these establishments were checked thoroughly under the name of RAY and his other aliases during any period he was known to have been in the Birmingham area, but no such record of residence could be located. Exhibition of his photograph was extended to include all employees on all three shifts of each hotel and motel. No employees could make any identification.

### Bus Stations

All employees on each shift at the terminals of bus lines serving Birmingham were again contacted on April 25 and 26, 1968, by SAs ROBERT M. BARRETT, WILLIAM A. SAUCIER, NEIL P. MARTIN, and RICHARD D. SCHWEIN, and identification orders pertaining to RAY were supplied to the employees without effecting an identification.

#### Railroads

After issuance of the identification order for the arrest of subject RAY, employees of the city ticket offices and the respective terminals of railroads serving the city of Birmingham were contacted by SAs ROBERT M. BARRETT, WILLIAM A. SAUCIER, NEIL P. MARTIN, and RICHARD D. SCHWEIN, and copies of the identification orders furnished to said employees. No one recalled having seen RAY in the capacity of a passenger on any railway line.

#### Airlines

Although all city offices and Municipal Airport stations of each airline serving Birmingham had been previously contacted regarding subject then known as GALT, they were again canvassed on April 25, 1968, by SAs ROBERT M. BARRETT and WILLIAM A. SAUCIER and identification orders issued for RAY were exhibited and left with personnel of each city office and airport station of each airline. No identification was effected.

# Car Rental Agencies

On April 25, 1968, all automobile rental agencies in Birmingham were recontacted by SAs ROBERT M. BARRETT, WILLIAM A. SAUCIER, NEIL P. MARTIN, and RICHARD D. SCHWEIN, after the establishment of RAY being the subject in this matter, their records checked and identification orders supplied to each shift of such rental agencies. This resulted negatively as to any identification of RAY utilizing such a method of transportation during the pertinent period.

# Luggage Storage

The following investigation was conducted by SAs NEIL P. MARTIN and RICHARD D. SCHWEIN on May 1, 1968:

Through the cooperation of the managers of the luggage storage departments of the bus stations, railway stations, shopping centers, and the Birmingham Municipal Airport, all luggage which had been allowed to remain over the prescribed period of storage was examined. No item which could be attributed to RAY was noted.

# Laundries and Dry-Cleaning Establishments

The following investigation was conducted by SAs ROBERT M. BARRETT, WILLIAM A. SAUCIER, NEIL P. MARTIN, and RICHARD D. SCHWEIN:

Since it had been determined from investigation that the subject previously known as GALT frequently utilized branch offices of laundries and dry-cleaning establishments, usually on a weekly basis, all main offices and the 261 branch offices in residential neighborhoods were recontacted after issuance of the identification order for RAY. No employees other than have been previously reported could identify RAY as being a patron of their establishment. Identification orders were left with each proprietor.

# Parolees from Missouri State Penitentiary

Mr. JOHN McINTOSH, Chief Deputy, U. S. Probation Officer, was contacted by SA HENRY A. SNOW to determine whether their files contained records of any parolees from the Missouri State Penitentiary residing in the Northern District of Alabama, who may have been confined in the Missouri institution during the same period of confinement of RAY. Based on available records, Mr. McINTOSH was unable to identify any such state parolees who might be under federal supervision at this time.

Mr. WARREN GASTON, Alabama State Parole and Probation Officer, Room 411, Jefferson County Court House, was contacted for the same purpose and suggested that Mr. L. B. STEPHENS, Parole Executive, Alabama State Office Building, Montgomery, Alabama, would have a ready reference of all Missouri State Penitentiary parolees presently under state supervision in Alabama. He stated that Mr. STEPHENS keeps these records under an interstate compact with the various states. Appropriate communication was dispatched to the Mobile Office for contact with Mr. STEPHENS.

### Safe Deposit Boxes

In a communication dated May 6, 1968, the Bureau pointed out that it may have been possible for subject RAY while fleeing on the day after the murder from Memphis, Tennessee, to his next known location in Atlanta, Georgia, to have visited a bank and gained access to a safe deposit box previously rented. The pertinent date was considered to be April 5, 1968.

Through the cooperation of the following bank officials extended to SA HENRY A. SNOW during the period May 8-16, 1968, they caused records of the 24,380 safe deposit boxes to be checked for the pertinent date of entry, April 5, 1968:

Mr. CHARLES T. SMITH, Auditor, and Mrs. CATHERINE A. REEDY, Manager of Safe Deposit Department, Birmingham Trust National Bank, Main Office, and its 17 branch offices

Mr. CLAUDE LOVELESS, Comptroller, First National Bank of Birmingham, and its 25 branch offices

Mr. ROBERT F. CRADDOCK, Auditor, Exchange Security Bank, and its 12 branch offices

Mr. GEORGE MURPHREE, President, City National Bank of Birmingham, and its four branch offices

Mr. FLOYD L. JONES, Vice President, Central Bank and Trust Company, and its five branch offices

Mr. J. W. INGRAM, Cashier, American National Bank

Identification orders were exhibited and delivered to the manager of each of the safe deposit departments of each of the banks without any recognition of RAY as having been a past customer or as having access to any safe deposit box on the date April 5, 1968. Each of the bank officials, after having caused a check to be made of their entry cards for the pertinent date, advised that no customer who might conceivably be identical with RAY entered a box on that date.

### Laundry Mark 20-R-3

After receipt of information to the effect that among recovered effects abandoned by subject, there was a linen laundry mark, 20-R-3, thereon, SA DAVID T. DALY on April 30, 1968, determined from laundries in the Birmingham area that although some utilized the Thermo-Seal machine, none were located who have in the past identified linens in their laundries by the mark CO-R-3.

VIRGIL ESCO, Plant Manager, Mayfield Cleaners, 219 South 20th Street, advised that they have in the past used the mark 20-R-; however, he found this to be a white and pink stripe and a cloth mark. Therefore, it is not identical with the mark 20-R-3 which was found on the linens in instant investigation.

#### Used Cars Advertised

On the possibility that subject RAY, who has been known to have purchased a used vehicle in the past, may have again done so through the medium of classified advertisements in the daily press, a review of all such ads was made by SAs RICHARD D. SCHWEIN and NEIL F. MARTIN, which ads appeared in the "Birmingham Post-Herald" (morning) and the "Birmingham News" (evening) for a period which was deemed to be pertinent, i.e. March 21 - April 2, 1968.

After such reviews, the owners of all such cars who had placed ads were contacted and this amounted to 486 automobiles; the period during which the previous owners were contacted by SAs SCHWEIN and MARTIN was from May 7-17, 1968. In each instance, the purchaser of the vehicle was satisfactorily determined not to be identical with subject RAY.

### News Media and Publications

During the period covered by this report, constant liaison has been maintained with the daily press and television stations in the Birmingham area. These outlets all have publicized the photographs of RAY effectively. The weekly "Birmingham World", which has extensive circularization among the Negro citizens of Birmingham, has also given prominent space to the publication of subject's photographs and news items.

In addition to the above, SA ROBERT J. YARNALL through arrangements effected with Mr. SAM C. SPITEY, Executive Secretary, The Alabama Service Station Association, 1102 South 20th Street, Birmingham, caused a full page write-up and photographs of RAY to be published on page 5 of the April issue of the magazine published by that association. This publication reaches all service stations in the State of Alabama.

# "Look-Alikes" and Miscellaneous Suspects

media, etc., numerous reports have been received during the period covered by this report wherein citizens have reported individuals resembling RAY. Without exception each of these instances received immediate attention by Agents of the Birmingham Office and all such cases resulted in the positive elimination of the suspected individuals. Records of these instances are maintained in a separate section of the Birmingham file in this matter.

# Check of Motor Vehicles Stolen in Alabama

By communication dated April 26, 1968, the Bureau made available a list of motor vehicles stolen in Alabama as compiled from information retained at NCIC. The Mobile Office, under date of May 6, 1968, transmitted to the Birmingham Office a list of those vehicles stolen in the Birmingham territory during the pertinent period. At the present time the Birmingham Office is engaged in determining whether subject RAY may have been responsible for the theft of one of these vehicles.

In addition thereto, the Birmingham Police Department, when previously contacted, advised that the Auto Theft Squad of that department will without exception compare any latent fingerprints on any vehicle stolen in the State of Georgia and recovered at Birmingham. Special attention has been afforded by the Birmingham Police Department to any car reported stolen in Georgia immediately prior to or shortly after the date, April 6, 1968.

In addition to the above, each Interstate Transportation of Stolen Motor Vehicle (ITSMV) case, which had been pending in the Birmingham Office involving an unknown subject either stealing a car in the Birmingham territory and abandoning same in Atlanta territory or vice versa, has been reviewed and special attention given to any witnesses to the theft or recovery of such vehicle. To date, no such witness has identified RAY as being a possible suspect in any of those cases.

BH 44-1740 ME 44-1987 HHW:mas

The following investigation was conducted by SA HORACE H. WILLIS in an effort to identify the operator of an automobile displaying Alabama license tag 42-7866 at Chicago, Illinois, on April 19, 1968.

In the late evening of April 19, 1968, GENE PANELL, Alabama State Trooper, Florence, Alabama, advised his office at Florence and Decatur, Alabama, had no record of the above license plate, and stated the registration pertaining to this tag could be obtained from the Probate Judge's Office, Moulton, Alabama, on April 22, 1968.

On April 22, 1968, records of the Probate Judge's Office, Moulton, Alabama, reflected the following information relating to this license plate. It was issued to EDGAR F. BORDEN, Moulton, Alabama, for a 1966 Chevrolet Chevelle, VIN 1381768(or A)176978, on March 12, 1968.

Mrs. JUANITA JACKSON issued the plate, and Mrs. JACKSON stated she did not recall what the person buying this tag looked like. After viewing a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, she stated she had no recollection of ever having seen an individual resembling RAY.

Considerable investigation was conducted April 22 through April 24, 1968, in an unsuccessful effort to identify EDGAR F. BORDEN.

On April 24, 1968, TOM PETTUS, County, Attorney, advised he handled a divorce for EDGAR T. BORDEN from Cook County, Illinois, in 1957, and PETTUS' records showed that EDGAR T. BORDEN, wife WALCIE BORDEN, had a son named EDGAR FLOYD BORDEN.

Mrs. WALCIE JOHNSON was located on Rural Route, Moulton, Alabama, and advised she had a son, EDGAR FLOYD BORDEN, who was in Alabama in March 1968 and purchased a license plate for his Chevrolet Chevelle automobile at that time. She said this son was now in the process of moving

2

BH 44-1740 ME 44-1987

from 2344 Sacramento, Chicago, Illinois, to 2324 Greenwood Street, San Angelo, Texas, in care of ERWIN BORDEN. She described EDGAR FLOYD BORDEN as follows:

Age
Date of Birth

Lawrence County, Alabama
5' 5" or 6"

Weight 132
Hair Dark
Eyes Brown
Marital Status Married

# "Lonely Heart" Type Organizations

The following investigation was conducted by SA'S ROBERT M. BARRETT and WILLIAM A. SAUCIER:

A review of the Birmingham telephone and city directories was made on May 14, 1968, for any "lonely heart" type organizations, with negative results. The only exceptions noted were the listings for Electra-Date Corporation, and Computa-Date Corporation, Homewood, Alabama, a Birmingham suburb.

On May 14, 1968, BILLY SELLERS, President, Electra-Date Corporation, #9 N.W. 23rd Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, checked his records through the use of a computer, for any record of JAMES EARL RAY, under his true name or known aliases, without affecting any identification. He did locate a record for one EVERETT S. RAY, P. O. Box 4231, Memphis, Tennessee, telephone 276-1217. This RAY is a white male, age 44, 5'8", 136 pounds, does not dance, does smoke, and is a welder.

SELLERS said he would carefully scrutinize all subsequent applications, and should he receive any for anyone having the same description, likes, dislikes and preferences as does JAMES EARL RAY, SELLERS would immediately notify the FBI.

On May 14, 1968, RICHARD SAUNDERS, owner of Computa-Date Corporation, Homewood, Alabama, advised his business is engaged in providing dates for both males and females, through an electronic computer system. He added he presently has 28 offices in the Southeastern section of the United States, which includes the states of Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Florida, and Mississippi. He searched his records through the use of his computer, for any record of JAMES EARL RAY, under his true name or known aliases, with negative results. SAUNDERS said he would immediately notify the FBI should he receive any application from anyone resembling JAMES EARL RAY, in any manner, or which application would be of interest to the FBI.