

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>MEMPHIS</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>MEMPHIS</b>	DATE <b>6/5/68</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>4/4 - 5/31/68</b>
TITLE OF CASE  <b>JAMES EARL RAY, aka  Eric Starvo Galt,  W. C. Herron,  Harvey Lowmyer,  James McBride,  James O'Conner,  James Walton,  James Walton,  John Willard,  Jim - FUGITIVE  IS #4182,  NY #442-A;  DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM</b>		REPORT MADE BY  <b>SA JOE C. HESTER</b>	TYPED BY  <b>MLF</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>CR - CONSPIRACY;  UFAC - ROBBERY</b>	

## NON-PROSECUTIVE SUMMARY

### REFERENCES:

Reports of SA JOE C. HESTER dated 4/17/68 and 4/30/68 at Memphis.

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APPROVED <i>R. G. Jensen</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <span>44</span> <span>1365</span> <span>740</span> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px; text-align: center;">             SEARCHED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDEXED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>              SERIALIZED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FILED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  <b>JUN 6 1968</b>  <b>FBI - CHARLOTTE</b> </div>
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ADMINISTRATIVE:

Additional copies of this report have been designated for the Bureau in order that dissemination may be made to Legats, Ottawa and Mexico City.

It should be noted that during interviews with certain of the subject's associates and former prison mates, their stories have varied from time to time. Some of their stories may have varied after this report was prepared. This is recognized but could not be avoided. Any more recent information obtained from them will be set out in subsequent reports.

LEADS:

All offices will continue to conduct investigation in this matter and will set out all leads which appear to be appropriate.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: SA JOE C. HESTER  
Date: JUNE 5, 1968

Office: MEMPHIS

Field Office File No.: 44-1987

Bureau File No.: 44-38861

Title: JAMES EARL RAY;  
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM

Character: CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;  
UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID CONFINEMENT - ROBBERY

Synopsis: JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #405 942 G, escaped Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP) 4/23/67, and on 7/20/67 a complaint was filed before USC W. C. SHELEY, Jefferson City, Mo., charging RAY with unlawful flight to avoid confinement in violation of Title 18, USC, Section 1073. On 4/17/68 an authorized complaint was filed against ERIC STARVO GALT for violation of Title 18, USC, Section 241, charging that he did conspire to injure, oppress, threaten, or intimidate MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., in the free exercise and enjoyment of his rights secured by the Constitution of the United States. Complaint was filed before USC, Birmingham, Ala., by SAC JOSEPH H. GAMBLE, and a warrant was issued for the arrest of GALT. Recommended bond is \$50,000. On 5/7/68 Shelby County GJ, Memphis, returned a secret indictment charging JAMES EARL RAY with murder in the first degree. Chronological listing of subject's activities from 4/67 to 4/68 set forth and reflects he resided briefly at Montreal, Province of Quebec, Canada. He traveled to Birmingham, Ala., purchased a 1966 Ford Mustang, then traveled to Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico, for a brief residence, and then to Los Angeles, Calif. Subject made 2 round trips by automobile from Los Angeles to New Orleans and in 3/68 established residence in Atlanta, Ga. Using the name HARVEY LOWMEYER, a Remington, Model 760, rifle was purchased 3/30/68 Birmingham, Ala. At 6:00 P.M., 4/4/68 Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., was shot and killed by a single bullet fired from the bathroom of a nearby rooming house while he was standing on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel, Memphis. Same Remington rifle identified above recovered at scene along with other items and personal belongings of the subject. Results of Laboratory examinations of all evidence described herein. Interviews of relatives of JAMES EARL RAY, fellow prisoners, and associates set forth. Subject is described as a loner with no close associates, reportedly on amphetamine, and selling drugs at MSP while incarcerated there. Identification record and description also set forth. ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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I. CRIMES COMMITTED FOR WHICH  
FEDERAL PROCESS OUTSTANDING

The subject, JAMES EARL RAY, was received at the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP), Jefferson City, Missouri, March 17, 1960, from the St. Louis City Circuit Court to serve a sentence of 20 years after conviction for robbery first degree by means of a dangerous and deadly weapon (2 counts) and for operating a motor vehicle without permission of the owner. He was given sentences of 20, 7, and 5 years, all to run concurrently.

The subject, who was MSP inmate #00416, was assigned to the Bakery Unit of the Food Service Department. Just prior to the 5:00 P.M. count on April 23, 1967, he was discovered missing and could not be found within the penitentiary. It was not until some 10 days later that prison officials determined that the subject had escaped by being concealed in a large bread box being taken by open truck from the main prison to Renz Farm, a prison farm that lies outside the prison walls and about 5 miles north of the main prison. This method of escape has not been positively verified and remains largely a matter of conjecture.

Federal assistance was requested to locate the subject, and on July 20, 1967, a complaint was filed before U. S. Commissioner W. C. SHELEY at Jefferson City, Missouri, charging the subject with Unlawful Flight to Avoid Confinement following a conviction for robbery first degree, this being in violation of Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 1073.

On April 24, 1968, an amended complaint was filed by SA ROWEN B. AYERS before U. S. Commissioner SHELEY.

At about 6:00 P.M. on April 4, 1968, 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. Investigation disclosed that this shot was fired from the bathroom of a rooming house located at 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, which bathroom was located at the rear of the rooming house and which had a window overlooking the Lorraine Motel. It is 207 feet from the bathroom window to the spot where KING was shot.

It was determined that on the afternoon of April 4, 1968, a man using the name JOHN WILLARD rented Room 5B at 422½ South Main Street, paying one week's rent. After hearing the rifle shot at about 6:00 P.M. on April 4, 1968, other tenants in the rooming house observed the man known as WILLARD fleeing from the rooming house carrying a large package which was subsequently abandoned by him on the sidewalk in front of 424 South Main Street. Further investigation disclosed that WILLARD fled from the scene in a white Mustang parked a few feet south of 424 South Main Street.

Found abandoned in front of 424 South Main was a 30-06 Remington, Model 760, rifle, a small plastic suitcase containing numerous toilet articles, undershorts, a T-shirt, binoculars, a newspaper, an after shave lotion bottle, 2 cans of Schlitz beer, and a brown and green bedspread in which all of these items were partially wrapped.

Investigation at motels in the vicinity of Memphis, Tennessee, to identify persons who might be driving a white Mustang automobile disclosed that ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, had spent the night of April 3, 1968, at the Rebel Motel, 3466 Lamar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, and was driving a Mustang with Alabama license 1-38993. Subsequent investigation at Birmingham, set out in more detail elsewhere in this report, indicated that ERIC STARVO GALT was responsible for the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and on April 17, 1968, Assistant U. S. Attorney R. MACEY TAYLOR, Birmingham, Alabama, authorized the filing of a complaint against ERIC STARVO GALT for violation of Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 241, charging that GALT did conspire to injure, oppress, threaten or intimidate MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., in the free exercise and enjoyment of his rights secured by the Constitution of the United States, namely, the right to freely travel from state to state. Assistant U. S. Attorney TAYLOR recommended bond be set in the amount of \$50,000.

This complaint was filed by SAC JOSEPH H. GAMBLE before U. S. Commissioner MILDRED F. SPRAGUE, Birmingham, on April 17, 1968, and Mrs. SPRAGUE issued a warrant of arrest for ERIC STARVO GALT.

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On May 7, 1968, a Shelby County Grand Jury, Memphis, Tennessee, returned a secret indictment charging the subject, JAMES EARL RAY, with murder in the first degree. While this indictment has not been made public, the local press is aware of its existence and has commented on it.

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II. CHRONOLOGICAL LISTING OF KNOWN  
ACTIVITIES OF JAMES EARL RAY SINCE  
HIS ESCAPE AND LABORATORY EXAMINATION  
OF EVIDENCE ATTENDANT THERETO

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4/23/67

JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #405 942 G, escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP), Jefferson City, Missouri.

7/18/67

A man using the name ERIC S. GALT signed a lease for an apartment in the Harkay Apartments, 2589 Notre Dame East, Montreal, Canada. The apartment was to rent for \$75 monthly, and one month's rent was to be forfeited in the event the lease was terminated prior to January 18, 1968.

GALT is not known to have made any telephone calls from the telephone in the hall, #532-0094, and interviews have been unproductive with other tenants, nearby stores, garages, parking lots, and other places where GALT might have parked his car.

An employee at the apartment house has reported that during GALT's stay he was visited on one occasion by 2 women, both described as being aged 40 to 42, one woman had black hair, the other had reddish brown hair. They reportedly stayed overnight, one left the following day, and the other stayed for a few days.

7/24/67

ERIC GALT purchased a Canadian Postal Money Order #C31,600,648, from Station "C," Montreal, Canada. This money order was in the amount of \$9 and was made payable to Futura Books, Inc., 4533 Lennox, Inglewood, California.

On July 26, 1967, a Canadian Money Order in the amount of \$9 was received at Futura Books, Inc., Inglewood, California, from ERIC GALT, 2589 Notre Dame East, Montreal, Canada, as payment for three books entitled "Sexual Anatomy," "Unusual Female Sex Practices," and "Sex Feeling in Men and Women." Futura Books is able to state that the ad answered by GALT had appeared in "Men's Real Adventure" magazine. This order was received and mailed on the same date, July 26, 1967.

7/28/67

ERIC GALT purchased a Canadian Postal Money Order #C31,600,868 at Station "C," Montreal, Canada. This money order was in the amount of \$17.50 and was made payable to Locksmithing Institute, Little Falls, New Jersey.

A photostat copy of this money order was examined by the FBI Laboratory. The FBI Laboratory reported that the photostat copy of this money order lacks the quality necessary for a satisfactory comparison; however, some differences were noted between the writing appearing on the face of this item when compared with writing appearing on other specimens submitted in this case under the name of ERIC GALT.

ERIC S. GALT, 2589 Notre Dame East, Montreal, Canada, enrolled in the Locksmithing Institute, 1500 Cardinal Drive, Little Falls, New Jersey, a correspondence school whose records reflect that his first payment was received July 31, 1967, and the last payment was by money order dated March 28, 1968. During the period of his enrollment, GALT showed in addition to the Canadian address the following addresses:

1535 South Serrano  
Los Angeles, California

2608 Highland Avenue  
Birmingham, Alabama

113 14th Street, N.E.  
Atlanta, Georgia

The enrollment form of Locksmithing Institute, Little Falls, New Jersey, dated July 31, 1967, in the name of ERIC S. GALT; the confidential information form of the Locksmithing Institute bearing the signature ERIC S. GALT; and the white envelope postmarked Montreal P.Q., VII, 1967, bearing the return address ERIC S. GALT, 2589 Rue Notre Dame Est., Montreal, Canada, Quebec, and handprinted address "Locksmithing Institute, Little Falls, New Jersey, USA 07424" were forwarded to the FBI Laboratory.

The FBI Laboratory reported that the signature appearing on the confidential information form was prepared by the writer of the signatures in this name appearing on items submitted in this case. It was determined that the handprinting appearing on the enrollment form and white envelope was prepared by the same individual who prepared handprinting on other items submitted attributed to ERIC S. GALT.

8/9/67

ERIC GALT purchased a Canadian Postal Money Order #C35,273,307 from Station "C," Montreal, Canada. This money order was in the amount of \$1 payable to E. Z. Formula, Hollywood, California. E. Z. Formula, 6311 Yucca Street, Hollywood, California, is a subsidiary of Barnett and Herish and concerns only a magazine mail order business selling a single formula for making glass into a 2-way mirror. They maintain no receipt or record of shipment and are therefore unable to further verify receipt of an order from GALT.

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8/26/67

Personnel at the Harkay Apartments, Montreal, Canada, are not certain as to the date ERIC S. GALT moved from that address; however, they are in agreement that it was shortly before Labor Day of 1967. Investigation at Birmingham, Alabama, has disclosed that on August 26, 1967, ERIC S. GALT registered in a rooming house known as Economy Rooms at 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama.

8/28/67

ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, rented a safe deposit box #5517 at the Main Office, Birmingham Trust National Bank, Birmingham, Alabama. GALT surrendered this box by notification to the bank by undated, handwritten letter wherein he stated he was moving to the state of Louisiana. The record of access to the safe deposit box, contract for box, ledger card for box, and the undated, handwritten letter from GALT were forwarded to the FBI Laboratory. The FBI Laboratory concluded that the signature of ERIC S. GALT appearing on these items was prepared by the same individual who prepared the writing in the same name appearing on other items attributed to ERIC S. GALT.

8/29-30/67

ERIC GALT, in answer to an ad appearing in a local newspaper, contacted Mr. WILLIAM D. PAISLEY, 701 48th Street South, Birmingham, Alabama, regarding PAISLEY's offer to sell a 1966 white Mustang. On August 30, 1967, GALT met PAISLEY at the First National Bank Building, Birmingham, where GALT paid PAISLEY \$1995 in cash. A bill of sale was prepared indicating the car was sold to ERIC GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, telephone #323-9487.

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9/6/67

Records of the Drivers License Division, Department of Public Safety, State of Alabama, Montgomery, revealed that Alabama driver's license [REDACTED] was issued to ERIC STARVO GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue South, Birmingham, Alabama.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the signature of ERIC STARVO GALT appearing on his application for Alabama driver's license was prepared by the same individual who prepared other signatures in the same name attributed to ERIC S. GALT.

9/12/67

ERIC GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, enrolled for 5 weekly classes in dance instruction at Continental Dance Club Studios, also known as the Friendship Club, Birmingham, Alabama. GALT attended classes on 4 consecutive Tuesday evenings but did not appear for the fifth class.

9/26/67

In September 1967 the Order Department - Modern Photo Book Store, Division of American Photographic Book Publishing Company, Inc., 166 Fifth Avenue, New York City, New York, received a coupon clipped from "Modern Photography Magazine," which coupon requested that Book #633 be sent to ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham. Book #633 referred to above is "Focal Encyclopedia of Photography." This department also received a letter dated September 26, 1967, signed ERIC S. GALT, with the same Birmingham, Alabama, address wherein GALT refers to his order for Book #633 and requested that the book not be sent as he was moving shortly and would send a corrected address later. Officials of the Modern Photo Book Store advised that they have received no further communications from GALT subsequent to the letter dated September 26, 1967.

The FBI Laboratory reported that the handwriting appearing on this coupon and letter was identical with the handwriting of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #405 942 G. The FBI Identification Division advised that one latent fingerprint of value was developed on the coupon and that this latent fingerprint is identical with the left thumb print of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #405 942 G.

9/28/67

ERIC S. GALT purchased Bank Draft #04012FPS from the Exchange Security Bank, 5 Points South Branch Office, Birmingham, Alabama, dated September 28, 1967, payable to Superior Bulk Film Company, Chicago, Illinois, in the amount of \$337.24.

10/2/67

ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, was issued 1968 Alabama license [REDACTED] for a 1966 Ford Mustang, VIN 6T07C190647.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the signature of ERIC S. GALT on the application for the Alabama license was prepared by the same individual who prepared other items under the same name attributed to ERIC S. GALT.

10/3/67

The Superior Bulk Film Company, 442-450 North Wells, Chicago, Illinois, received an order from ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, for one Kodak Super 8 camera, Model M8; one Kodak Dual Projector, Model M95Z; one HPI Combination Splicer; and one 20 foot remote control cable for a total price of \$337.24. A bank draft was received with the order, and on October 3, 1967, a package was mailed to him via parcel post under invoice #179530. Since the Kodak Model M8 camera was not in stock, a Crestline Super 8 camera was substituted.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the handprinting appearing on this Superior Bulk Film Company order blank was prepared by the same individual who prepared other items submitted under the same name and attributed to ERIC S. GALT.

10/5/67

ERIC S. GALT sent a typewritten note dated October 5, 1967, to Superior Bulk Film Company, Chicago, acknowledging receipt of items ordered from them and by which he returned the Crestline Super 8 camera. He indicated the camera ordered by him was a four speed camera while the substituted one was a one film speed camera. GALT indicated he was leaving for Mexico on October 7, 1967, but would later send his Mexican address to that company.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the signature ERIC S. GALT appearing on this letter dated October 5, 1967, was prepared by the writer of the signatures in this name appearing on other items submitted in this case and attributed to ERIC S. GALT.

10/18/67

Superior Bulk Film Company, Chicago, Illinois, mailed to ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, via parcel post a Kodak Super 8, Model D38, camera, under invoice #179530.

10/19/67

On this date ERIC GALT registered in Room 212 of the Hotel Rio, Morales 86, Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico.

The Document Section of the FBI Laboratory examined 2 photostat copies of the registration card of the Hotel Rio in the name of ERIC S. GALT and concluded that the questioned writings appearing on the registration card were prepared by the writer of other specimens received in this matter which have been attributed to ERIC S. GALT.

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10/22/67

A typewritten letter dated October 22, 1967, signed ERIC S. GALT was addressed to Superior Bulk Film Company, Chicago, Illinois, indicating that he could not wait for the originally ordered Kodak camera and requesting that his refund be mailed to the Hotel Rio, Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the ERIC S. GALT signature appearing on the typewritten letter dated October 22, 1967, was prepared by the writer of the signatures in this name appearing on items previously submitted in this case and attributed to ERIC S. GALT.

11/6/67

ERIC GALT checked out of the Hotel Rio, Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico.

11/7-13/67

ERIC GALT during this period of time was registered in Room 417 of the Hotel Tropicano, Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico.

During most of the period that he was in Puerto Vallarta, GALT associated with a prostitute, IRMA MORALES, true name MANUELA AGUIRRE MEDRANO. She was located and interviewed, and she furnished a photograph of GALT taken in Puerto Vallarta about November 3, 1967. She claims not to have seen GALT nor to have heard from him since November 9, 1967.

11/19/67

On this date ERIC GALT rented Apartment #6 at 1535 North Serrano, Los Angeles, California.

11/20/67

By typewritten letter dated November 20, 1967, signed ERIC S. GALT, the Superior Bulk Film Company, Chicago, Illinois, was requested to forward GALT's refund for the camera which he did not receive to 1535 North Serrano, Los Angeles, California. GALT indicated in his letter that he would be at the Los Angeles address for 5 months.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the signature ERIC S. GALT appearing on the typewritten letter dated November 20, 1967, was prepared by the writer of the signature in this name appearing on items submitted and attributed to ERIC S. GALT.

By letter dated November 30, 1967, mailed to GALT's Los Angeles address, Superior Bulk Film Company advised GALT that his refund check #32338 in the amount of \$142.89 had been remailed to GALT's Mexican address. The canceled refund check had not, as of March 29, 1968, been received by the company.

11/27 - 12/14/67

On this date Dr. MARK O. FREEMAN, Clinical Psychologist, 227 South Bedford Drive, Beverly Hills, California, received a telephone call from JAMES E. RAY, who said he wanted to overcome his shyness, gain social confidence, and to learn self-hypnosis in order that he could relax, sleep, and learn to remember things better. An appointment was made for him that same afternoon at the doctor's office, 9952 Santa Monica Boulevard, Beverly Hills, California. He gave his name as JAMES E. RAY and gave his address as 1535 North Serrano, telephone #469-8096. He furnished his date of birth as March 10, 1928. RAY had appointments with Dr. FREEMAN on November 27, November 30, December 4, December 6, December 11, and December 14, 1967. RAY canceled an appointment for December 18, 1967, stating he had received information from his brother that the brother had found a job for him as a merchant seaman at New Orleans, Louisiana.

Dr. FREEMAN said that RAY paid in cash \$25 per visit. Dr. FREEMAN found that RAY was shy, introverted, and withdrawn but not psychotic or plagued with any deep-seated neuroses.

12/5/67-2/12/68

ERIC GALT, 1535 North Serrano, Los Angeles, California, executed an enrollment agreement and contract for dancing instruction with the owner of the National Dance Studio, 2026 Pacific Avenue, Long Beach, California.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the ERIC S. GALT signature appearing on an interview card #66429 dated December 5, 1967, of the National Dance Studio was prepared by the writer of this signature appearing on other items previously submitted and attributed to ERIC S. GALT. The Laboratory concluded that the ERIC S. GALT signature appearing on the National Dance Studio enrollment agreement and contract dated December 14, 1967, was too distorted for any determination to be made.

Investigation revealed that GALT first appeared at the office of the National Dance Studio on December 5, 1967, at which time he took two lessons and made payments of \$29. GALT appeared at the studio again on December 7, 1967, and took two lessons, again on December 12, 1967, and took two lessons, and on December 14, 1967, and took one lesson.

On December 14, 1967, GALT agreed to take a course of dancing of a total of 50 hours in lessons for a total amount of \$499. The course consisted of 25 private hour lessons and 25 party or group technique hour lessons. According to this agreement, GALT was to pay \$100 on account on December 14, 1967, and was to pay \$149 on December 18, 1967, and \$50 per week thereafter until the contract was paid in full. According to the records,

GALT did make a payment of \$100 on December 14, 1967, and on December 21, 1967, he made a payment of \$364.

According to these records, GALT took dancing lessons at the National Dance Studio on the following dates subsequent to December 14, 1967:

12/31/67  
12/25/67  
12/26/67  
12/27/67  
12/28/67  
1/2/68  
1/3/68  
1/9/68  
1/11/68  
1/15/68  
1/16/68  
1/18/68  
1/22/68  
1/23/68  
1/25/68  
1/29/68  
1/30/68  
1/31/68  
2/1/68  
2/5/68  
2/6/68  
2/8/68  
2/12/68

12/15/67

Under ticket #31053 GALT left laundry at the Avalon Cleaners and Laundry, Inc., 5662 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, which laundry was marked "20R-3" by a Thermo Seal marking machine. IT IS NOTED THAT BED LINEN FOUND IN THE WHITE MUSTANG ABANDONED APRIL 5, 1968, AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA, BORE THE LAUNDRY MARK 20R-3.

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12/15/67

ERIC GALT and CHARLES J. STEIN, 5666 Franklin Avenue, Los Angeles, California, a new acquaintance, departed Los Angeles in GALT's 1966 white Mustang en route to New Orleans, Louisiana, to bring back 2 children belonging to CHARLES STEIN's sister, RITA STEIN. GALT's association with CHARLES J. and RITA STEIN is being set forth in a separate section of this report.

12/17 - 19/67

On December 17, 1967, ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, registered in Room 126, Provincial Motel, 1024 Chartres Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, and checked out of the motel before checkout time of 1:00 P.M. on December 19, 1967. At time of registration GALT indicated on the registration card that he was driving a Mustang with Alabama license [REDACTED].

The FBI Laboratory determined that the Provincial Motel registration card was prepared by the writer of the registration card which was subsequently located at the Rebel Motel in Memphis, Tennessee, under the name of ERIC S. GALT.

12/19/67

ERIC GALT, CHARLES J. STEIN, and RITA STEIN's 2 daughters, KIM and CHERYL, departed New Orleans, Louisiana, in GALT's 1966 white Mustang to return to Los Angeles, California.

12/22/67

ERIC GALT picked up laundry which had been left on December 15, 1967, at Avalon Cleaners and Laundry, Inc., 5662 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles.

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12/28/67

By letter dated December 28, 1967, ERIC S. GALT, 1535 North Serrano, Los Angeles, California, advised Mr. JOHN ACORD, Chairman, American - Southern Africa Council, 800 Fourth Street, S.W., Washington, D. C., that he was considering immigrating to Rhodesia and desired answers to certain questions. GALT indicated that:

"(1): The U. S. government will not issue a passport for travel to Rhodesia.

"(2): Would there be any way to enter Rhodesia legally (from the Rhodesian government point of view)

"I would appreciate any information you could give me on the above subject or any other information on Rhodesia."

Mr. ACORD replied to GALT's letter with a form letter enclosing literature on Rhodesia.

The FBI Laboratory determined that the ERIC S. GALT signature appearing on the typewritten letter dated December 28, 1967, was prepared by the writer of signatures in this name appearing on other items submitted and attributed to ERIC S. GALT.

1/8/68

ERIC S. GALT purchased a Bank of America Money Order #0799 18037 from the Hollywood Western Branch, Bank of America, Hollywood, California. This money order was in the amount of \$15 and was made payable to Locksmithing Institute.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the signature ERIC S. GALT appearing on this money order was prepared by the writer of the signatures in this name appearing on specimens previously submitted.

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1/19 - 3/2/68

ERIC S. GALT, 1535 North Serrano, Los Angeles, California, made application to attend the International School of Bartending, 2125 Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the ERIC S. GALT signature appearing on GALT's application to attend the International School of Bartending and his signature on the installment note dated January 19, 1968, were prepared by the writer of this signature appearing on other items previously submitted.

GALT attended class Monday through Friday from 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. and from 2:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

1/20/68

JEROME WALLIS VERNON operated the Home Service Laundry and Dry Cleaning Company, 5280 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, from about January 16, 1968, to March 23, 1968. He said that a man named ERIC GALT was a regular customer who came in each Saturday afternoon with a bundle of laundry which usually consisted of underwear, T-shirts, and dress shirts. He believes he first saw GALT on Saturday, January 20, 1968, and he recalled seeing him for the last time on about March 16, 1968. VERNON was shown the laundry marks on the T-shirt and undershorts abandoned by the killer in front of 424 South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, on April 4, 1968. VERNON identified the laundry marking on the undershorts and T-shirt as being similar to the mark used at his laundry. Found in the records of the Home Service Laundry and Dry Cleaning Company was laundry list #3065 in the name of E. GALT with Thermo Seal sticker 02B-6.

IT IS NOTED THAT UNDERSHORTS AND T-SHIRT ABANDONED BY THE KILLER AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, ON APRIL 4, 1968, CONTAINED A THERMO SEAL LAUNDRY MARK 02B-6.

The Los Angeles Division forwarded to the FBI Laboratory a piece of paper and a cloth square, each containing 12 samples of laundry marking printed by a Thermo Seal marking machine manufactured by the Textile Marking Company, Syracuse, New York, and obtained from the Home Service Laundry and Dry Cleaners, 5280 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California.

The FBI Laboratory advised that these 12 laundry tapes are similar to the laundry tapes in color, construction, and composition to the laundry tapes appearing on the undershorts and T-shirt abandoned at 424 South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, by the killer of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. Five of these tapes have the same length (1 1/16") as those appearing on the undershorts and T-shirt. The other 9 are longer, either 1 3/32" or 1 1/8" in length.

The FBI Laboratory advised that no significant differences were noted between the laundry tapes appearing on the undershorts and T-shirt when compared with some of the laundry tape specimens submitted by Los Angeles indicating that they may have originated from the same machine.

1/21/68

On January 21, 1968, ERIC GALT rented Room 403 of the St. Francis Hotel, 5533 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, for a monthly rental rate of \$85. GALT remained a tenant there until March 17, 1968.

1/22/68

ERIC S. GALT, 1535 North Serrano, Los Angeles, California, sent a typewritten letter dated January 21, 1968, to DALE LEROY DYKEMA, 3325 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, receiver for the apartment building located at 1535 North Serrano, advising DYKEMA that GALT had moved from the Serrano address.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the ERIC S. GALT signature appearing on this letter dated January 21, 1968, was prepared by the writer of the signatures in this name on other items submitted.

1/29/68

ERIC GALT purchased a Bank of America Money Order #0799 18288 from the Hollywood Western Branch, Bank of America, Hollywood, California. This money order was in the amount of \$4.25 and was made payable to Free Press, Newspaper.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the ERIC GALT signature appearing on this Bank of America Money Order was prepared by the writer of the signatures in this name appearing on other specimens submitted.

The following advertisement ran in the February 2 - 8, 1968, issue of the "Free Press":

"Single male Cauc. 36 yrs, 5-11, 170 lbs Digs Fr. Cult. desire's discreet meeting with passionate married female for mutual enjoyment, and/or female for swing session apt. furn. will ex. photo. Write Eric S. 406 So. 2nd St., Alhambra, 91802."

It is noted that 406 South Second Street, Alhambra, California, is the address of a mail forwarding service which was subscribed to from February 1, 1968, to March 1, 1968, at a cost of \$3 by ERIC GALT, St. Francis Hotel, 5533 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles.

1/29/68

ERIC GALT purchased a Bank of America Money Order #0799 18289 from the Hollywood Western Branch, Bank of America, Hollywood, California. This money order was in the amount of \$3 and was made payable to Mr. HEDGPETH.

C. M. HEDGPETH is the operator of a mail forwarding service. GALT engaged this mail forwarding service for the purpose of

forwarding all mail to him in care of the St. Francis Hotel under the names ERIC S. GALT, ERIC S. or ESG. In connection with this service GALT executed a Post Office form #1583 dated February 1, 1968, authorizing the mail forwarding service to forward mail to GALT. GALT also directed a typewritten letter to this service signed ERIC S. GALT and received by HEDGPETH on January 30, 1968.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the ERIC GALT signature appearing on the above described Bank of America Money Order was prepared by the writer of the signatures in this name appearing on other specimens submitted.

The Laboratory concluded that the signatures ERIC S. GALT appearing on the Post Office form #1583 and the typewritten letter received by the mail forwarding service were prepared by the writer of the GALT signatures on other specimens submitted.

1/31/68

ERIC S. GALT purchased a Bank of America Money Order #0799 17281 from the Hollywood Western Branch, Bank of America, Hollywood, California. This money order was in the amount of \$7.50 and was made payable to the Locksmithing Institute, Little Falls, New Jersey.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the ERIC S. GALT signature appearing on this money order was prepared by the writer of the signatures in this name appearing on other specimens submitted.

2/13/68

A 1966 white Mustang bearing 1968 Alabama license [REDACTED] which was later determined to be registered to ERIC STARVO GALT, Birmingham, Alabama, was serviced at the H. Beckman Chevron Service Station, 1506 North Normandie Avenue, Los Angeles, California. The mileage at the time of this service charge was noted to be 34,185 miles.

It was also ascertained that this vehicle was serviced at the Cort Fox Ford Company, 4531 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, with mileage noted to be 34,291 miles; however, no date of servicing was noted.

2/17/68

Mrs. PATRICIA ANDERSON, 2800 Glenview Avenue, Los Angeles, California, received a letter dated February 17, 1968, from ERIC S. GALT. This letter was addressed to her under her maiden name, PATRICIA SCHUBERT, and is as follows:

"2-17-68

"DEAR MISS:

"I AM ANSWERING YOUR LISTING IN THE LOCAL SWINGER SINCE I THINK I SHARE MOST OF YOUR INTERESTS, WITH EMPHASIS ON FRENCH CULT. AND SWING SESSIONS. I HAVE JUST RETURNED FROM MEXICO AFTER FIVE YRS. AND THE FEW FEMALES I HAVE MET DON'T GO FOR THE SWING PARTIES AND IT TAKES TWO TO SWING. THE SAME ROUTINE GETS BORING, DON'T YOU THINK. WILL CLOSE UNTIL I HERE FROM YOU.

"SINCERELY  
"ERIC S. GALT  
"5533-HOLLYWOOD BLVD.  
"HOLLYWOOD, CALIF.  
"90028.  
"PH. 464-1131."

"The Local Swinger" is a correspondence club operating from P. O. Box 3802, Downey, California. "The Local Swinger" placed an advertisement in the Los Angeles "Free Press" offering to send a list of local swingers to anyone who paid the price of \$1. In addition, it was understood that for each letter sent to "The Local Swinger" the sender would have to pay \$1. During February 1968 ERIC S. GALT sent \$1 and a request for a list of swingers and thereafter sent 5 letters to 5 individuals.

PATRICIA ANDERSON, nee SCHUBERT, is the only one of these thus far identified. She has made available a photograph which GALT enclosed in his letter to her. PATRICIA ANDERSON has never subscribed to "The Local Swinger" nor has she ever written to pen pal clubs or subscribed to the Los Angeles "Free Press." She has never met GALT and has had no further correspondence from him.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the signature ERIC S. GALT appearing on the type-written letter dated February 17, 1968, was prepared by the individual who prepared this signature in this name appearing on numerous other items submitted.

2/26/68

ERIC S. GALT purchased Bank of America Money Order #0799 19430 from the Hollywood Western Branch, Bank of America, Hollywood, California. This money order was in the amount of \$6.44 and was made payable to Futura Books.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the signature ERIC S. GALT appearing on this money order was prepared by the writer of the signatures in this name appearing on other specimens submitted and attributed to ERIC S. GALT.

2/26/68

ERIC S. GALT purchased Bank of America Money Order #0799 19701 from the Hollywood Western Branch, Bank of America, Hollywood, California. This money order is in the amount of \$7.50 and was made payable to Locksmithing Institute.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the signature ERIC S. GALT appearing on this money order was prepared by the writer of the signatures in this name appearing on other specimens submitted and attributed to ERIC S. GALT.

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2/26/68

ERIC S. GALT purchased Bank of America Money Order #0799 19704 from the Hollywood Western Branch, Bank of America, Hollywood, California. This money order was in the amount of \$5.25 and was made payable to "Locksmith Ledger."

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the ERIC S. GALT signature appearing on this money order was prepared by the writer of the signatures in this name appearing on other specimens submitted and attributed to ERIC S. GALT.

2/26/68

ERIC S. GALT purchased Bank of America Money Order #0799 19702 from Hollywood Western Branch, Bank of America, Hollywood, California. This money order was in the amount of \$6.44 and was made payable to Tiffany Enterprises.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the ERIC S. GALT signature appearing on this money order is too distorted for an identification with these previous signatures but similarities were noted.

2/28/68

ERIC S. GALT purchased Bank of America Money Order #0799 19703 from the Hollywood Western Branch, Bank of America, Hollywood, California. This money order was in the amount of \$9.98 and was made payable to Tiffany Enterprises.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the ERIC S. GALT signature appearing on this money order was prepared by the writer of the signature in this name appearing on other specimens submitted and attributed to ERIC S. GALT.

2/26/68

By letter postmarked February 26, 1968, addressed to Tiffany Enterprises, 8512 Whitworth Drive, Los Angeles, California, ERIC S. GALT, 5533 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, California, ordered one pair of Japanese handcuffs.

It is noted that Tiffany Enterprises is a mail order business but that they do not stock these Japanese handcuffs, so it was necessary for them to have the order filled by the International Police Equipment Company, 806 South Robertson Avenue, Los Angeles. These handcuffs were shipped to GALT on March 16, 1968.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the signature ERIC S. GALT appearing on the typewritten letter dated February 26, 1968, was prepared by the writer of the "GALT" signatures on other specimens previously submitted.

3/2/68

On this date GALT was graduated from the International School of Bartending, 2125 Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, and a photograph made that date has been discovered. Approximately a week after GALT's graduation he was telephonically contacted by the director of this school, who indicated he had employment for GALT as a bartender. GALT declined stating that he was leaving town within 2 weeks to visit his brother and did not wish to take employment. GALT indicated he would later return to Los Angeles.

3/8/68

ERIC S. GALT, 5533 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, purchased a U. S. Postal Money Order #1,916,211,078 at Los Angeles, California. This postal money order was in the amount of \$13 and was made payable to the Locksmithing Institute, Little Falls, New Jersey.

The FBI Laboratory advised that on the basis of the available writings attributed to the subject, JAMES EARL RAY, it was concluded that the questioned handprinting and handwriting appearing on U. S. Postal Money Order #1,916,211,078 were prepared by this individual.

3/17/68

A change of address order listed for ERIC S. GALT with the St. Francis Hotel dated March 17, 1968, advised that his old address of 5533 Hollywood Boulevard, had been changed to General Delivery, Main Post Office, Atlanta, Georgia. This change of address was indicated to be temporary until April 25, 1968.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the signature ERIC S. GALT appearing on the Post Office change of address order submitted by the Los Angeles Division was prepared by the writer of the signature in this name appearing on other specimens previously submitted in this matter.

3/21/68

As well as can be established, it was on or about this date that the subject left at 4019 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, a box of clothing belonging to MARIAN de GRASSE. It is noted that MARIAN de GRASSE is the daughter of MARIE MARTIN, one of the subject's associates in Los Angeles. Additional information concerning MARIE MARTIN is set out elsewhere in this report. It is also noted that 4019 Royal Street, New Orleans, is the residence of THERESA STONE and that THERESA STONE is the cousin of CHARLES STEIN and MARIE MARTIN.

3/24/68

On this date the subject as ERIC S. GALT rented Room Z in a rooming house at 113 14th Street, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia, which rooming house is operated by JIMMY DELTON GARNER.

3/28/68

ERIC S. GALT, 113 14th Street, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia, purchased a U. S. Postal Money Order #5,615,057,923 at Atlanta, Georgia. This postal money order was in the amount of \$7.50 and was made payable to Locksmithing Institute, Little Falls, New Jersey.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that on the basis of the available writings attributed to the subject, JAMES EARL RAY, it was concluded that the questioned handprinting and handwriting appearing on U. S. Postal Money Order #5,615,057,923 was prepared by this individual.

3/29/68

On this date an individual who gave his name as HARVEY LOWMEYER, 1907 South 11th Street, Birmingham, Alabama, went to the Aeromarine Supply Company, 5701 Airport Highway, Birmingham, Alabama, where he purchased a Remington, Model 700, caliber .243, rifle with a 2x-7x Redfield telescopic sight mounted thereon. He also bought a box of 20 rounds of .243 Norma ammunition. He left the store carrying this rifle in a cardboard box in which had originally come a rifle from the Browning Manufacturing Company. He was given the Browning box because the rifle with the mounted sight would not fit in the Remington box in which the rifle had originally been shipped. LOWMEYER paid cash.

3/30/68

The man calling himself LOWMEYER telephoned first and later that day returned with the newly purchased .243 rifle to Aeromarine Supply Company and explained that following a conversation with his brother he had decided to exchange this rifle for a Remington, Model 760, 30-06 caliber. This exchange was accomplished on the afternoon of March 30, 1968, with LOWMEYER leaving the store with a Remington, Game Master rifle, Model 760, SN 461476, on which was mounted the Redfield telescopic sight,

SN A17350. He again left with this gun in the Browning cardboard box. The .243 caliber ammunition was exchanged for a box of 30-06 ammunition. LOWMEYER indicated he wanted to use the 30-06 rifle to hunt in Wisconsin.

Investigation at Birmingham disclosed that LOWMEYER is unknown at 1907 South 11th Street and is unknown in that general neighborhood.

3/30/68

On this date the Locksmithing Institute, Little Falls, New Jersey, received a change of address from GALT indicating his new address to be 113 14th Street, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia.

The Newark Division forwarded to the FBI Laboratory 4 green payment coupons to the Locksmithing Institute, Little Falls, New Jersey, showing payment for lessons #6 through #9. Coupons #6 through #8 bore the handprinted address of 1535 North Serrano, Los Angeles, and the handprinted name of ERIC S. GALT. Coupon for lesson #9 bore the handprinted address of 113 14th Street, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the questioned handprinting appearing on the green payment coupons was prepared by the individual responsible for preparing other handprinting on specimens in this case attributed to ERIC S. GALT.

It is unknown by officials of the Locksmithing Institute the exact manner in which GALT furnished the above described change of address.

3/31/68

JIMMY DELTON GARNER, operator of a rooming house located at 113 14th Street, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia, admits being drunk during a large portion of the time around March 24 - 31, 1968, but states that on March 31, 1968, GALT paid for an additional week's rent. GARNER does not recall seeing GALT after March 31, 1968.

GARNER advised that when ERIC S. GALT paid his rent for the second week commencing March 31, 1968, he had GALT write his name on an envelope. According to GARNER who made this envelope available, GALT hand-printed his signature on the envelope. The reason GARNER requested that GALT sign his name was the fact that GARNER intended to then transfer this name to his official records when he returned to his own room.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the hand-printed name of ERIC S. GALT that appears on the envelope furnished by JIMMY DELTON GARNER, manager of the rooming house located at 113 14th Street, N.E., Atlanta, was prepared by the person who prepared the hand-printing on material previously submitted in this matter and attributed to ERIC S. GALT.

As a result of a lawful search of Room 2 of this rooming house conducted on April 13, 1968, numerous items of a possible evidentiary value were obtained, including a map of Mexico.

The FBI Identification Division, Latent Fingerprint Section, reported that 2 latent fingerprints were developed on this map and that these latents were identified with fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #405 942 G.

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4/1/68

On this date an individual using the name ERIC GALT left both laundry and dry cleaning at the Piedmont Laundry pick up station, 1168 Peachtree, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia.

4/3/68

ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, registered at the Rebel Motor Hotel, 3466 Lamar Avenue, on April 3, 1968, was assigned Room 34, and departed the hotel prior to the checkout time of 1:00 P.M. on April 4, 1968. At the time of registration GALT indicated on the registration card that he was driving a Mustang bearing Alabama license 1-38993.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the signature of ERIC S. GALT appearing on the hotel registration card was prepared by the same individual who prepared other specimens submitted under the same name.

4/4/68

Between 3:00 P.M. and 3:30 P.M. on this date a man using the name JOHN WILLARD rented sleeping room 5B at 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, at the rate of \$8.50 per week. He paid one week's rent in advance. He was not required to execute a registration card or to otherwise provide any information concerning himself or his automobile.

At about 4:00 P.M. on April 4, 1968, an unknown individual purchased from York Arms Company, 162 South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, a pair of Bushnell 7 x 35 binoculars. The salesman did not record the serial number of the binoculars; however, he wrote the price of the binoculars \$39.95 and the amount of the tax \$1.60 on the side of the cardboard box in which the binoculars came and added them for a total of \$41.55. He placed the sales slip, the binoculars, box, and the leather type carrying case in a gray paper bag which bears on its side the name York Arms. This witness subsequently identified photographs of JAMES EARL RAY as

being identical with the purchaser of the binoculars; however, it should be noted this witness has since [REDACTED]

Memphis, Tennessee.

At about 6:00 P.M. on this date Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., was shot and killed by a single bullet fired from the bathroom of the rooming house at 422½ South Main Street, Memphis. At the time he was struck KING was standing on the second floor balcony in front of Room 306 of the Lorraine Motel, 406 Mulberry, Memphis. Other occupants of the rooming house at 422½ South Main Street heard a rifle fired and observed a man run from the rooming house onto South Main Street where he dropped a large bundle in front of 424 South Main Street. Neighborhood investigation disclosed that a white Mustang was seen immediately leaving the area at a high rate of speed. A canvass of motels in the Memphis area disclosed that one ERIC S. GALT had spent the night of April 3, 1968, at the Rebel Motel, Memphis, Tennessee, and had been driving a white Mustang. He gave as an address 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama. When inquiries were made at that address solely for the purpose of further identifying GALT, it was determined that he had not resided there since about October 1967. It was for this reason that GALT came to our attention in connection with this case.

Inspector N. E. ZACHARY, Homicide Bureau, Memphis, Tennessee, Police Department, recovered numerous articles dropped by the assailant of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., on the sidewalk near the entrance of the building located at 424 South Main Street. Included among these articles are the following:

- 1) Remington Game Master rifle, Model 760, SN 461476, on which was mounted a Redfield telescopic sight, SN A17350
- 2) Banner by Bushnell binoculars, SN DQ408664
- 3) First section of the April 4, 1968, issue of the "Commercial Appeal," a daily newspaper published in Memphis

- 4) A plastic bottle of Mennen Afta Shaving Lotion
- 5) An unopened can of Schlitz beer, bearing the legend "Mississippi Tax Paid. IV Cents."
- 6) A Channel Master radio receiver, Model #6502, 6 Transistor, Super Hetrodyne, with a frequency range of 535-1605 Kc/s. This radio bears scratchings on one side interpreted to read "00416."
- 7) One pair of undershorts and one T-shirt
- 8) Green and brown bedspread (see date of April 5, 1968, concerning items found in abandoned Mustang)

The Latent Fingerprint Section of the FBI Identification Division advised that one latent fingerprint on this rifle; one latent fingerprint on the telescopic sight; one latent fingerprint on the binoculars; one latent fingerprint on the newspaper; one latent fingerprint on the bottle of Afta Shaving Lotion and one latent fingerprint on the Schlitz beer can have been identified with the fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #405 942 G.

The Bureau advised that the number "00416," which was the interpretation of the scratchings appearing on the above described Channel Master radio, is the same number as the inmate number for JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #405 942 G, while confined at the Missouri State Penitentiary.

The FBI Laboratory examination revealed that the undershorts and T-shirt each bears a laundry tag on which appears the characters "02B-6." Only a portion of the first character is present on each tag.

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Samples of the Thermo Seal marking machine, SN 31454, Model RH-5K1, in possession of the Home Service Laundry and Dry Cleaning Company, 5280 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, using the numbers and letters 02B-6 on red colored tape, were forwarded to the FBI Laboratory. This machine was used in this laundry between January 16, 1968, and March 23, 1968. The FBI Laboratory advised that the specimens from the Thermo Seal marking machine, SN 31454, are similar to the laundry tapes appearing on the T-shirt and undershorts in color, construction, and composition. Five of these tapes have the same length (1 1/16") as the tapes appearing on the T-shirt and shorts. The other 9 are longer, either 1 3/32" or 1 1/8" in length. These tapes submitted by Los Angeles are of varying lengths; however, no significant differences were noted between the T-shirt and shorts laundry tapes when compared with some of the specimens submitted by Los Angeles indicating that they may have originated from the same machine.

The bullet removed from the victim KING was examined by the FBI Laboratory, who determined that it is a .30 caliber metal-jacketed "soft point" sporting type bullet of Remington - Peters manufacture which could have been fired from the recovered Remington 30-06 rifle. The bullet has been distorted due to mutilation and insufficient marks of value for identification remain on this bullet. Therefore, it was not possible to determine whether or not the bullet removed from the deceased had been fired from the recovered Remington rifle bearing the fingerprint of JAMES EARL RAY.

4/5/68

An unknown white male at about 8:30 A.M. on Friday, April 5, 1968, parked instant white Mustang bearing Alabama license [REDACTED] in the parking lot of Capitol Homes, a public housing project in Atlanta, Georgia.

Among other items found in this abandoned Mustang was bed linen bearing laundry mark 20R-3. As mentioned earlier in this report, records of the Avalon Cleaners and Laundry, Inc., 5662 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, reflect that laundry belonging to an individual named GALT, which laundry was brought in on December 15, 1967, had been assigned laundry #20R-3.

Brown cotton fibers, green cotton fibers, and green rayon fibers were found in the abandoned Mustang. The FBI Laboratory has compared these with the bedspread found abandoned by the killer in front of 424 South Main Street, Memphis, on April 4, 1968, and has concluded that the fibers found in the Mustang could have come from this bedspread.

Between 9:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M. on April 5, 1968, an individual stopped at the Piedmont Laundry pick up station, 1168 Peachtree, N.E., Atlanta, and picked up laundry left there on April 1, 1968, under the name ERIC GALT. The clerk, Mrs. ESTELLE PETERS, when shown photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, stated she believes the photograph of RAY in which he was wearing a bow tie is a better likeness; however, the most recent photograph in which he is wearing a four-in-hand tie looks older and the eyes and nose appear very similar.

No information has been received concerning the whereabouts of JAMES EARL RAY since April 5, 1968.

The Kansas City Division submitted the following described documents to the FBI Laboratory requesting appropriate handwriting and handprinting examination with the handprinting and handwriting specimens submitted to the Laboratory as evidence in this matter:

One copy of a letter dated October 24, 1966, in the handwriting of JAMES E. RAY. This letter was from RAY to Dr. EARL C. KEPLER, Biggs Building, Fulton, Missouri.

34 pages containing purported handwriting and handprinting of JAMES EARL RAY obtained from the records of the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri.

22 pages of handwriting of JAMES EARL RAY obtained from the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, and one copy of a form dated April 4, 1958, signed by JAMES EARL RAY which was obtained from the U. S. Probation Officer, Kansas City, Missouri.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that the questioned handwriting and handprinting appearing on items attributed to ERIC S. GALT were prepared by JAMES EARL RAY.

Because of the presence of characteristics which cannot be explained on the basis of the known handwriting of JAMES EARL RAY, the FBI Laboratory advised that it cannot be definitely determined whether the "HARVEY LOWMYER" signature appearing on the sales invoice of the Aeromarine Supply Company, Birmingham, Alabama (place where Remington rifle, Model 760, SN 461476, was purchased), was prepared by this individual; however, significant handwriting similarities were noted.

The FBI Laboratory stated that because of the lack of identifying defects, it could not be definitely determined whether the same typewriter was used in preparing all the typewritten impressions appearing on items previously submitted in this case attributed to ERIC S. GALT, but no significant differences were noted.

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III. RELATIVES OF JAMES EARL RAY

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Subject's family is reported to have changed the family name as often as it suited them, and they have been known at various times under the names RAY, RAYNES, RAYNS, RYAN, and BERNES.

A birth certificate has been located reflecting that JAMES EARL RAY was born March 10, 1928, at Alton, Illinois, to JAMES RAY and LUCIE MAHER.

**Mother**

LUCILLE MARY RAY, nee MAHER, was born April 29, 1909, at Alton, Illinois, and died an alcoholic on January 25, 1961, at St. Louis, Missouri. She is reported to have been a prostitute during most of her life and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Her husband, who now uses the name JERRY RAYNES, abandoned her in about 1952. From about 1954 until her death in 1961 she lived with JOHN EUGENE GAWRON whenever GAWRON was not in prison.

**Father**

JERRY RAYNES, born November 24, 1899, resides alone on a small farm on Route 2, Center, Missouri, and has telephone number AM 7-3467. He claims to have married the subject's mother at Jacksonville, Florida, in the spring of 1929, 1930, or 1931 but he admits to having lived with her in a common-law relationship prior to their marriage. He states that he and the subject's mother separated about 1949 and he admits to having lived with RUBY CARPENTER off and on from about 1952 until 1963. RAYNES claims to have last seen the subject about 17 years ago, and he claims to have no information regarding his present whereabouts.

**Brother**

JOHN LARRY RAY, born February 14, 1933, resides alone at 1900-A Cherokee, St. Louis, and is engaged with his sister, CAROL PEPPER, in the operation of the Grapevine Tavern, 1982 Arsenal, St. Louis. The telephone at the tavern is number PR 6-9417.

JOHN has served sentences in both the Illinois State Penitentiary and in the

Indiana State Penitentiary. He claims to have last seen the subject some 2 to 4 years ago when he visited the subject at the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP), and he claims to have seen him prior to that time about 15 years ago at which time the subject had just been discharged from the U. S. Army.

JOHN will admit to having visited the subject at the MSP only 3 or 4 times. MSP records reflect visits by JOHN on the following dates:

10/17/62  
7/7/63  
11/3/63  
11/11/63  
5/6/65  
7/10/66  
11/13/66  
12/20/66  
4/22/67

It should be noted that this last visit on April 22, 1967, occurred on the day prior to the subject's escape on April 23, 1967; however, JOHN RAY denies having had any part in the subject's escape.

JOHN RAY has expressed the belief that the subject had money in his possession when he escaped, money which he made from the sale of amphetamines while the subject was in the MSP. JOHN has also stated he believes the subject has left the United States as the subject reportedly told him that he would do this if he ever got out of prison. JOHN denies having seen the subject since the subject's escape and claims to have no information concerning his whereabouts.

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Brother

JERRY WILLIAM RAY, born July 16, 1935, resides in Apartment 14, 314 Wisconsin Avenue, Lake Forest, Illinois. He has no telephone. He is employed as a maintenance man at the Sportsman's Country Club, 3535 Dundee Road, Northbrook, Illinois.

JERRY, described as being of "low mental capacity," has served sentences at both the Illinois State Penitentiary and at the MSP. He claims to have last seen the subject outside of prison in about 1951, and he claims to have last visited him in prison in about 1964. MSP records reflect JERRY visited the subject on the following dates:

8/21/63  
9/15/63  
5/16/65  
6/20/65  
7/1/65

JERRY RAY is divorced from GJERDIS STREET, who presently resides on Wisconsin Avenue in Lake Forest, Illinois. During the period that he and STREET were married, she bore a child which had been conceived by her previous husband. She and JERRY RAY separated during August 1967 and were divorced during January 1968. He previously lived common-law with CAROL SARTAIN by whom he had a child [REDACTED] who now lives with CAROL's parents, Mr. and Mrs. WILLARD SARTAIN, Route 2, Whitesburg, Tennessee. He periodically sends money to the SARTAINS to assist in the support of MICHAEL.

JERRY claims to have had no contact with the subject since the subject's escape and claims to have no information concerning his whereabouts.

**Brother**

[REDACTED]

FRANK DELANO RYAN was killed in an automobile accident during 1963.

**Sister**

CAROL PEPPER, born January 30, 1941, is married to ALBERT PEPPER and resides at 2025 Belleview, Maplewood, Missouri, a suburb of St. Louis. She is the owner of record of the Grapevine Tavern, 1982 Arsenal, St. Louis, Missouri, which she operates with her brother, JOHN LARRY RAY. Her home telephone is 645-2948 and the telephone at the tavern is PR 6-9417. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] She has been married to ALBERT BENNY PEPPER, FBI #581 723 D, for about the past 6 years and ALBERT PEPPER denies ever having met the subject. When questioned regarding a letter addressed by the subject from the MSP to Albert J. Pepper Stationery, 712-A Shenandoah, St. Louis, Missouri, ALBERT PEPPER stated he formerly resided at that address but was not aware of any mail addressed in such a manner. He admitted that his wife might have received such a communication but he denied having any information concerning this. Neither CAROL nor ALBERT PEPPER admitted having heard from the subject since his escape and neither will admit to having any information concerning his whereabouts. CAROL PEPPER claims to have seen the subject only 3 or 4 times in her lifetime and this was after she came to reside in St. Louis at about age 16. She states she has never visited him at the MSP but did write letters to him for her grandmother, MARY MAHER, now

deceased, and admits she wrote several letters after MAHER's death.

Sister

MELBA MARIE RYAN, born September 16, 1938, is the recipient of a disability pension and now resides at the Virginia Hotel, Quincy, Illinois, telephone number 223-0403. MELBA RYAN has been committed on several occasions to mental hospitals, and it is reported by her associates that any information furnished by her may be completely unreliable. She claims to have no information concerning the subject's whereabouts.

Sister

SUSAN DONIAN, born April 28, 1947, is married to MICHAEL DONIAN and resides at 3414 Bryn Mahr, Chicago, Illinois, telephone number 588-1410. Beginning at about age 6, SUSAN lived first in an orphanage and later in a foster home. She last saw the subject when she was in the first grade at Quincy, Illinois, and believes that he does not know her whereabouts. She claims to have no information concerning the subject but has agreed to cooperate should he contact her.

Stepmother

RUBY CARPENTER, 630 North Sixth Street, Quincy, Illinois, telephone number 223-9465, advised that in 1952 she met the subject's father while both were working in Quincy, Illinois, and that they left Quincy together and went to live in St. Louis, Missouri. She stated that they lived together from 1952 until 1961 before they married on August 1, 1961, at Palmyra, Missouri. They were divorced in Palmyra, Missouri, during 1964 and the subject's father moved to Center, Missouri, where he continues to reside on a small farm. She stated she has not seen the subject since he went to prison around 1960, and she has had no contact with him since she and his father moved to Clarence, Missouri, on August 1, 1961. She said she is certain the subject does not know her present whereabouts.

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Uncle	WILLIAM E. MAHER and his wife, MILDRED MAHER, 712 Brown Street, Alton, Illinois, claim to have last seen the subject 10 or 12 years ago and has expressed the belief that the subject has not been in Alton, Illinois, since 1959 when he was involved in an armed robbery. They do not believe the subject will contact them and have indicated they will make known any attempt on his part to do so.
Uncle	EARL E. RAY is reported to have died May 2, 1959, at Buffalo, New York.
Aunt	Mrs. FRANK (MABLE) FULLER, 2601 Chestnut Street, Quincy, Illinois, telephone number 222-7412, has not seen the subject since 1955 when her mother, subject's grandmother, died. She stated she has not seen her brother, the subject's father, for a number of years and has had no close contact with him. She said that while the subject was in prison at MSP she had sent him mail on a number of occasions and occasionally sent him small amounts of money. She said he had sent her 2 or 3 Christmas cards, and this was the only contact she had with him. She said these Christmas cards were smuggled out of the prison as she apparently had not been on the subject's mailing list. She claims to have had no contact with the subject since his escape and is not aware of his present whereabouts. She has offered her cooperation in the event he does contact her.
Grandparents	Both maternal and paternal grandparents are reported to be deceased.

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IV. PRISON INMATES AND ASSOCIATES

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### ASSOCIATES

#### Missouri State Penitentiary

BILLY BROWN AEBY, interviewed at Dallas, Texas, and resides at Stark Road, Seagoville, Texas. He was acquainted with JAMES EARL RAY during the period 1961 - 1964 while serving three concurrent 9-year sentences at the Missouri State Penitentiary. He and RAY worked in the prison bakery. RAY used amphetamine powder and dealt extensively in the sale of the amphetamine powder and benzadrine to other inmates. These items were being obtained by RAY, apparently through prison guards. RAY liked to play poker and was considered a good player; was mild mannered, and appeared timid to persons not knowing him well. He did not have any special interests and did not express any opinions regarding the Negroes, Ku Klux Klan, Army service, women, clothes, drinking, and the outside world in general.

RICHARD BEMAN, MSP #07694, is serving life for murder at the Missouri State Penitentiary and worked in April 1967 in the hospital of the prison. RAY was known to him by sight and though he did not associate with RAY in K Hall he worked with him at one time in the kitchen. RAY was very quiet and there was no information available as to his personal habits or beliefs. He also had no knowledge of RAY's associates.

JULIUS MAURICE BLOCK, formerly of the Missouri State Penitentiary, is currently incarcerated at the Federal Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas. He had worked in the bakery with JAMES EARL RAY. RAY was characterized as a loner, known to purchase the physical favors of homosexuals while in the Missouri State Penitentiary, although it is believed he would seek sexual relations with women outside the prison walls.

RAY reportedly stabbed one inmate in the Missouri State Penitentiary while the victim was held by another inmate. Reportedly RAY used to steal locks from different doors in the bakery and kitchen area and practice picking these locks later in the day.

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JOSEPH ADAMS currently incarcerated at the Illinois State Penitentiary was acquainted with JAMES EARL RAY at the Missouri State Penitentiary. ADAMS left the penitentiary in October, 1967.

RAY brought food to the hospital where ADAMS was working and he assumed RAY worked in the prison kitchen. He described him as a quiet individual, but he never talked directly to him nor did he ever observe him with any other inmates.

LEO BARNETT currently incarcerated at the Florida State Prison, Raiford, Florida, knew JAMES EARL RAY in the Missouri State Prison from about 1962 until August 1, 1966. He met him through BILLY MILES, presently at the New Penitentiary, Koberly, Missouri.

RAY never said much, did not bother anybody, was a loner and had a bad nervous condition and a definite mental problem. He was taking powdered amphetamine while in prison and would suffer weight losses and gains of 10 to 15 pounds over short periods of time.

BARNETT stated that amphetamine taken in quantities would produce a substantial rapid weight loss.

The amphetamine supply, prior to 1964, was \$5 a shot or less and after 1964, although the supply was limited, it still sold for the same price.