



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: FBI, Memphis (44-1987)

Date: April 16, 1968

Re: MURKIN  
CR  
OO: Memphis

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
John Edgar Hoover, Director

Examination requested by:	Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Philadelphia	FBI File No. 44-38861
Reference:	Airtels, 4/9/68 and 4/10/68, Letter 4/10/68	Lab. No. D-560459 JK
Examination requested:		D-560463 JK
Remarks:	Document - Microscopic (Hair & Fibers) Miscellaneous	D-560464 JK
		PC-A5608 IZ
		PC-A5609 IZ
		PC-A5610 IZ

This report confirms and supplements Bureau teletype to Los Angeles in this matter dated 4/11/68.

DO NOT INCLUDE ADMINISTRATIVE  
PAGE(S) INFORMATION IN  
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

- ② - Las Vegas (157-133) Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)
- 2 - Philadelphia (44-1368) Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)
- 2 - Los Angeles (44-1574) Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

157-133-62

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 18 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	

FBI LASVEAS

FBI MEMPHIS

1101AM 4-18-68 URGENT MEN

TO PHILADELPHIA 44-1368, AND LAS VEGAS 157-133  
FROM MEMPHIS 44-1987 1P

MURKIN; CR.

RE PHILADELPHIA AND LAS VEGAS TELS APRIL SEVENTEEN LAST.

LAS VEGAS AND PHILADELPHIA, IF POSSIBLE, SHOULD CHECK  
DRIVERS LICENSE RECORDS IN EACH STATE UNDER THE FOLLOWING NAMES:  
ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, AND JOHN WILLARD, KEEPING  
IN MIND THE BIRTHDATE OF JULY TWENTY, NINETEEN THIRTYONE.

UNSUB ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P.

END JRD

FBI LASVEAS

FBI LASVEAS

*4/18/68*  
*MRS. GRACE LEAHY, MUD, CC, Nev. also*  
*DRIVER'S LICENSE DIV., MUD, CC, Nev. also*  
*ADVISED LOCATE NO RECORD EITHER*  
*UNDER LOWMEYER AND WILLARD*  
*ED M. L. Wilson*

*NR*  
*Information*  
*Galt or Dumas*  
*or #.*

*SAC* *DS*

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 18 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	

*Hail and*

*157-133-63*

F B I

Date: 4/18/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT  
(Priority)

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: SAC, LAS VEGAS (157-133) 1 P

MURKIN; CR.

RE MEMPHIS TEL APRIL EIGHTEEN INSTANT.

RECORDS DRIVERS LICENSE DIVISION, MOTOR VEHICLE BUREAU,  
CARSON CITY, NEVADA, CHECKED AGAIN FOR NAMES AND BIRTH DATE  
MENTIONED IN RETEL. NO RECORD LOCATED.

UNSUB ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P.

MCD:jmc  
(1) *jmc**SAC* *(22)*

157-133-64  
SEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_  
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FILED *Halland*

Approved: *[Signature]*  
Special Agent in ChargeSent *2:27* M Per *[Signature]*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, LV (157-133)

DATE: 4/10/68

FROM : SA HAROLD E. NEWPHER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

This date SAS MAX L. WILSON, THOMAS DEMPSEY and writer contacted following laundries in the RA territory, with no pertinent information developed:

Airport Laundry - Pauline Ginny  
American Linen - Carl Jenkins \*  
Bob's Laundry - Bob Lyle  
Carson Laundramat - John Van Howe  
Champion Laundry Center - Earl Light  
City Linen - George Dickson  
Crown Laundry and Cleaners - Maurice Ghasse  
Deluxe Laundry & Cleaners - Ralph Kolbet  
Fong Yee Laundry - Fong Yee  
Ideal Laundramat - Elsie Norton  
Keystone Laundry - Bill Stampfli \*  
Magic Cleaners - Paul Faustich \*  
Mercury Cleaners, Carson City - Pat Grove  
Mission Linen, Carson City - Lee Baker  
Modern Nevada Cleaners, Winnemucca - Edward Heath  
New Mikado Cleaners - Norman Fong  
Peerless Cleaners - Fred Nonnenfort  
Pink and Blue Diaper Service - William Loller  
Reno Laundry - Edward Ness  
Seventh Street Cleaners - Charles Brennan  
Sparks Quality Cleaners - Neva MC Cold  
Seven Diamonds Laundry - Pauli Perinin  
Richardson's Shirt-O-Rama - Kathy Gaary  
Sunshine Laundry - Tasca Stralla  
Superior Cleaners - Robert Eng  
United Laundry - John Jaureguto  
Up to Date Laundry, Lovelock - Ted Takanada  
Vesta Launderette - Ralph Goyer  
Reliable Cleaners - George Bell  
Village Cleaners - Ona Leslie  
Vogue Cleaners - Bernice Buffington

\*  
THESE HAVE THERMOSEAL  
TAPE MACHINES BUT DO NOT  
USE ANYTHING LIKE CODE  
INVOLVED.

NEW



5010-108-01

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

157-133-65

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 18 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	

*Heiland*

-2-

Wash-O-Mat - Mable Moyer  
Winnemucca Laundry - Halle Hawkins  
Yee Brothers Laundry - Gene Yee  
York Shirt Laundry - Elizabeth York  
Fallon Steam Laundry - *MRS.* Chester Tsuda

-2-

FBI WASH DC

920PM URGENT 4/18/68 GJM

TO ALL SACS

FROM DIRECTOR 1P

MURKIN.

CONTACTS SHOULD BE MAINTAINED WITH ALL MASS COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA IN YOUR TERRITORIES TO INSURE THAT THERE IS FREQUENT REFERENCE TO PHOTOGRAPH OF GALT AND HIS CONNECTION WITH THIS CASE. IF NOT ALREADY DONE, PHOTOGRAPHS SHOULD BE SHOWN OR DISTRIBUTED TO LAW ENFORCEMENT AND OTHER APPROPRIATE AGENCIES IN YOUR AREAS TO INSURE THE BROADEST POSSIBLE PUBLICATION OF SUBJECT'S PHOTOGRAPH AND BACKGROUND.

OFFICES COVERING POINTS OF ENTRY OR EXIT FROM COUNTRY INSURE THAT SUBJECT'S PHOTOGRAPH AND BACKGROUND HAVE BEEN WIDELY DISTRIBUTED AND/OR APPROPRIATELY DISPLAYED AND THAT STOPS ARE BEING MAINTAINED.

OFFICES COVERING DEPARTURE OR ARRIVAL OF OVERSEAS FLIGHTS SHOULD ALSO RENEW STOPS AND DISPLAY PHOTOGRAPHS OF SUBJECT APPROPRIATELY. SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

HW

FBI LASVEAS.

KMH

FBI SAN FRAN

JDP

FBI DALLAS

MLP

FBI SACTO

*SA Holland  
advised  
625 PM  
4/18/68*

*SAC*

*Handled  
4/18/68*

*WHS*

*FBI San Antonio*

157-133-66

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 18 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	

*Holland*

## RECORD OF INFORMATION FURNISHED OTHER AGENCIES

Orally 4/18/68 By Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Written Communication \_\_\_\_\_  
date date date

Information concerning:

Lee C. Matthews

Information furnished from File, Serial, and Page Number:

157-133-57

Information furnished was obtained:

☒ during course of Bureau investigation☐ from informants☐ from complainants or other sources

Information furnished to:

PRESTON Hubbs, Sgt, LVPD.

Number of items disseminated: \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks:

Background Lee C. Matthews.

John H. Jones, Jr.  
Special Agent

1-66-421-157-133

157-133-67

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED <u>1</u>	FILED <u>1</u>
APR 19 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	

FBI LASVEGAS

FBI WASH DC

403PM URGENT 4-19-68 SCA

TO ALL SACS

FROM DIRECTOR 4P

MURKIN

THE FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE HAS JUST BEEN ISSUED AT WASHINGTON THIS AFTERNOON AND YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE IT IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE TO THE LEADING NEWSPAPERS AND RADIO AND TV STATIONS IN YOUR DIVISION. EVERY EFFORT MUST BE MADE TO INSURE REPEATED AND WIDESPREAD DISTRIBUTION OF THIS INFORMATION. COPIES OF THE 1968 PHOTOGRAPH OF SUBJECT ALREADY IN YOUR POSSESSION AND WANTED FLYERS SHOULD ALSO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO MEDIA CONTACTS. NO ELABORATION WHATSOEVER MAY BE MADE REGARDING THIS RELEASE. ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING INVESTIGATIVE LEADS WILL FOLLOW SHORTLY.

*Murkin Advised*  
*J*

*SAC PR*

157-133-68

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 19 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	

*Hollan*



PAGE TWO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 19, 1968

ATTORNEY GENERAL RAMSEY CLARK ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE FBI HAS IDENTIFIED JAMES EARL RAY, AN ESCAPEE FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, AS ERIC STARVO GALT, AGAINST WHOM A FEDERAL COMPLAINT WAS FILED LAST WEDNESDAY IN CONNECTION WITH THE FATAL SHOOTING OF THE REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER SAID THAT A SYSTEMATIC AND EXHAUSTIVE SEARCH OF LATENT FINGERPRINTS UNCOVERED IN THE DR. KING CASE AGAINST THE FINGERPRINTS OF THE OVER 53,000 PERSONS FROM WHOM "WANTED NOTICES" HAVE BEEN POSTED IN THE FILES OF THE FBI'S IDENTIFICATION DIVISION LED TO THE DETERMINATION THAT GALT AND RAY ARE IDENTICAL.

MR. HOOVER SAID THAT RAY, WHO IS 40 YEARS OF AGE, WAS REPORTED MISSING FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI, SINCE APRIL 23, 1967. HE HAD BEEN RECEIVED AT THAT INSTITUTION ON MARCH 17, 1960, TO SERVE A 20-YEAR SENTENCE FOLLOWING CONVICTION IN ST. LOUIS FOR ARMED ROBBERY AND FOR OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE OWNER.

PAGE THREE

IN SEPTEMBER, 1966, WHILE SERVING THIS SENTENCE, HE WAS CONFINED FOR A TIME IN THE MAXIMUM SECURITY WARD AT THE STATE HOSPITAL AT FULTON, MISSOURI.

ACCORDING TO MR. HOOVER, RAY HAS A KNOWN ARREST RECORD DATING BACK TO 1949. PRIOR TO THE 1960 CONVICTION FOR WHICH HE RECEIVED THE 20-YEAR TERM, RAY HAD BEEN CONVICTED OF BURGLARY IN LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, IN 1949; ARMED ROBBERY IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, IN 1952; AND FORGING UNITED STATES POSTAL MONEY ORDERS IN MISSOURI IN 1955.

HE HAS SERVED TERMS IN THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY JAIL IN 1949; IN STATE PRISONS AT JOLIET AND PONTIAC, ILLINOIS, IN 1952-54; AND IN THE FEDERAL PENITENTIARY AT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS, IN 1955-58.

RAY WAS AN ENLISTED MAN IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY FROM FEBRUARY, 1946, TO DECEMBER, 1948, AT WHICH TIME HE WAS GIVEN A GENERAL DISCHARGE DUE TO INEPTNESS AND LACK OF ADAPTABILITY FOR MILITARY SERVICE. WHILE IN THE ARMY, HE RECEIVED A THREE-MONTH SENTENCE AT HARD LABOR FOR BEING DRUNK AND BREAKING ARREST.

MR. HOOVER SAID THAT DURING HIS CRIMINAL CAREER, RAY HAS ALSO USED THE NAMES OF JAMES MCBRIDE, <sup>79-0-55</sup> JAMES WALTON, W. C. HERRON AND JAMES O'CONNER. HE IS A WHITE MALE; CLAIMS TO HAVE

PAGE FOUR

BEEN BORN MARCH 10, 1928, IN ILLINOIS; IS APPROXIMATELY 5 FEET 10 INCHES TALL AND WEIGHS ABOUT 163 TO 174 POUNDS. HE HAS BLUE EYES AND BROWN HAIR. THERE IS A SMALL SCAR ON THE CENTER OF HIS FOREHEAD AND A SCAR ON THE PALM OF HIS RIGHT HAND.

RAY HAS CLAIMED THAT HE ATTENDED SCHOOL THROUGH THE 10TH GRADE IN ALTON, ILLINOIS. HE HAS HAD THE REPUTATION OF BEING A "DRIFTER" SINCE LEAVING SCHOOL. HIS VOCATIONCL EXPERIENCE INCLUDES WORKING AS A BAKER, LABORER AND COLOR MATCHER.

IN CONNECTION WITH HIS ESCAPE FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, AN FBI COMPLAINT WAS FILED IN JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI, ON JULY 20, 1967, CHARGING RAY WITH UNLAWFULLY FLEEING FROM THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO AVOID CONFINEMENT, HE HAS BEEN A FEDERAL FUGITIVE SINCE THEN.

RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS. ANYONE HAVING INFORMATION CONCERNING HIM SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT FBI HEADQUARTERS IN WASHINGTON, D. C., OR THE NEAREST FBI OFFICE.

END

PET

FBI LASVEAS

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Las Vegas, Nevada**

**April 19, 1968**

Attorney General Ramsey Clark announced today that the FBI has identified James Earl Ray, an escapee from the Missouri State Penitentiary, as Eric Starvo Galt, against whom a Federal complaint was filed last Wednesday in connection with the fatal shooting of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Director J. Edgar Hoover said that a systematic and exhaustive search of latent fingerprints uncovered in the Dr. King case against the fingerprints of the over 53,000 persons from whom "wanted notices" have been posted in the files of the FBI's Identification Division led to the determination that Galt and Ray are identical.

Mr. Hoover said that Ray, who is 40 years of age, was reported missing from the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri, since April 23, 1967. He had been received at that institution on March 17, 1960, to serve a 20-year sentence following conviction in St. Louis for armed robbery and for operating a motor vehicle without permission of the owner.

1 - 80-27  
1 - 157-133

1 - KLAS TV, Channel 8  
1 - KSHO TV, Channel 13  
1 - KORK TV, Channel 3  
1 - KHPV TV, Channel 5  
(Henderson)

1 - Each  
Radio Stations:  
KLUC KENO  
KLAV KRGH  
KRAM KVEG  
KORK KTOO (Henderson)  
KBMI

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 19 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	

MCD:jmc  
(15)

Above hand delivered to radio & TV stations.

157-133-69

In September, 1966, while serving this sentence, he was confined for a time in the maximum security ward at the state hospital at Fulton, Missouri.

According to Mr. Hoover, Ray has a known arrest record dating back to 1949. Prior to the 1960 conviction for which he received the 20-year term, Ray had been convicted of burglary in Los Angeles, California, in 1949; armed robbery in Chicago, Illinois, in 1952; and forging United States postal money orders in Missouri in 1955.

He has served terms in the Los Angeles County Jail in 1949; in state prisons at Joliet and Pontiac, Illinois, in 1952-1954; and in the Federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, in 1955-1958.

Ray was an enlisted man in the United States Army from February, 1946, to December, 1948, at which time he was given a general discharge due to ineptness and lack of adaptability for military service. While in the Army, he received a three-month sentence at hard labor for being drunk and breaking arrest.

Mr. Hoover said that during his criminal career, Ray has also used the names of James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron, and James O'Conner. He is a white male; claims to have been born March 10, 1928, in Illinois; is approximately 5'10" tall,

and weighs about 163 to 174 pounds. He has blue eyes and brown hair. There is a small scar on the center of his forehead and a scar on the palm of his right hand.

Ray has claimed that he attended school through the 10th grade in Alton, Illinois. He has had the reputation of being a "drifter" since leaving school. His vocational experience includes working as a baker, laborer, and color matcher.

In connection with his escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary, an FBI complaint was filed in Jefferson City, Missouri, on July 20, 1967, charging Ray with unlawfully fleeing from the State of Missouri to avoid confinement. He has been a Federal fugitive since then.

Ray should be considered armed and extremely dangerous. Anyone having information concerning him should immediately contact FBI headquarters in Washington, D. C., or the nearest FBI office.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (44-38861)

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (44-760)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/19/68

Enclosed to the Bureau are six copies and to each office one copy of the following photographs:

JAMES EARL RAY, Missouri Department of Correction #00416, dated 3/17/60 and 9/8/66

WALTER TERRY RIFE, Kansas City SO #29636  
FBI #4558766

Stand up photographs of RAY on the left, Kansas City SO #29637 and RIFE, Kansas City SO 29236, taken 3/28/55.

- 2 - Bureau (Encs. 24) (AM)
- 2 - Each Field Office (Encs. 4) (AM)
- 2 - Kansas City (120)

*See 1A*

157-133-70

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 20 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	

*the end*

*w/ photos*



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (44-38861)

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (44-760)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/19/68

Enclosed to the Bureau are six copies and to each office one copy of the following photographs:

JAMES EARL RAY, Missouri Department of  
Correction #00416, dated 3/17/60 and  
9/8/66

WALTER TERRY RIFE, Kansas City SO #29636  
FBI #4558766

Stand up photographs of RAY on the left, Kansas City SO  
#29637 and RIFE, Kansas City SO 29236, taken 3/28/55.

2 - Bureau (Encs. 24) (AM)  
2 - Each Field Office (Encs. 4) (AM)  
2 - Kansas City  
(120)

157-133-70

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 20 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	



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

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



FBI LASVEAS

*ADVISE SNOPE  
IF 172 CALLS*

FBI LOS ANG

745 PM IMMEDIATE 4/19/68 VLB

1010PM IMMEDIATE 4-19-68 LLD

TO ALL SACS EXCEPT KANSAS CITY, ANCHORAGE, HONOLULU AND SAN JUAN  
MESSAGE RELAY PLAN

FROM DIRECTOR SP

*157-133*  
MURKIN. OO: MEMPHIS.

*76-740 - O'CONNOR*

JAMES EARL RAY, AKA. EARL JAMES RAY, W. C. HERRON, EARL JAMES,  
JAMES MC BRIDE, JAMES O'CONNER, JAMES WALTON, JAMES WALYON, JIM

- FUGITIVE; UFAC - ROBBERY FIRST, BUFILE 88-41730. OO: KANSAS  
CITY, KC FILE 88-9449; DETERMINED TODAY BY BUREAU TO BE IDENTICAL  
WITH ERIC STARVO GALT, AGAINST WHOM FEDERAL COMPLAINT FILED APRIL  
SEVENTEEN LAST IN CONNECTION WITH FATAL SHOOTING OF DR. MARTIN  
LUTHER KING, JR..

JAMES EARL RAY, INMATE, MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, JEFFERSON  
CITY, MO., ESCAPED PEN APRIL TWO THREE, SIXTY-SEVEN. INVESTIGATION  
INDICATED RAY CONCEALED HIMSELF IN A BREAD BOX AND ESCAPED FROM  
TRUCK MAKING DELIVERY TO AN AUXILIARY FARM. RAY WAS SERVING TWENTY  
YEARS ON CHARGE OF ARMED ROBBERY - FIRST DEGREE AND FOR OPERATING A  
VEHICLE WITHOUT OWNER'S CONSENT. ON JULY TWENTY, SIXTY-SEVEN,

END PAGE ONE

*Dulinsky advised  
8:44 pm 4-19-68*

*SAC [Signature]  
[Signature]*

*157-133-71*

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 19 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	

*Holland 1-7*

PAGE TWO

FEDERAL COMPLAINT AUTHORIZED BY AUSA WILLIAM A. KITCHEN, WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY, MO., FILED BEFORE USC, JEFFERSON CITY, MO., CHARGING RAY WITH VIOLATION TITLE EIGHTEEN, SECTION ONE ZERO SEVEN THREE, USC. WARRANT ISSUED.

INVESTIGATION HAS BEEN CONDUCTED BY CHICAGO, SPRINGFIELD, ST. LOUIS, AND KANSAS CITY OFFICES IN UNPRODUCTIVE EFFORT TO LOCATE THIS FUGITIVE. KANSAS CITY IS INSTITUTING A FULL AND COMPLETE REINVESTIGATION IN AN EFFORT TO DEVELOP BACKGROUND DATA, RELATIVES, AND ASSOCIATES OF SUBJECT, WHO MIGHT BE IN A POSITION TO ASSIST IN HIS LOCATION.

IN THIS CONNECTION, JAMES EARL RAY AND WALTER TERRY RIFE ON MARCH SEVEN, FIFTY-FIVE, BURGLARIZED THE U. S. POST OFFICE AT KELLERVILLE, ILL., AND STOLE SIXTY-SIX BLANK U. S. POSTAL MONEY ORDERS WHICH THEY PASSED DURING MARCH, FIFTY-FIVE, IN NUMEROUS STATES, WITH THE RESULT THAT BOTH WERE SENTENCED IN U.S.D.C., KANSAS CITY, MO., ON JULY ONE, FIFTY-FIVE, TO USP, LEAVENWORTH, END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

KANSAS. SUBJECT RAY HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS A LONER AND RIFE APPARENTLY IS ONE OF HIS FEW CLOSE ASSOCIATES, SUGGESTING POSSIBILITY THEY COULD HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATES IN MURDER OF DR. KING, AND INVESTIGATION ALSO INSTITUTED IN KANSAS CITY AIRTEL TO SPRINGFIELD MARCH ELEVEN LAST TO DEVELOP BACKGROUND INFO RE RIFE AND TO LOCATE HIM FOR INTERVIEW. THIS INVESTIGATION SHOULD ALSO BE RECOVERED AND EXPEDITED TODAY, IT BEING NOTED RIFE AND RAY HAVE BACKGROUND HISTORY IN THE QUINCY, ILL., AREA.

PHOTOS OF JAMES EARL RAY AND WALTER TERRY RIFE ARE BEING FORWARDED AMSD TO BUREAU AND ALL OFFICES.

FOLLOWING IS DESCRIPTION OF JAMES EARL RAY AS FURNISHED BY FBI IDENTIFICATION DIVISION UNDER FBI NO. THREE ZERO SIX FOUR FOUR THREE A: WHITE MALE, DOB MARCH TEN, TWENTY-EIGHT OR TWENTY-NINE, AT DECATUR, QUINCY OR ALTON, ILL.; APPROXIMATELY FIVE FEET TEN; ONE SEVEN FOUR LBS., IN SEPTEMBER SIXTY-SIX; RUDDY COMPLEXION; BLUE EYES; BROWN HAIR; MEDIUM BUILD; OCCUPATIONS LABORER AND BAKER; SCARS AND MARKS--SMALL SCAR ON CENTER OF FOREHEAD AND SCAR IN PALM OF RIGHT HAND. ADDRESSES--ST. LOUIS, MO., MARCH SIXTY, TWO ZERO ONE FIVE PARK, ST. LOUIS, MO., OCTOBER FIFTY-NINE; QUINCY, ILL., JULY FIFTY-FIVE, MARCH FIFTY-FIVE, AND APRIL FIFTY; HOTEL QUINCY, QUINCY, END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

ILL., MARCH FIFTY-FIVE; VICTOR HOTEL, QUINCY, ILL., MARCH FIFTY-FIVE;  
EIGHT FIVE THREE WEST FULLERTON, CHICAGO, ILL., MAY FIFTY-TWO; EIGHT  
ZERO FIVE ALBY STREET, ALTON, ILL., JULY FIFTY-ONE. FPC--SIXTEEN,  
M OVER M, NINE OVER FOUR, U OVER W, OOO OVER IOI, TWELVE, REF NINE  
OVER TWELVE. NCIC FPC--ONE SIX ONE THREE ONE ONE ZERO ZERO ONE TWO  
ONE TWO I I ONE TWO I I ONE SEVEN. MILITARY RECORD--JAMES EARL RAY,  
SN ONE SIX ONE SIX THREE ONE TWO NINE, ENLISTED U. S. ARMY FEBRUARY  
FORTY-SIX, AT EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL., AND SERVED ON ACTIVE DUTY UNTIL  
DECEMBER TWENTY-THREE, FORTY-EIGHT, AT WHICH TIME GIVEN GENERAL  
DISCHARGE AS PRIVATE FIRST CLASS AT CAMP KILMER, N. J., BY REASON  
OF INEPTNESS AND LACK OF ADAPTABILITY FOR MILITARY SERVICE. RECORDS  
ALSO INDICATE HE RECEIVED TREATMENT FOR GONORRHEA AND SYPHILIS WHILE  
A MEMBER OF THE MILITARY.

FOLLOWING IS A DESCRIPTION OF WALTER TERRY RIFE, FBI NO.  
END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

FOUR FIVE FIVE EIGHT SEVEN SIX SIX, AS OBTAINED FROM FILES OF USP,  
LEAVENWORTH: WHITE MALE, AGE FORTY-FOUR, DOB APRIL NINETEEN,  
TWENTY-FOUR, FIVE FEET NINE AND ONE HALF, ONE SIX ONE LBS., BROWN  
HAIR, EYES BLUE GRAY.

KANSAS CITY IS SETTING OUT ALL PERTINENT LEADS TODAY BY  
TELETYPE AND TELEPHONE FOLLOWED UP BY TELETYPE CONFIRMATION.  
ALL LEADS MUST BE COVERED WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS WITH BUREAU,  
KANSAS CITY, AND MEMPHIS BEING KEPT ADVISED BY APPROPRIATE  
COMMUNICATION OF PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS.

SUGGEST BUREAU MAKE IMMEDIATE COMPARISON OF ANY LATENT  
FINGERPRINTS DEVELOPED DURING KING INVESTIGATION WITH THOSE  
OF WALTER TERRY RIFE TO DETERMINE IF IDENTICAL.

AIR MAIL COPIES SENT ANCHORAGE, HONOLULU AND SAN JUAN.

LEGAT MEXICO CITY AND OTTAWA ADVISED.

SUBJECT RAY HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF ROBBERY WITH DEADLY  
WEAPON, HAS BEEN CONFINED IN STATE HOSPITAL, FULTON, MO., IN  
SIXTY-SIX, AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

-P-

END

OLC

FBI LASVEAS

X

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-133)

DATE: 6/16/68

FROM : SA WALLACE M. POLLARD

SUBJECT: MURKIN

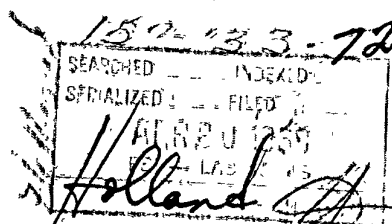
On 6/16/68 FREE BONNENFANT, Owner, Peerless Cleaners, 698 Forest St., Reno, Nevada, furnished to SA POLLARD two specimens each of Thermal Press characters "02B-6" and "D2B-6" from the machine located at this plant.

BONNENFANT advised that this plant uses this machine to mark the laundry it processes, but uses a code unlike that represented by the above characters.

WMP  
(1)



5010-108-02



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, LAS VEGAS (157-133)

DATE: 4/22/68

FROM : SA MAX L. WILSON

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR

On 4/10/68, the following financial institutions were checked by SA MAX L. WILSON with negative results concerning GALT, LOWMEYER or WILLARD:

American Savings and Loan Association, Reno, Nevada - BERNARD DI ORIO;

Union Federal Savings and Loan Association - Mrs. JO BERGER;

On The same date the Nevada Highway Patrol was contacted and through Dispatcher, Mrs. JO ANNE HUGHES, Dispatcher Douglas County SO, Minden, Nevada; DALE WEBSTER, Deputy, Pershing County SO, Lovelock Nevada; and Mrs. IONE HARRIS, Dispatcher, HUMBOLDT County SO, Winnemucca, Nevada, were advised to check same names provided them on day before through their local financial institutions. These individuals later telephonically advised they had contacted the following persons with negative results:

First National Bank of Nevada, Lovelock - President V. S. SCHOENFELD;

First National Bank of Nevada, Winnemucca, Nevada - Vice President ROWLAND MUDGE.

Nevada Bank of Commerce, Winnemucca - Operations Officer, ALTON PARKER.

The Nevada Highway Patrol radio was also utilized in contacting Sheriff GEORGE ALLEN, Yerington; Mrs. RUTH WALKER, Churchill County SO, Fallon; and Mrs. ELAINE SARNOWSKI, Mineral County SO, Hawthorne. These individuals stated they had contacted the following banking officials and had provided names of subjects with similar negative results:

MLW:kdw



5010-106-01

157-133-73

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 23 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	

*Holland*

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

FBI LASVEAS

FBI LOS ANG.

1:19PM URGENT 4/22/68 GJM

TO ALL SACS RELAY MESSAGE PLAN  
FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 1P

MURKIN

YOU ARE REMINDED THAT ALL LEADS IN THIS CASE MUST BE COVERED WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS, AND ALL LEADS MUST BE SET FORTH BY TELEPHONE OR TELETYPE. ALL BORDER OFFICES COVERING ENTRY INTO MEXICO AND CANADA AND EXIT THEREFROM SHOULD INSURE THAT APPROPRIATE STOPS ARE MAINTAINED RE SUBJECT AND ALL NAMES KNOWN TO BE USED BY HIM AT RESPECTIVE OFFICES OF U. S. IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PATROL. YOU SHOULD ALSO INSURE THAT PREVIOUS STOPS PLACED WITH ANY FACILITY SHOULD INCLUDE ALL NAMES USED BY THE SUBJECT.

DISTRIBUTE SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES OF WANTED FLYERS AND IO'S TO NARCOTIC INVESTIGATIVE AGENCIES IN ORDER THAT THEIR INFORMANTS MAY BE CONTACTED. YOU SHOULD CONTACT ALL CRIMINAL INFORMANTS AND APPROPRIATE RACIAL AND SECURITY INFORMANTS. LEGATS OTTAWA AND MEXICO CITY BEING ADVISED SEPARATELY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

LMO

FBI LASVEAS

*SA [Signature]*

157-133-74

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	

*Waller*



F B I

Date: 4/19/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AM  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

BEL WMP  
 BUCKLEY B  
 DAVIS B  
 DEMPSEY W  
 NEWPHER W  
 POLLARD W  
 RODEFER W  
 STONE W  
 STOUSLAND W  
 WILSON W

TO: SAC, ALBANY

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN

At about 6 p.m. on 4/4/68, while standing on the second floor balcony outside Room 306 of the Lorraine Motel, 406 Mulberry Street, Memphis, Tennessee, Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. was struck in the right side of the face by a single bullet fired from a 30-06 rifle. The bullet severed KING's spinal cord and death was almost instantaneous.

This investigation, predicated upon a specific request from the Attorney General of the United States, disclosed that the fatal shot had been fired from the bathroom of a cheap rooming house located at 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, which bathroom was located at the rear of the rooming house, and had a window overlooking the Lorraine Motel.

At about 3 p.m. on 4/4/68, an individual using the name JOHN WILLARD had rented Room 5-B in the rooming house at 422½ South Main Street and had paid one week's rent. After hearing the rifle shot at about 6 p.m. on that same day, other tenants in the rooming house observed a man presumably identical with WILLARD, fleeing from the rooming house carrying a large package which was subsequently abandoned by him on the sidewalk in front of the Canipe Amusement Co., 424 South Main Street, Memphis. A neighborhood investigation in the vicinity of 424 South Main Street disclosed that the subject had fled from the scene in a white Mustang.

Found abandoned in front of 424 South Main Street was a 30-06 Remington model 760 rifle which was determined to have been

2 ALBANY

2 ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES

1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN  
(111)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M

157-133-75

SEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_ INDEXED \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIALIZED \_\_\_\_\_ FILED \_\_\_\_\_

APR 22 1968  
FBI - LAS VEGAS

Per \_\_\_\_\_

ME 44-1987

sold to one HARVEY LOWMEYER on 3/30/68 by Aeromarine Supply Co., Birmingham, Alabama.

Investigation at Memphis disclosed that an individual had purchased a set of binoculars at the York Arms Company in Memphis on 4/4/68. These binoculars were among the material abandoned with the rifle and recovered in Memphis. Also recovered was a brown and green herringbone bedspread. The items abandoned in Memphis were all wrapped in this bedspread. The blue bag which was inside the bedspread contained numerous items, among which were the binoculars and a set of underwear consisting of a T-shirt and shorts. The T-shirt and shorts are those on which appears the laundry mark which has been a matter of interest in this case.

A search of motel records in the Memphis area disclosed that an individual using the name ERIC S. GALT had spent the night of 4/3/68 at the Rebel Motel, Memphis, Tennessee, and was driving a 1966 white Mustang bearing Alabama License 1-38993. Investigation at Birmingham disclosed that this automobile had been purchased by ERIC S. GALT on August 30, 1967, from a private person in response to a newspaper ad. He paid a total of \$1995 cash. While in Birmingham he furnished the address of 2608 South Highland Avenue, Birmingham. This is also the address which appeared on a driver's license issued to him by the State of Alabama. The driver's license identifying data listed his birth date as July 20, 1931, his height as 5'11", his weight as 170 and his eyes blue and hair brown.

The automobile in question, the white Mustang bearing the Alabama tags mentioned above, was recovered in Atlanta on 4/11/68 and determined to have been abandoned there prior to 9 a.m. on 4/5/68.

In connection with the evidence submitted by Atlanta, Birmingham, and Memphis, identifiable latent prints were recovered. It was on the basis of these latents that identification was made of JAMES EARL RAY. In handling future leads, all offices should be particularly interested in securing an identifying number, military, police, or FBI, in connection with suspects so that the necessary check can be made through the Identification Division.

On 4/17/68, AUSA R. MACEY TAYLOR, Birmingham, authorized the filing of a complaint charging ERIC STARVO GALT with a conspiracy to violate Section 241, Title 18, U. S. Code, and

**ME 44-1987**

**recommended bond in the amount \$50,000. On that same date, SAC JOSEPH H. GAMBLE filed a complaint before USC MILDRED F. SPRAGUE, Birmingham, and warrant was issued that same date.**

**For further information re JAMES EARL RAY, all offices are directed to press release furnished them by the Bureau on 4/19/68.**

**ARMED & DANGEROUS.**

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES  
FROM : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CIVIL RIGHTS  
(OO: ME)

Re Albany airtels 4/10/68 and 4/11/68, setting forth concerns who purchased Thermo-Seal marking machines, and Bureau teletype to Memphis, 4/12/68.

The FBI Laboratory advised that pillowcase and bed sheet were found in trunk of 1966 white Mustang registered to ERIC STARVO GALT, which was located at Atlanta 4/11/68. These items contain Thermo-Seal laundry tapes of approximately same size as tapes on items previously recovered, but are yellow in color and contain code, "20R-3." In opinion of Textile Marking Machine Company, Syracuse, New York, the tapes were produced by a different machine than previous tapes since the first three characters are 15 point type and the last two characters are 18 point type.

The Textile Marking Machine Company suggests the twenty in above code would be the lot number, the R may mean that this was a return of a batch of laundry, and the three is the bundle number.

LEADSALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES

Will recontact laundries determined to be operating Thermo-Seal Marking Machines in an effort to locate laundry using the code, "20R-3."

2 - All Continental Offices LV  
2 - Memphis  
GMR:jms (118)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

157-133-76

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	

Holland

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES

FROM : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CIVIL RIGHTS  
(OO: ME)

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2 - All Continental Offices LV  
2 - Memphis  
GMR:jms (118)

157-133-76

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	
Per <i>[Signature]</i>	

Approved: *[Signature]* Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M  
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: SAC, ALBANY  
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN - COST DATA

ReButel to ME 4/17/68.

For information of all offices, the Bureau by retel requested of the Memphis Division as follows:

"Please furnish following information on above matter compiled or estimated through 4/30/68, and thereafter submit cumulative totals through the end of each month until further notice:

- 1) Number of man hours spent on case broken down as to regular hours, overtime hours, and total man hours by following employees (separate figures for each class of employees shown):
  - A. Special Agents
  - B. Clerical Employees
- 2) Total mileage (estimated or actual) traveled by Bucars used on case. Include mileage for cars traveling to and from other field offices on special assignment and any personally-owned cars.
- 3) Any unusual or out-of-ordinary costs, such as cost of chartering airplane, rental of special office space, leased telephone lines, etc. These should be itemized and cost of each item shown.

① - Each Office *LV*  
2 - Memphis  
HEG:LF  
(59)

*Ticket set for me*

157-133-77

Approved: *R.G. Jensen*  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M

Per *C. Thomas B.*  
*See me, pls*

ME 44-1987

- 4) Peak number of Special Agents working on case during month for which report is submitted.

You should promptly request all Bureau offices involved in this case to furnish information requested herein to you and it should be included in your report."

Each office is requested to expeditiously furnish the Memphis Division with the above designated data within two work days after the close of each month. Secondly, each office is also requested to advise the Memphis Division even in the event each category is zero or no work is performed on this case during the month.



**CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY  
INTERSTATE FLIGHT - ROBBERY**

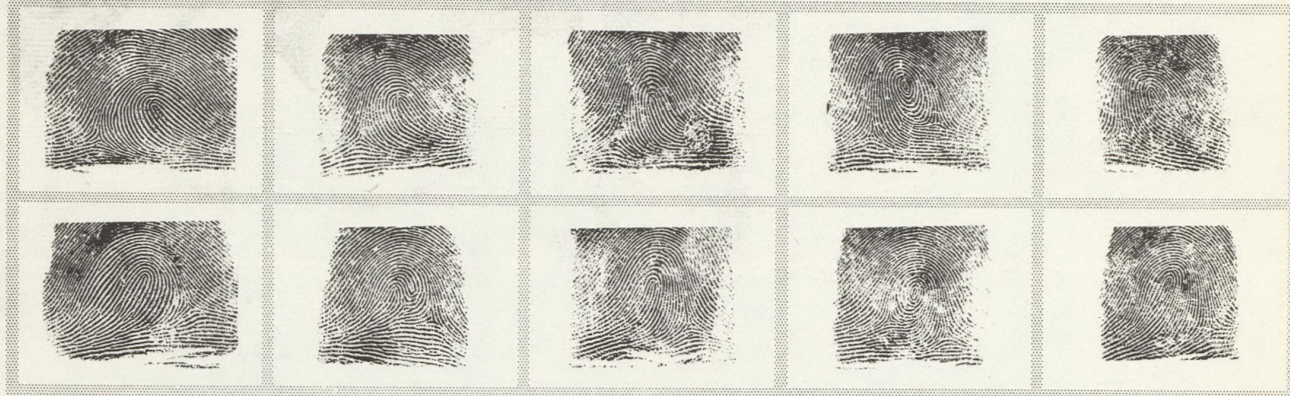
I. O. 4182  
4-20-68

**WANTED BY FBI**

**JAMES EARL RAY**

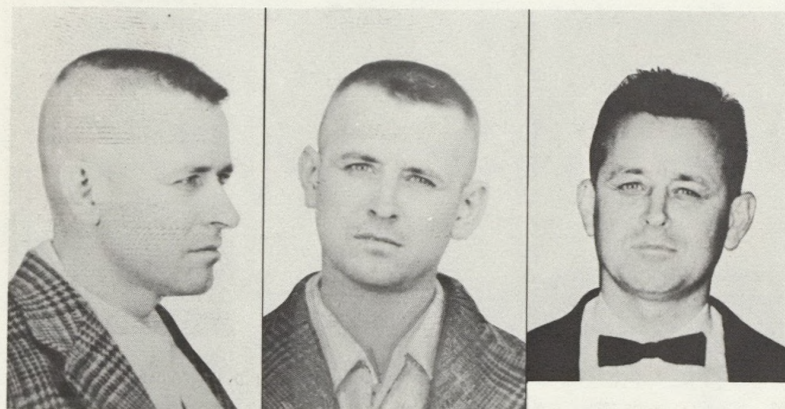
FBI No. 405,942 G  
16 M 9 U 000 12  
M 4 W 101

ALIASES: Eric Starvo Galt, W. C. Herron, Harvey Lowmyer, James McBride, James O'Conner, James Walton, James Walyon, John Willard, "Jim"



Photographs taken 1960

Photograph taken 1968  
(eyes drawn by artist)



*James Ray*

**DESCRIPTION**

AGE: 40, born March 10, 1928, Alton, Illinois  
HEIGHT: 5' 10"  
WEIGHT: 163 to 174 pounds  
BUILD: medium  
HAIR: brown, possibly cut short  
OCCUPATIONS: baker, color matcher, laborer  
SCARS AND MARKS: small scar on center of forehead and small scar on palm of right hand  
EYES: blue  
COMPLEXION: medium  
RACE: white  
NATIONALITY: American  
REMARKS: noticeably protruding left ear; reportedly is a lone wolf; allegedly attended dance instruction school; has reportedly completed course in bartending

**CRIMINAL RECORD**

Ray has been convicted of burglary, robbery, forging U. S. Postal Money Orders, armed robbery, and operating motor vehicle without owner's consent.

**CAUTION**

RAY IS SOUGHT IN CONNECTION WITH A MURDER WHEREIN THE VICTIM WAS SHOT. CONSIDER ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS.

A Federal warrant was issued on April 17, 1968, at Birmingham, Alabama, charging Ray as Eric Starvo Galt with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a citizen (Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 241). A Federal warrant was also issued on July 20, 1967, at Jefferson City, Missouri, charging Ray with Interstate Flight to Avoid Confinement for the crime of Robbery (Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 1073).

**IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS PERSON, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL FBI OFFICE. TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES OF ALL FBI OFFICES LISTED ON BACK.**

Identification Order 4182  
April 20, 1968

157-133-7P

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	

*Edgar Hoover*  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C. 20535



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

(1/12/68)

Located at:	Building	Telephone
ALBANY, New York 12207	502 U. S. Post Office & Ct. House	465-7551
ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico 87101	4303 Federal Office Bldg.	CHapel 7-1555
ANCHORAGE, Alaska 99501	Room 204, Federal Building	272-6414
ATLANTA, Georgia 30303	275 Peachtree St., N. E.	Jackson 1-3900
BALTIMORE, Maryland 21202	408 U. S. Post Office Bldg.	Lexington 9-6700
BIRMINGHAM, Alabama 35203	Room 1400 - 2121 Bldg.	322-7711
BOSTON, Massachusetts 02203	John F. Kennedy Federal Office Building	Richmond 2-5533
BUFFALO, New York 14202	400 U. S. Court House Bldg.	856-7800
BUTTE, Montana 59701	400 Thornton Building	792-2304
CHARLOTTE, North Carolina 28202	1120 Jefferson Standard Life Bldg.	333-4126
CHICAGO, Illinois 60604	Room 905, U. S. Court House & Federal Office Building	431-1333
CINCINNATI, Ohio 45202	415 U. S. Post Office & Court House Building	421-4310
CLEVELAND, Ohio 44199	3005 Federal Office Building	522-1400
COLUMBIA, South Carolina 29201	1529 Hampton Street	252-1911
DALLAS, Texas 75201	Room 200 - 1810 Commerce Street	Riverside 1-1851
DENVER, Colorado 80202	Room 18218, Federal Office Bldg.	222-5981
DETROIT, Michigan 48226	913 Federal Building & U. S. Court House	Woodward 5-2323
EL PASO, Texas 79901	202 U. S. Court House Bldg.	533-7451
HONOLULU, Hawaii 96813	206 Dillingham Building	59546
HOUSTON, Texas 77002	6015 Federal Building & U. S. Court House	Capitol 8-1414
INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana 46207	1221 North Pennsylvania Street	632-6415
JACKSON, Mississippi 39201	Room 800 - First Federal Savings Building	948-5000
JACKSONVILLE, Florida 32202	414 U. S. Court House & Post Office Building	355-1401
KANSAS CITY, Missouri 64106	707 U. S. Court House Building	Baltimore 1-6100
KNOXVILLE, Tennessee 37902	617 Walnut Street, Southwest	524-2721
LAS VEGAS, Nevada 89101	Room 2-011 Federal Office Bldg.	385-1281
LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas 72201	215 U. S. Post Office Bldg.	FR 2-3157
LOS ANGELES, California 90017	1340 West 6th Street	Hubbard 3-3551
LOUISVILLE, Kentucky 40202	Room 701, Bank of Louisville Bldg.	583-3941
MEMPHIS, Tennessee 38103	841 Federal Office Bldg.	525-7373
MIAMI, Florida 33137	3801 Biscayne Boulevard	379-2421
MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin 53202	735 U. S. Post Office, Customs & Court House Building	276-4684
MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota 55401	392 Federal Building	Federal 9-7861
MOBILE, Alabama 36602	520 Federal Building	438-3674
NEWARK, New Jersey 07101	U. S. Post Office & Court House Building	622-5613
NEW HAVEN, Connecticut 06510	510 The Trust Company Bldg.	787-1217
NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana 70113	701 Loyola Avenue	522-4871
NEW YORK, New York 10021	201 East 69th Street	Lehigh 5-7700
NORFOLK, Virginia 23510	420 U. S. Post Office & Court House Building	625-1631
OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma 73118	5104 N. Francis Street	Victor 2-7471
OMAHA, Nebraska 68102	1010 Federal Office Bldg.	348-1210
PHILADELPHIA, Pennsylvania 19107	500 Widener Building	LOCust 3-5300
PHOENIX, Arizona 85013	244 West Osborn Road	Crestwood 9-5511
PITTSBURGH, Pennsylvania 15222	1300 Federal Office Bldg.	471-2000
PORTLAND, Oregon 97205	423 U. S. Court House Bldg.	224-4181
RICHMOND, Virginia 23220	200 West Grace Street	644-2631
SACRAMENTO, California 95814	2020 J Street	441-1275
ST. LOUIS, Missouri 63103	2704 Federal Building	Chestnut 1-5357
SALT LAKE CITY, Utah 84111	3203 Federal Building	Elgin 5-7521
SAN ANTONIO, Texas 78206	433 Federal Building	CA 5-6741
SAN DIEGO, California 92103	3211 Fifth Avenue	297-3361
SAN FRANCISCO, California 94102	450 Golden Gate Avenue, Box 36015	552-2155
SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico 00917	Pan Am Building 255 Ponce de Leon Avenue	765-6000
SAVANNAH, Georgia 31405	5401 Paulsen Street	354-9911
SEATTLE, Washington 98104	1015 Second Avenue	Main 2-0460
SPRINGFIELD, Illinois 62701	421 South Sixth Street	522-9675
TAMPA, Florida 33602	Room 610, Federal Office Bldg.	228-7661
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535	506 Old Post Office Building	393-7100

## DECODED COPY

☐ Radio☒ Teletype

TELL         
 BUREAU         
 DAVIS         
 DEMTSEY         
 NEWPHER         
 POLLARD         
 RODEFER         
 STONE         
 STOUSLAND         
 WILSON       

TO: ALL SACS

FROM: DIRECTOR 222114 GR 199

MURKIN

REMEAIRTEL TO ALL OFFICES APRIL ONE NINE LAST FURNISHING  
BACKGROUND DATA CONCERNING JAMES EARL RAY.

SUBJECT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED POSSIBLE SUSPECT IN ANY UNSOLVED  
BANK ROBBERIES, BURGLARIES OR ARMED ROBBERIES (POSSIBLE ITSP  
VIOLATIONS) OCCURRING AFTER APRIL TWO THREE ONE NINE SIX SEVEN.  
RAY SHOULD ALSO BE CONSIDERED SUSPECT IN ANY FUTURE SUCH VIOLATIONS  
AND BUREAU ADVISED TELEPHONICALLY OF ANY TENTATIVE IDENTIFICATION.

ANY PERTINENT LEADS DEVELOPED DURING REVIEW OF PAST VIOLATIONS  
SHOULD BE EXPEDITIOUSLY RUN OUT AND BUREAU ADVISED.

SUBJECT'S HANDWRITING AND HAND PRINTING NOT IDENTIFIED IN  
BANK ROBBERY NOTE FILE AND HIS FINGERPRINTS ARE BEING SEARCHED  
AGAINST LATENTS SUBMITTED IN UNSOLVED BANK ROBBERY AND BURGLARY  
VIOLATIONS.

SUBJECT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

DECODED &amp; TYPED BY AJE

*advise all  
Revo LA's*

157-133-79

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 1 23 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	

*Wilson*

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

FBI WASH DC

FBI LASVEAS

404 PM URGENT 4-23-68 KXS

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)  
FROM LAS VEGAS (157-133)

MURKIN

REBUTEL ALL SAC'S. APRIL TWENTY-TWO LAST.

WANTED FLIERS AND IDENTIFICATION ORDERS REGARDING JAMES EARL  
RAY DISTRIBUTED TO NARCOTICS INVESTIGATIVE AGENCIES IN NEVADA.  
ALL CRIMINAL INFORMANTS HAVE BEEN CONTACTED AND APPROPRIATE RACIAL

AND SECURITY INFORMANTS AND SOURCES. MAJOR HOTELS AND CASINOS IN  
LAS VEGAS AND RENO AREAS HAVE BEEN CONTACTED AND FURNISHED IO'S.  
LAS VEGAS CONTEMPLATES CIRCULARIZING ALL HOTELS AND MOTELS IN NEV.  
AND REQUESTS AN ADDITIONAL SEVEN HUNDRED IO'S.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

LCC

FBI WASH DC

*AMW... ME*

*all out with  
Laird 88*

*157-133-80*

SEARCHED	_____
SERIALIZED	_____
INDEXED	_____
FILED	_____

FBI LASVEAS

FBI SAN FRAN

449M PM URGENT 4-23-668 TRB

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, CHICAGO, KANSAS CITY,  
MEMPHIS (44-1987, ST. LOUIS, LOS ANGELES, LAS VEGAS, AND SPRINGFIELD  
FROM SAN FRANCISCO (173-65) 2P

MURKIN

RE HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER, SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA.

LOHMEYER REINTERVIEWED AT SAN JOSE BY BUREAU AGENTS TODAY. HE  
IS UNABLE TO RECOGNIZE ANY PHOTOGRAPH OF JAMES EARL RAY, HOWEVER, NAME  
EARL RAY IS FAMILIAR TO LOHMEYER. HE IDENTIFIED ONE NINE FIVE FIVE  
PHOTOGRAPH OF WALTER TERRY RIFE AS INDIVIDUAL HE KNEW IN QUINCY,  
ILLINOIS, PRIOR TO ONE NINE FIVE FIVE. ALSO ADVISED HE KNEW JOHN RAY AND  
HIS BROTHER, JERRY RAY. THESE PEOPLE ALSO USED NAME RYAN. LOHMEYER  
SERVED TIME AT MENARD, ILLINOIS, WITH JOHN RAY AND LONNIE RIFE, BROTHER  
OF WALTER.

DURING PERIOD ONE NINE FIVE FIVE TO ONE NINE FIVE EIGHT THE  
RAY (RYAN) FAMILY CONSISTING OF MOTHER AND SISTER OF JOHN RAY  
MOVED FROM QUINCY TO ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI. DURING THIS PERIOD ONE  
OF RAY FAMILY, POSSIBLY JERRY OR EARL RAY, WAS ARRESTED IN MISSOURI  
FOR CRIME INVOLVING POSTAL MONEY ORDERS ACCORDING TO LOHMEYER.  
LOHMEYER WORKED IN PRISON KITCHEN WITH JOHN RAY WHEN RAY WAS EIGHTEEN  
END PAGE ONE

SAC (WR)

157-133-81

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 23 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	

*Hoeland*

PAGE TWO

TO NINETEEN YEARS OF AGE. STATES RAY HAD STRONG PREJUDICE AGAINST NEGROES BUT EXPAINED THIS WAS GENERAL FEELING AMONG WHITE INMATES. LOHMEYER CONSIDERS JOHN RAY OF TEMPERMENT TO COMMIT MURKIN BUT PROBABLY WOULD BE INVOLVED AS HIRED ASSASSIN. THIS OPINION WAS NOT SOLICITED BUT WAS INTRODUCES IN INTERVIEW BY LOHMEYER WHO HAS CLOSELY FOLLOWED THIS CASE THROUGH NEWS MEDIA.

ALL OFFICES CONSIDER RAY BROTHERS AND RIFE BROTHERS AS POSSIBLE ACCOMPLICES OF JAMES EARL RAY.

SPRINGFIELD AND ST. LOUIS ATTEMPT TO FURTHER IDENTITY JOHN LARRY RAY (RYAN) AND ASCERTAIN CURRENT ACTIVITIES.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

OTHER OFFICES ADVISED

JRD

FBI LASVEAS

X

FBI LASVEAS

FBI SAN FRAN

6:58 PM 4-23-68 URGENT TRB

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), KAJASAS CITY( LOS ANGELES, LAS VEGAS,  
MEMPHIS (44-1987) AND ST. LOUIS  
FROM SAN FRANCISCO (173-65) (2P)

MURKIN

RE SF TEL FOUR TWENTY TWO LAST.

RE: JOHN LARRY RAY, BROTHER OF JAMES EARL RAY.

ON APRIL TWO TWO, LAST, MRS. CHARLES F. TERRY, MANAGER, ONE FOUR SIX ZERO SUTTER ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, ADVISED ONE JOHN RAY RESIDED IN APARTMENT FIVE FROM JULY TWO THREE, LAST, TO AUGUST FIFTEEN, LAST, BUT HAD PAID RENT UNTIL AUGUST THREE ONE, LAST, AND DID NOT REQUEST RENT REFUND.

TERRY STATES RAY INDICATED HE CAME TO SAN FRANCISCO FROM ST. LOUIS, NOT EMPLOYED WHILE LIVING IN SAN FRANCISCO, SPENT MOST OF THE TIME IN HIS APARTMENT. AT THE TIME HE MOVED HE STATED HE WAS GOING TO LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, TO LOOK FOR A TAVERN TO BUY. IF UNSUCCESSFUL THERE, HE WOULD GO TO RENO, NEVADA, TO LOOK FOR A TAVERN TO BUY. TERRY STATED RAY HAD NO FRIENDS OF ASSOCIATES, NO VISITORS, RGCEIVED NO PHONE CALLS OR LETTERS. TERRY STATED JOHN RAY HAD AUTOMOBILE BUT UNABLE TO DESCRIBE IT. CHARLES F. TERRY, HUSBAND, STATED RAY SEEMED SLIGHTLY EFFEMINATE IN HIS MANNERISM AND WONDERED IF HE MIGHT HAVE HOMOSEXUAL TENDANCIES. TERRY STATED RAY WOULD HAVE MADE  
END PAGE ONE

157-133-82

SAC *[Signature]*

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 23 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	

*[Signature]*

PAGE TWO

TWENTY DOLLAR DEPOSIT WITH PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC WHICH HE MAY NOT HAVE GOTTEN BACK. HE STATED RAY HAS ABOUT THRITY-FIVE DOLLARS DUE HIM FOR UNUSED RENT. WILL ADVISED FBI IF RAY CONTACTS HIM.

FOR INFORMATION LOS ANGELES AND LAS VEGAS, JOHN RAY HAS FBI NUMBER THREE SIX EIGHT SEVEN TWO FIVE A, CII NUMBER SEVEN FOUR ONE SEVEN FOUR ZERO AND IS DESCRIBED WMA, DOB FEBRUARY FOURTEEN, ONE NINE THREE ONE. RECORDS OF CII REFLECT HE WAS BOOKD AS "SLEEPER" BY HOLTVILLE, CALIFORNIA PD DECEMBER THREE, ONE NINE FIVE TWO, THEIR NUMBER ONE THREE FOUR ONE.

LEADS: LAS VEGAS AT RENO AND LOS ANGELES: THROUGH LOGICAL SOURCE ATTEMPT TO LOCATE INFORMATION RE JOHN RAY.

SAN FRANCISCO: WILL CONTACT PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC FOR INFORMATION REGARDING RAY AND WILL PLACE A STOP REGARDING REFUND.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

OTHER OFFICES ADVISED

HWW-

FBI LASVEAS

FBI LASVEAS

FBI MEMPHIS

1104 PM 4/23/68 URGENT TSJ

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) LOS ANGELES, LAS VEGAS AND  
SAN FRANCISCO (173-65)  
FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987)

MURKIN

RE SF TEL FOUR TWENTY THREE LAST.

JOHN LARRY RAY, BROTHER OF JAMES EARL RAY INTERVIEWED AT  
AT LOUIS FOUR TWENTY TWO LAST. LA, LV AND SF DISCONTINUE  
EFFORTS TO LOCATE JOHN LARRY RAY.


SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

JWW

FBI LASVEAS

TUX

SAC 

157-133-13

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 23 1968	
FBI LAS VEGAS	

*Handwritten signature*



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, LAS VEGAS (157-133)

FROM : SA L. PATRICK MARKOVICH

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/24/68

A review of pending unsolved bank burglary and bank robbery matters Las Vegas, failed to reflect any cases wherein the description of JAMES EARL RAY matches the description in any unsub cases.

1-157-133  
1-91-698  
LPM/



5010-108-01

157-133-84

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	

*Handwritten signatures and initials are present over the stamp.*

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

157-183-85

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>14</i>	FILED <i>14</i>
APR 11 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	

*Holland*

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537**

4-23-68 307 HJC

The following FBI record, NUMBER **405,942 G**, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY. Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. WHERE FINAL DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE IS DESIRED, COMMUNICATE WITH AGENCY CONTRIBUTING THOSE FINGERPRINTS.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Army	James Earl Ray #16 163 129	February 19, 1946		
Sheriff's Office Los Angeles, California	James Earl Ray #B-119908	October 11, 1949	suspicion of burglary	
Police Department Los Angeles, California	James Earl Ray #139648	October 11, 1949	suspicion 459 Penal Code (burglary)	8 months County Jail suspended; 2 years probation served; first 90 days County Jail; 146 December 30, 1949 Csl29438
Sheriff's Office Cedar Rapids, Iowa	James E. Ray #5937	April 18, 1950	vagrancy	
Police Department Alton, Illinois	James Earl Ray #7514	July 23, 1951	no operator's license - no State License - no City License	released to pay later
Police Department Chicago, Illinois	James Ray #D90696	May 6, 1952	robbery (Gun)	Grand Jury \$3000
Cook County Jail Chicago, Illinois	James Ray #131165	May 9, 1952	robbery	June 13, 1952 sentenced to penitentiary 1 to 2 years
State Penitentiary Joliet, Illinois	James E. Ray #32419	June 13, 1952	robbery	1 to 2 years
State Penitentiary Pontiac, Illinois	James E. Ray #19121	July 7, 1952 in transfer from Joliet	robbery	1 to 2 years March 12, 1954 discharged

Notations indicated by \* are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537**

4-23-68 307 HJC

2

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CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Sheriff's Office Edwardsville, Illinois	James Earl Ray #2640	August 30, 1954	burglary and larceny	
Police Department Hannibal, Missouri	James E. Ray #40714	March 23, 1955	investigation of breaking and entering Post Office	
State Highway Patrol Macon, Missouri	James Earl Ray #B-3376	March 23, 1955	cashing stolen postal money orders	released to Postal Inspector Kansas City, Missouri March 24, 1955
United States Marshal Kansas City, Missouri	James Earl Ray #12018	March 28, 1955	forgery United States Postal Money Order	sentenced to 15 months custody of Attorney General
Sheriff's Office Kansas City, Missouri	James Earl Ray #29637	March 28, 1955	Forgery - Government	July 7, 1955 3 years and 9 months
United States Penitentiary Leavenworth, Kansas	James Earl Ray #72498-L	July 7, 1955	Post Office Laws Forge Money Orders	3 years and 9 months May 20, 1958 conditional release March 31 1959 maximum April 5, 1958 conditional release on charge of Post Office forgery Post Office Money Orders
Police Department Saint Louis, Missouri	James Earl Ray #81071	October 10, 1959	suspicion of robbery	

Notations indicated by \* are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

4-23-68 307 HJC

3

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CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Police Department Saint Louis, Missouri	James Earl Ray #81071	October 16, 1959	suspicion of robbery stealing and fugitive other authorities	
State Penitentiary Jefferson City, Missouri	Janes Earl Ray #00416	March 17, 1960	"TC" operating motor vehicle without permission of owner robbery first "b/m DDW" (2 charges)	20 years (20, 7, 5, concurrent)
State Hospital Number 1 Fulton, Missouri	James Earl Ray #37045 C-5	September 8, 1966	Patient	

Notations indicated by \* are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537**

4

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
	<p>WANTED: James Earl Ray for escape April 23, 1967            (operating motor vehicle without permission of owner; robbery first degree "b/m of a D &amp; DW")            (will extradite) Notify Warden State Penitentiary            Jefferson City, Missouri information received May 10, 1967.</p>			

**John Edgar Hoover**  
**Director**

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

4-23-68 307 HJC

1-Bureau

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WITH AGENCY CONTRIBUTING THOSE FINGERPRINTS.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
	WANTED BY BUREAU: James Earl Ray, also known as, James McBride, James Walyon, W.C. Herron, James O'Conner, Jim, for unlawful flight to avoid custody-robbery first Fugitive Index #121426 Bureau file #88-41730 Office of Origin Kansas City information received July 27, 1967. CAUTION: ARMED AND DANGEROUS  Alias: James Walton			
	WANTED BY BUREAU: Eric Starvo Galt, also known as Harvey Lowmyer, John Willard, Civil Rights-Conspiracy Fugitive Index #127540 Bureau File #44-38861 Office of Origin Memphis. Information received April 19, 1968. CAUTION: ARMED AND DANGEROUS			
	THIS PAGE SHOULD NOT BE DISSEMINATED OUTSIDE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.			

Notations indicated by \* are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, LAS VEGAS (157-133)(P)

DATE: 4/24/68

FROM : SA MICHAEL G. SIMON

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 4/24/68, WF 442-A, re JAMES EARL RAY, aka, were placed at the following locations where employees, at their respective locations, would have the WF available.

Stardust Hotel-Casino, front hotel desk, per Mr. GEORGE PIERCE, asst. hotel manager.; Security Office, per Lt. RALPH LENT; Cashier's Cage, per Mr. JOHN TEHLSTA.

Sands Hotel-Casino, front hotel desk, per Mr. ZIKES, asst. hotel manager; Cashier's Cage, per KATHLEEN COLLINS; Security Office, per D. C. LIGHTNER.

In the event that any pertinent information is developed, all employees, in their respective sections, have been or will be instructed to immediately notify the Las Vegas FBI Office.

The above for informational purposes.

MGS/s  
(1)



5010-108-01

157-133-86

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1968	
FBI - LAS VEGAS	

*Handwritten signature/initials over the stamp.*

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



FBI LASVEAS

FBI LOS ANG.

452PM URGENT 4-24-68 SMS

742PM URGENT 4-24-68 BJP

TO ALL SACS - RELAY MESSAGE PLAN  
FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 2P

MURKIN

CONTACTS SHOULD BE MAINTAINED WITH ALL MASS COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA IN YOUR TERRITORY TO INSURE THAT THERE IS FREQUENT REFERENCE TO RAY AND HIS CONNECTION WITH THIS CASE.

SINCE YOU HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN ADVISED THAT JAMES EARL RAY IS IDENTICAL WITH ERIC STARVO GALT AND YOU HAVE BEEN FURNISHED IO'S AND WANTED FLYERS ON RAY, YOU ARE TO BE CERTAIN THAT ALL APPROPRIATE STOPS HAVE BEEN RENEWED ON JAMES EARL RAY AND UNDER ALL OF HIS KNOWN ALIASES AS SET FORTH ON THE IO'S AND WANTED FLYERS. THIS IS TO INSURE THAT THE BUREAU WILL BE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFIED IF THE SUBJECT IS ARRESTED OR COMES TO THE ATTENTION OF AUTHORITIES WITH WHOM STOPS PLACED.

OFFICES COVERING DEPARTURE OR ARRIVAL OF OVERSEAS FLIGHTS SHOULD HAVE RENEWED STOPS AND SUBJECT'S PHOTOGRAPH SHOULD BE DISPLAYED APPROPRIATELY.

END PAGE ONE

SAC

*(Handwritten signature/initials)*

157-133-87

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1968	
FBI LAS VEGAS	

*(Handwritten signature/initials)*

PAGE TWO

ALL OFFICES SHOULD CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION  
AT ALL "HIPPIE" ROOMING HOUSES AND SIMILAR ESTABLISHMENTS TO  
OBTAIN ANY INFORMATION WHATSOEVER CONCERNING RAY.

APPROPRIATE LEGATS BEING ADVISED SEPARATELY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

PET

FBI LASVEAS

X