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PRIORITY NO NIGHT ACTION

APPROVED FOR RELEASE

REF: DIR 92664

Date 17 Feb 1978

1.  HAS POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED ACCUSED ASSASSIN

AS JAMES EARL RAY, BORN 10 MARCH 1928 IN ILLINOIS; HEIGHT ~~XXXXXX~~  
FIVE FEET TEN INCHES; WEIGHT 163-174 POUNDS; BLUE EYES; (2)

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BROWN HAIR. SMALL SCAR ON CENTER OF FOREHEAD AND SCAR ON PALM OF RIGHT HAND. IN ADDITION TO ALIASES CITED REF HAS ALSO USED NAMES JAMES McBRIDE, JAMES WALTON, W.C. HERRON, AND JAMES O'CONNOR. SERVED IN U.S. ARMY FROM FEBRUARY 1946 TO DECEMBER 1948; DISCHARGED AS INEPT AND UNABLE TO ADJUST. ONCE CONFINED TO MENTAL HOSPITAL. HAS BEEN EMPLOYED AS BAKER, LABORER, AND "COLOR <sup>MATEHER</sup> ~~MAKER~~". A DRIFTER WITH LONG CRIMINAL RECORD FOR BURGLARY, ARMED ROBBERY, AND FORGERY. HAS BEEN MISSING FROM MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY SINCE 23 APRIL 1967. CONSIDERED ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS. CURRENT WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN.

2. PHOTOS OF RAY (LABELED GALT PRIOR TO IDENTIFICATION) BEING POUCHED FOR ~~A~~

END OF MESSAGE

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