

his family and friends in Memphis were capable of committing the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING but he had no idea or information regarding the murder. When confronted with the alleged statements he made he stated he may have been shooting off his mouth but still contended he had no information. When pressed for identities of possible suspects he became antagonistic and stated he wanted to talk to an attorney if agents persisted in questioning him.

At the outset when agents identified themselves STEDMAN thought the inquiry regarding him was due to arrears on car payments to a finance company. With this in mind, STEDMAN was advised of the reward for information identifying the killer of MARTIN LUTHER KING. STEDMAN quickly advised he was not a stoolie.

STEDMAN denied Klan affiliation.

As a result of interview, STEDMAN became extremely upset and belligerent and indicated that he now had reason to get a permit to buy a gun in order to kill anyone who might give him trouble.

2. Investigation at Dancing Schools,
Houston Division

On April 18, 1968 Mrs. ITASKA WEINSTEIN, 5503 Yacht Club Drive, Dickinson, Texas, operator of the Itaska Dance Studio, Highway 3, League City, Texas, furnished the following information. Mrs. ITASKA WEINSTEIN had been contacted on April 16, 1967 regarding any information she might have in her records indicating that ERIC STARVO GALT, also known as, might have been a student at her dance studio.

On April 18, 1968 Mrs. WEINSTEIN stated that she had researched her records and located a 3 x 5 card bearing the name of JOHN WILLARD, no address or description. She stated that the card had been completed by herself and merely shows that a man named JOHN WILLARD appeared for four dancing lessons, three lessons being on a Wednesday and one on a Friday, month and date not indicated. Mrs. WEINSTEIN does recall that these lessons for JOHN WILLARD were given before her annual recital which is held in May, and to the best of her recollection this person took the dancing lessons during April, 1967. She stated she has no other record pertaining to a JOHN WILLARD and was unable to locate any record which could contain his signature or handwriting.

Her overall impression of JOHN WILLARD as best

she can recall was that he was not neat, lacking in personality and was an extremely poor dancer. She recalls him as being quiet and difficult to teach because he had poor balance. No one else at her studio at the present time would know him. She stated that it was possible that SHIRLEY CARROLL, formerly a bookkeeper for Mrs. WEINSTEIN at the studio might have had contacts with JOHN WILLARD when he came for lessons and may have conversed with him. She stated that SHIRLEY CARROLL resides at an address in care of J.L. HOECK, Patton Road, Box 81A, Forest Hill, Maryland. Mrs. WEINSTEIN was shown photographs of ERIC GALT, also known as James Earl Ray, and she commented that the photograph of GALT with his eyes closed most closely resembled the JOHN WILLARD that she vaguely recalls. She stated the eyes drawn into the photograph do not resemble those of the man who took lessons from her. In addition the hair of the JOHN WILLARD that she knew was not as dark as that in the photograph and his complexion was olive, not fair.

During their very limited conversations WILLARD stated he worked "at NASA" and did not get off from work until 5:30 PM. He also stated that he was called back to work on overtime on occasion. She stated that he did not appear to be a highly educated man, definitely not the "engineering type". WILLARD had remarked to Mrs. WEINSTEIN that he went from work to his apartment or room, took a shower, changed clothes and then came for his dancing lesson. She recalled that he usually wore a white shirt and dark pants but on one or two occasions wore a suit. At no time did Mrs. WEINSTEIN observe a badge or identification tag with WILLARD's photograph on it as do all employees working at NASA possess. WILLARD had stated to Mrs. WEINSTEIN that he owned a record player and he once borrowed one of her records. He had mentioned that he had bought a record of Fred Astaire Dance Instructions which he said he purchased at the NASA Bay Shopping Center, Webster, Texas. Mrs. WEINSTEIN recalled that she told JOHN WILLARD that she would not dance with him while teaching him ballroom dancing as it was against her policy. On at least two occasions JOHN WILLARD brought with him a woman who acted as his partner while he took lessons. This woman was described as name "LOU", age in her 40s and definitely older than JOHN WILLARD, height 5'4", average build, dressed in ordinary cotton dresses, not slacks, with hair being dark with a reddish cast and had a poor personality. To the recollection of Mrs. WEINSTEIN, WILLARD's dancing partner supposedly worked as a waitress, cafe or establishment unknown.

According to Mrs. WEINSTEIN, WILLARD told her that he, after having taken this woman to a lesson or two, would not be able to bring her back with him because she worked too late and she wanted him to pick her up after work. Mrs. WEINSTEIN although not ever seeing WILLARD drive a car was confident that he had one but she was unable to describe it other than to say it must have been an older car. Although she is not certain she thinks that perhaps on the last time that she gave him a lesson WILLARD told her he was going to "visit his mother". She can recall no further information regarding JOHN WILLARD. Mrs. WEINSTEIN further furnished the following descriptive data concerning JOHN WILLARD:

Sex	Male
Race	White
Height	Approximately 5'9" - 10"
Age	In his 30s
Hair	Brown, ordinary cut, combed straight back
Eyes	Gray or brown, definitely not blue, and did not wear glasses
Build	Stocky, but not fat or heavy
Complexion	Olive
Teeth	Cannot recall
Carriage	Posture not good, slouched and not that of a well groomed man
Speech	Average, no accent
Jewelry	May have worn ring and wrist-watch
Shoes	Black, round toed, not alligator; feet of average size
Habits	Cannot remember if he smoked; does not remember habit of pulling ear
Dress	When wearing slacks, wore belt and slacks much too long, dragging on floor, belt worn low
Miscellaneous	Did not seem clean or well educated

On April 19, 1968 Special Agents LEON F. BROWN and HENRY L. WILLIAMS contacted the following employees and proprietors of restaurants and bars on Old Galveston Road north from Webster to South Houston:

CECIL RAMSEY, Goliad Bar
7722 Old Galveston Road