stated that she first met an individual who introduced himself as ERIC GALT, shortly after Thanksgiving of 1967, in late November or early December. This meeting took place at the Sultan Room at the St. Francis Hotel, where MARTIN was working as a cocktail waitress. About 9:00 p.m. in the evening GALT was sitting at the bar, and he offered to buy MARTIN a drink. GALT bought MARTIN a drink and ordered straight Vodka for himself. MARTIN carried on her conversation with GALT while waiting on other customers. MARTIN said she asked GALT if he would drive her home. GALT asked her where she lived, and she said New Orleans. GALT consented and asked when MARTIN wanted to leave. MARTIN replied, "Right after work tonight." MARTIN said she then explained to GALT that MARTIN's cousin RITA STEIN had two children in New Orleans, and RITA wanted someone to take her to New Orleans and bring them to Los Angeles. RITA STEIN was sitting at the bar a few seats away. MARTIN called RITA STEIN over, and she joined the conversation. MARTIN said she told RITA that this was her chance to get her kids. MARTIN said she had to wait on customers and only heard parts of RITA's conversation with GALT. MARTIN said she told GALT that she would not be traveling with him to New Orleans. RITA asked GALT if he would take her brother, CHARLES STEIN, to New Orleans to pick up the children instead of herself. GALT said he would take CHARLES if MARTIN, RITA and CHARLES would register to vote and list the American Independent Party as their party preference. A short while later, CHARLES STEIN arrived at the Sultan Room. RITA, CHARLES and MARTIN

On 4/24/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-8-139
 by SA's FRANCIS G. KAHL and DENNIS C. LE MASTER/DCL/pih Date dictated 4/25/68

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.

2
LA 44-1574

all agreed to register as requested by GALT. About midnight CHARLES and RITA left and GALT remained in the Sultan Room and continued to drink Vodka. GALT remarked to MARTIN that this arrangement had better not be a "set-up". He said if it was he had a gun and would "hurt" CHARLES.

The interview was interrupted at this point when an individual, who identified himself as Dr. GERALD I. FREDKOFF, arrived to examine MARTIN. Upon completion of the examination FREDKOFF returned to the hotel corridor outside of MARTIN's room. He advised that MARTIN's physical condition did not preclude further interview. He stated he was treating MARTIN for "pink eye". Prior to the examination, MARTIN was very nervous and her hands trembled considerably. After the examination, MARTIN appeared less nervous and her hands had stopped trembling. FREDKOFF advised he could disclose no information which would violate the doctor-patient relationship.

GALT left the Sultan Room sometime between midnight and 2:00 a.m. Sometime earlier in the evening, GALT told MARTIN that he was from Birmingham, Alabama. After she left work at 2:00 a.m., MARTIN said she believes she went over to the residence of CHARLES and RITA STEIN, however, the events are not clear as she had been drinking heavily. MARTIN said she believes, that at this time, CHARLES told her that GALT had offered to pay all expenses for the trip to New Orleans.

MARTIN said that about 10:00 a.m. the following morning, RITA came to her room at the St. Francis Hotel to summon her to register to vote. RITA and MARTIN met GALT and CHARLES in front of the St. Francis Hotel. GALT had his car which was a Mustang. MARTIN said she knows it was a Mustang because she previously owned a forest-green Mustang and remarked about this fact to GALT. MARTIN said she cannot recall the color of GALT's automobile. MARTIN advised that the only time she was in GALT's car was the time he drove her and CHARLES and RITA STEIN to the voter registration office. The voter registration office was located on or near Lankershim Boulevard. MARTIN said that GALT, CHARLES STEIN, RITA STEIN, and herself all went into the voter registration office. MARTIN said her voter registration receipt has been subsequently misplaced. CHARLES and RITA also registered as requested by GALT. GALT sat in a chair nearby in the registration office and observed the registration. GALT conversed with no one in the registration office. MARTIN said GALT drove them back to

3
LA 44-5174

the St. Francis Hotel after the registration, and at that time MARTIN gave GALT a box containing clothing, linens and other miscellaneous household articles to take to her mother at New Orleans. MARTIN said she planned to mail these items to her mother, LORRAINE CALLAWAY, 611 Bartholomew Street, New Orleans, however, when she learned GALT would make the trip to New Orleans, she asked him to take the box. GALT took the clothing and left the hotel with RITA and CHARLES.

About seven to nine days later, MARTIN said she saw GALT again in front of the St. Francis Hotel for the first time since his return from New Orleans. GALT asked MARTIN why she had not been to work, and MARTIN told him she had been sick. GALT asked MARTIN if she was short of money, and before she could reply, GALT pressed a \$20.00 bill into her hand and went into the Sultan Room. Later that evening in the Sultan Room, GALT related an incident which occurred on the trip somewhere in Arizona. The Mustang went into a skid and the bumper caught on some barbed wire from a fence, which stopped the skid. GALT told MARTIN that he stayed at some friend's house at New Orleans while on the trip. MARTIN questioned GALT about where the friend's house was in New Orleans, and GALT said it was near the Chef Menteur Highway. GALT dropped CHARLES off at his sister's home in New Orleans. CHARLES' sister is MARIA STEIN, address unknown.

After his return from the New Orleans trip, GALT was a regular customer at the Sultan Room. She said he departed Los Angeles sometime after he completed Bartender's School in March, 1968. On the day GALT left, he came to MARTIN's room at the St. Francis Hotel and offered to trade television sets. MARTIN traded her General Electric portable television to GALT for his Air console model television set. GALT also left \$20.00 on the table as part of the trade. GALT said he wanted a portable set because it was easier to take along in his car on his trip South. MARTIN asked GALT if he would drop off another package in New Orleans for her, and he agreed. MARTIN gave GALT a box of phonograph records to drop off at the home of her mother, LORRAINE CALLAWAY in New Orleans. After GALT departed with the television set he returned and knocked on MARTIN's door again. MARTIN said she was in bed and asked what he wanted. GALT said he wanted to leave some weights with her to keep for him. MARTIN told GALT to leave

4
LA 44-1574

it outside of her door, and she would take it in later. A short while later, the desk clerk at the St. Francis Hotel called her and directed her to remove barbells from the hallway. MARTIN said she brought the barbells into her room and stored it in the closet. MARTIN released the barbells to the interviewing agents. MARTIN said this was the last occasion on which she had contact with GALT. GALT mentioned no one who would accompany him on this trip. MARTIN advised that she has since contacted her mother and learned that GALT was at her home to deliver the box of phonograph records. She said that her mother was not home, and GALT left the records at the home of MARTIN's sister, THERESA, who also lives in New Orleans. MARTIN claimed not to know the last name of her sister THERESA, who was recently married. She declined to furnish the address of THERESA in New Orleans, but stated contact with THERESA could be arranged through her mother, LORRAINE CALLAWAY.

MARTIN advised that GALT related that one time while driving through a Negro section of Los Angeles, tomatoes and other objects were thrown at his car, which he attributed to his Alabama license plates on the Mustang. When MARTIN asked GALT if he was ever married, GALT did not reply. She said, that from his expression, he implied that he had been married. MARTIN advised that to her knowledge, GALT never had a girl friend at Los Angeles. She said that on one occasion, when intoxicated GALT solicited a date from HELENA (LNU), an older belly dancer of Greek descent, who has worked at the Seven Veils. HELENA declined. MARTIN said that on one other occasion GALT went dancing once with HELEN (LNU) who professed to be a horse stunt rider on the television program "Gunsmoke". She described HELEN as a Caucasian female, 5'6", 170 pounds.

MARTIN was asked if she knew a "JERI" or "DARRELL" who allegedly went on dates with GALT. She said that she knew a DARRELL (LNU) slightly.

MARTIN described DARRELL (LNU) as a Caucasian female, 5'2", 130 pounds, blue eyes and blonde hair.

MARTIN said that she had no intimate relations with GALT. She said that she had been arrested twice:

5
LA 44-1574

[REDACTED] She acknowledged having used marijuana
but not within the past few years.