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Date May 24, 1968

WALTER E. NOLAN, 5206 Washington Avenue, apartment 2, was interviewed at the office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 1520 Market Street, St. Louis, at which time he supplied the following information:

NOLAN emphatically denied since last being interviewed by Bureau agents that he has had any contact with or knowledge of the whereabouts of JAMES EARL RAY. He reiterated what he had previously mentioned that he also has had no contact with RAY since RAY escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP). He pointed out that at the present time RAY would have no way of knowing that NOLAN was released from the MSP and, therefore, would not even be aware that NOLAN is in St. Louis, Missouri.

Regarding NOLAN's association with RAY in the MSP, NOLAN commented that it was possible that RAY may have used amphetamines on occasion, however NOLAN never knew of RAY to sell or to deal in that or any other narcotic.

NOLAN did say that he knew JAMES EARL RAY to have a four for three loan business at MSP as on several occasions RAY had asked NOLAN if he ever needed any money, RAY had sufficient to loan him. RAY once told NOLAN that he had paid off a debt of an unnamed inmate and asked NOLAN how he could receive the re-payment from the inmate since the inmate had arranged for someone outside the prison to pay off the debt to RAY. RAY desired to know how the money could get into the prison past the warden as the warden had questioned RAY on several occasions regarding money being held for him by prison authorities. NOLAN indicated that it was the warden's belief that this money was in payment for narcotics.

NOLAN was unable to recall whether he had suggested it to RAY or it was a mutual agreement between he and RAY that this outside person send the payment to RAY in the name of one of RAY's brothers. NOLAN was of the opinion this was how the re-payment was handled, however had no concrete knowledge of which brother's name was used or the amount of the payment. NOLAN estimated that RAY possibly had \$300 to \$400 at the most when he escaped from MSP but seriously doubts that RAY had any more than that.

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On 5/20/68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL 44-775
by SA PATRICK W. BRADLEY
SA ROBERT A. HESS RAH/leh Date dictated 5/21/68

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NOLAN stated that while incarcerated in MSP, RAY worked in the bakery as a bread cutter. In addition to RAY in the bakery, there were approximately 150 additional inmates. NOLAN commented that he doubted that over six of these fellow inmates had ever held conversations with RAY totaling more than 30 minutes. He stated that RAY was a good worker, a clever and thoughtful person, a conservative thinker, very closed mouthed and an individual who does not generally do things on the spur of the moment. NOLAN added that at no time did RAY exhibit any foreign language ability nor was there any talk of travel outside of the continental United States by RAY. However, on one occasion RAY did mention to NOLAN that he had been to the West Coast. Although NOLAN stated that RAY did not have any close family ties, the place most often spoken of by RAY was Illinois where NOLAN understands RAY's family are residents.

NOLAN commented that approximately 95 percent of the content of conversations between he and JAMES EARL RAY while incarcerated in MSP was about how to get out of the penitentiary either legally or illegally. NOLAN emphatically denied that he had been engaged in any illegal activity inside the MSP and further stated that he was not the individual who was caught by prison authorities with numerous bullets in his pocket. He also stated that there was no truth to the statement that JAMES EARL RAY ever had an inmate beaten while in the penitentiary for non-payment of debt. NOLAN recalled that on either a Friday or Saturday evening, RAY had sent word to him by messenger that he wanted to meet with him for dinner. NOLAN did join RAY for supper and RAY commented that he had been granted permission to accompany his attorney to a Missouri Supreme Court hearing on the following Wednesday. RAY was desirous of learning the exact procedures in regard to security of him as a prisoner and if there was any relaxation of the security, whereby he may be afforded a chance to escape. NOLAN reportedly assured RAY that there was no opportunity for escape under those circumstances. According to NOLAN, RAY replied, "That's okay, I've got something else."

The following Sunday while walking in the yard of MSP, NOLAN stated that he overheard an inmate, name unknown, complain that someone had stolen a set of hidden civilian clothing, however at the time did not pay too much attention to the remarks

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made. Several hours later, it was rumored that someone had on that afternoon walked out the front gate of the MSP. Eventually word came to NOLAN after a head count had been taken that evening, that the escapee was JAMES EARL RAY. NOLAN conjectures that it was RAY who stole the civilian clothes and who probably changed in the confines of the bakery and then mingled with the weekend visitors and if a guard on the double gate was new, which NOLAN says was true, RAY probably just walked out in this manner.

NOLAN feels positively that RAY would never have come to St. Louis, Missouri, after his escape unless he was merely passing through. He indicated that it is common knowledge that the St. Louis Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation in St. Louis are notorious for developing a network of informants among ex-cons released from MSP. For this reason, RAY, who NOLAN reiterated never trusted an inmate while in prison, would certainly not come to St. Louis and contact anyone here after his escape. NOLAN again commented that JAMES EARL RAY has a natural ability to make himself inconspicuous and an individual who usually stays at arm's length from everyone.

NOLAN is of the belief that RAY is not guilty of the killing of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., as the crime is completely foreign to RAY's personality. He does not believe that RAY would kill except to avoid returning to prison.

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Date May 22, 1968

FRANCIS POWELL was interviewed at his residence and advised that he is the father of ROBERT (BOB) POWELL. He stated that POWELL is not living at his residence at this time since Mr. POWELL did not want him to be closely associated with his young daughters. He stated that POWELL visits his residence on infrequent occasions and comes to borrow money.

Mr. POWELL stated that he had heard a rumor that his son, BOB, had helped JAMES EARL RAY escape from prison in Jefferson City, Missouri. He stated that his son had never mentioned RAY to him and that he was certain that he would be uncooperative in any interview.

Mr. POWELL stated that his wife, who is BOB POWELL's stepmother, told him that BOB had made the remark that the man who turns in RAY is a dead man. Mr. POWELL stated that he did not believe his son had any information concerning RAY's whereabouts.

Mr. POWELL stated that while BOB was in prison some of his girlfriends would write him and use the Doe Run address on the envelopes so that they would pass through the prison censors. He stated he had seen envelopes with the name FRANKIE BARBARA. He stated that to the best of his knowledge this is a fictitious person. He stated that he did not know who this person was. Mr. POWELL stated that if his son contacted him he would notify the FBI. Mr. POWELL stated that he had no idea as to how BOB could be contacted but had heard that he worked part time in Farmington, Missouri.

On 5/18/68 at Doe Run, Missouri File # SL 44-775
by SA HOWARD G. SLACK/leh Date dictated 5/20/68

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SL 44-775
DSD:paw

RE: FELLOW PRISONER RICHARD RENO

On May 8, 1968, RICHARD RENO, 411 East Swan Avenue, Webster Groves, Missouri, advised SA DONALD S. DE FONCE that while confined to the Missouri State Penitentiary he had occasion on several different times to have a short conversation with JAMES EARL RAY. He stated, however, that although he knew him by sight, he did not consider himself to be an acquaintance or even to be on a friendly basis with RAY.

RENO advised that although he was not aware of it at the time, he apparently drove the bakery truck in which RAY escaped from the penitentiary.

RENO advised that he has had no contact with RAY and does not think that RAY would ever contact him; however, promised to advise in the event that he does.

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Date June 13, 1968

WILLIAM E. RUSSELL, 9703 Holiday Gardens, residence phone 423-0460, was interviewed at that location at which time he provided the following information:

RUSSELL after being apprised of the identity of the interviewing agent stated that he was released from the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP) on April 5, 1968, after serving a total of 39 months for armed robbery. RUSSELL stated that he had received three six-year sentences and one five-year sentence, however, would not elaborate regarding his criminal activities leading to his conviction. RUSSELL commented that since he has been released from prison he has acquired a good job, has married and is making every effort to "go straight." He added that he has discontinued any association with his previous friends and did not desire in any way to furnish any information to any law enforcement agency for fear of reprisals and possibly getting him involved in illegal activity. RUSSELL after being advised of the explicit purpose of the interview stated that he had no objection talking about JAMES EARL RAY because he felt he had very little knowledge of RAY; however, it should not be expected that he would provide the names of any individuals who were connected with RAY or himself at the MSP.

RUSSELL indicated that he first met JAMES EARL RAY when he, RUSSELL, was working as an inmate barber and thus on several occasions had the occasion to cut RAY's hair. He stated he probably knew RAY approximately two to three years and described him as a very closed mouth individual who kept primarily to himself. RUSSELL added that by keeping to himself was part of the reason RAY tried so many escapes from the MSP and nearly pulled them off. He stated that no one really knew his plans, therefore, was ahead percentage wise on chances of being successful.

RUSSELL commented that he was not aware of anyone who was close to JAMES EARL RAY in the MSP; however, he added "anyone who says they knew JIM RAY real well are liars."

RUSSELL related that at the time of RAY's escape in April, 1967, RUSSELL was working on the farm and he has no knowledge of any of the details regarding RAY's escape. In regard to RAY's activities after the escape, RUSSELL stated that he does not know if RAY would have come to St. Louis, Missouri, and he stated he was not aware of where RAY's home is and attributed this fact to RAY's being extremely quiet in nature and it was not a subject that was ever discussed. RUSSELL

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On 6/7/68 at Overland, Missouri File # SL: 44-775

by SA ROBERT A. KESS/mjb Date dictated 6/11/68

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described RAY as being a man whom you would not know how smart or dumb he is simply by his being so quiet.

RUSSELL denied having any extended conversations with RAY and those occasions when they did talk most of the discussion concerned prison life, conditions therein, etc. RUSSELL acknowledged that RAY did use amphetamines; however, had no knowledge of RAY dealing in same. There was no discussion regarding travel inside or outside the United States and there was no indication by RAY of any knowledge of a foreign language.

RUSSELL stated that RAY is not a "muscle man"; however, he does not know if he is capable of killing anyone. He stated he has had no contact with RAY since RAY's escape, since he has no idea of RUSSELL's current whereabouts. RUSSELL is of the opinion that he would not help RAY if RAY should contact him; however, he does not feel that he would advise the FBI if he had been contacted by RAY.

RUSSELL was apprised of the provisions of the Harboring Statute and stated he was completely familiar with them; however, again reiterated that he would not help JAMES EARL RAY or anyone else.

All the known photos of JAMES EARL RAY were exhibited to RUSSELL and he stated the one taken in 1966 at the MSP is the one most familiar to him and resembles RAY as RUSSELL knew him.

1Date 5-24-68

CHESTER SPRATT, 3809 Russell, advised that he had entered Missouri State Prison at Jefferson City, Missouri, during February, 1962, after being convicted of rape in Eminence, Missouri. SPRATT indicated that he received ten years for this sentence and was subsequently released from the Missouri State Prison on June 6, 1967.

SPRATT related that while incarcerated at the Missouri State Penitentiary he worked in the license tag section as a welder during his entire time there.

SPRATT was exhibited photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and stated that he had recently seen these photographs in the newspaper and on television in St. Louis, however, he was not familiar at all with RAY. He stated that he read the accounts in the St. Louis newspapers regarding RAY's escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary and readily acknowledged that he was an inmate when RAY escaped in the bakery truck, however, SPRATT once again emphatically denied ever having any acquaintance with RAY.

SPRATT indicated that he was unaware of knowing anyone who may be familiar with RAY, however, mentioned the possibility that CHARLES WALTERS, also known as "FIFTY", was possibly an individual who may remember him since WALTERS had a wide acquaintanceship inside the penitentiary.

SPRATT was advised of the provisions of the Harboring Statute at which time he acknowledged that he was familiar with the law in that regard and he promised complete cooperation with the FBI, however, felt he would be of little help since he was not acquainted with RAY.

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On 5-15-68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL 44-775
by SA ROBERT A. HESS
SA PATRICK W. BRADLEY RAH:amb Date dictated 5-20-68

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1.
SL 44-775
KAW/pjh

FELLOW PRISONERS

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI:

On May 20, 1968, IVAN DALE UNDERWOOD, Apartment D, 5105 Minnesota Avenue, St. Louis, advised he served two sentences at the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri. The first sentence was from 1962 to 1964. The second sentence was from August 1966, to September 1967. Both sentences were for fraud or confidence schemes. He advised he served all of the second sentence on the penitentiary's honor farm. He stated that he did not know JAMES EARL RAY while he was incarcerated. He advised that on the basis of the subject's name and after viewing his photograph, he believed RAY is possibly identical to an individual who worked with RALPH RENFRO for a short period in the late 1950's at Joplin, Missouri. The association between RAY and RENFRO consisted of RENFRO having a furnace or heating business and RENFRO would finger residences and business establishments in the Joplin area and on the pretext of conducting a free inspection of the furnace and heating equipment would gain entrance to "case" the establishment for possible burglary or robbery; or if the victims were gullible, an attempt would be made to sell a new heating outfit.

UNDERWOOD did not know where RAY resided in the Joplin area and knew nothing else concerning his background, and stated he only knew RAY through RALPH RENFRO. UNDERWOOD states that as of eighteen months ago RENFRO was working at an independent service station on 20th Street in Joplin and was hanging around at ELMER's BAR on Main Street.

He described RALPH RENFRO as a white male, 42 years of age, short with medium build, and graying hair.

UNDERWOOD was interviewed by SA KENNETH A. WILLIAMS.

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SL: 44-775
WRD:klr

PRISON INMATES AT THE MISSOURI
STATE PENITENTIARY WITH RAY

On May 14, 1968, Special Agent WILLIAM R. DUNCAN interviewed MILTON ZAVOLCOFSKI, Missouri Training School for Men, Number 01658, at Moberly, Missouri. He advised that he was born at Brockton, Massachusetts, on [redacted]. He was sentenced to the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri, on November 9, 1960, from Lebanon, Missouri, on charges of armed robbery. He was transferred to the Missouri Training School for Men at Moberly, Missouri, on April 8, 1968. He knew JAMES EARL RAY as an inmate at Jefferson City, had no personal relationship with him. He recalled that RAY hid out in the prison sometime prior to escaping in 1967. Someone in the training center at Moberly saw RAY's picture on television and brought it to his attention. He could furnish no additional information.

MELVIN OLIVER GRIDLEY, Missouri Training School for Men, Number 02503, on May 14, 1968, advised that he was sentenced on April 23, 1960, for burglary and stealing, from Jasper County, Missouri. He served all of this time until July of 1967, at the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, until he transferred to the Missouri Training School for Men at Moberly, Missouri, in July of 1967. He worked in the recreation department at Jefferson City and was Hall Tender in J Hall when JAMES EARL RAY hid out in the penitentiary about a week in 1964 or 1965. He knew RAY pretty well, as RAY worked for him. He said that RAY was close-mouthed, had no friends. He said that he lost contact with RAY after RAY went into solitary confinement after he hid out in the penitentiary over a year prior to the time he escaped in 1967. Since he hid out, he (GRIDLEY) had not talked with RAY. He never discussed his business with GRIDLEY, as a matter of fact, he did not know that RAY had any close friends in the penitentiary. GRIDLEY could furnish no additional information concerning RAY.

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V. JAMES DAVID DAILEY

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SL: 44-775
HRD:wma

RE: J. D. DAILEY

On June 4, 1968, Detective EDWARD SCHAFF and Officer RONALD BOCKENKAMP, St. Louis, Missouri, Police Department advised SA ROBERT L. BENDER that they were unable to suggest the identities of any persons whom they believed might be aware of any acquaintance or association between subject and J. D. DAILEY.

On June 6, 1968, They advised SA BENDER contacts with their informants and sources had failed to disclose any additional information in this regard.

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Date June 13, 1968

JAMES DAVID DAILEY was interviewed at Portageville, Missouri, from 12:25 p.m. to 1:17 p.m., June 7, 1968. Interviewing Special Agents identified themselves to him by exhibition of their credentials at the outset. He was then warned of his rights by Special Agent DOBSON. DAILEY stated he was well aware of his rights and, that while he was quite willing to furnish any information in his possession concerning this case, he did not desire to execute a waiver of his rights or any other document.

He stated photographs of subject had been exhibited to him during previous interviews, and that he had viewed several photographs of subject on television and in various newspapers during recent weeks. He was positive in his own mind that he had never knowingly seen subject. He expressed the opinion that anyone who said he knew the subject would undoubtedly be motivated by personal animosity or by a desire to divert official attention from their own activities.

DAILEY likewise was unable to recall ever having seen any of the subject's relatives. He stated if he could see the relatives face-to-face, he might be able to remember some of them as persons he may have seen while he was living in St. Louis, Missouri, as he understood from newspapers some of them resided in areas where his restaurant and home were located, but in any event, he was certain he had no association with any of them, as their names were in no way familiar to him.

To the best of his knowledge, he worked at his restaurant in St. Louis, Missouri, each day during the period from April 23, to July 18, 1967. He had no records which would substantiate this belief but noted that a small restaurant of the type he operated in St. Louis usually requires the daily presence and effort of the owner to "break even."

He specifically denied making any trips to, or in the vicinities of, the Missouri State Prison at Jefferson City, Missouri, or the Renz Prison Farm, nearby, during this period. All such trips made by him were subsequent to the escape, apprehension and return of his boyhood friend, THOMAS B. CREWS, from the Missouri State Penitentiary during, he believed, September of 1967.

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On 6/7/68 at Portageville, Missouri File # SL: 44-775
by SA HAROLD R. DOBSON and
SA EDWARD M. MORELAND HRD/klr Date dictated 6/11/68

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He recalled that during the fall of 1967, CREWS had appeared at his restaurant one evening and had confided to him that he had escaped. CREWS made no mention of the manner in which he had escaped but it appeared to DAILEY that he had probably stolen some civilian attire from a clothesline, as he was not in prison garb. CREWS indicated he had walked a considerable distance following his escape and had finally managed to obtain transportation on a bus bound for St. Louis.

DAILEY and CREWS "sat up all night talking." During their conversation, DAILEY attempted, to the best of his ability, to convince CREWS to give himself up, but was unsuccessful. CREWS was "scared to death" and appeared to be an extremely desperate individual. It was evident to DAILEY that, unless CREWS was successful in legitimately obtaining sufficient funds to continue his flight, he would undoubtedly "pull some job in which somebody might get hurt." Therefore, DAILEY gave him \$100. Two or three days thereafter, CREWS was apprehended and returned to the prison.

DAILEY stated he was well aware that his action in this regard constituted a violation of state harboring statutes, but he preferred to consider it as "insurance" against some innocent person getting hurt. He freely admitted what he had done to members of the St. Louis Police Department.

Following CREWS' return to the prison, it became apparent he was suffering from terminal cancer. Due to this fact, DAILEY has since visited him on several occasions and has attempted to secure his release through Jefferson City attorney DAVID BRANDON.

DAILEY stated specifically he had never visited or corresponded with CREWS at the prison prior to CREWS' escape and return.

DAILEY stated positively he had never known or aided the subject in any way, and had never been in a position to have assisted him in any manner. Neither he nor any member of his family have owned, controlled, or enjoyed the use of any rural or farm property anywhere, which might be used as a hiding place for an escapee, at any time subsequent to subject's escape.

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He expressed the opinion that the subject is undoubtedly dead or out of the country as he would otherwise have been found by this time. He mentioned that the reward for subject's apprehension, which he understood had been offered by Memphis businessmen, was of sufficient size to cause anyone the subject might have contacted to turn him over to the authorities.

DAILEY further expressed the belief that it would be impossible for any prisoner to "simply walk out" with a crowd of visitors at the Missouri State Prison without the gross negligence or the connivance of prison guards.

DAILEY stated he would immediately contact the FBI in the event any information concerning subject or his whereabouts comes to his attention.

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VI. RELATIVES

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Date May 13, 1968

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Mr. JERRY RAYNES, Rural Free Delivery, Center, Missouri, on May 9, 1968, advised that he had heard nothing whatever from subject.

Mr. RAYNES volunteered that his sons JOHN and JERRY had visited him he believed the night of Monday, May 6, 1968, and had departed early on the following morning. He described them as "a couple of idiots" and stated that most of their visit was spent in arguing. Both were drinking heavily. He said JOHN appeared angry with JERRY and indicated his resentment as well as that of their sister, CAROL PEPPER, of JERRY's action in having sold Life Magazine a story about the family which they both agreed had been half lies.

It was Mr. RAYNES' understanding that JERRY had received money for giving the Life interview and that such money was being used by him during his visit to St. Louis. He indicated his own personal resentment against JERRY for having given the magazine the story.

Mr. RAYNES stated it was his understanding that JERRY planned to return to the Chicago area soon and that he would not spend any further time with him at the farm during this trip. He stated that "JERRY is nuts, and there is no telling what he will actually do".

Mr. RAYNES indicated personal resentment of the article which had appeared in Life Magazine saying that the house in which the family had lived in Ewing, Missouri, had not had a dirt floor when the family lived in it as alleged by the magazine. He stated the house had not been in good shape but that he had worked hard to improve it.

Mr. RAYNES stated that he had lived some time with the children's mother, LUCILLE MAHER, in a common-law relationship before their marriage. He was unable to recall the date of their marriage but did remember that they were married by a Justice of the Peace in the State of Florida. He recalled that they had lived for awhile in Tallahassee, Florida, and indicated that the marriage might have occurred there.

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On 5/9/68 at RFD Center, Missouri File # SL: 44-775
by SA WILLIAM R. DUNCAN
SA JAMES A. DUFFEY :pdp Date dictated 5/10/68

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Mr. RAYNES stated he had little formal education and experiences considerable difficulty in recalling dates, but he was sure that either in the late 1920's or early 1930's he was married to the children's mother in Florida under the name of JERRY RAYNES or JERRY RAYNS. He stated that lack of education was responsible for the two spellings he had used of his surname.

Mr. RAYNES further advised that approximately four days prior to the interview some reporter and his companion had attempted to force their way into his house but that he had refused to talk with them and had ordered them from the premises.

Mr. RAYNES reiterated previous statements that he had no contact with and no knowledge or information concerning the subject or his whereabouts following the subject's escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary in 1967. He was unable to recall any statements or indications from any of his children that they had any further information concerning the subject in this regard.

Mr. RAYNES was again advised of the provisions of the Federal Harboring Statute. He promised he would contact the Federal Bureau of Investigation immediately in the event he receives any information concerning the subject or his whereabouts.

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1

Date May 20, 1968

Mr. JERRY RAYNES advised on May 16, 1968, that except for his daughter, CAROL PEPPER, who visits him nearly every weekend, he has not been in contact with any member of his family since the recent visit from his two sons, JOHN and JERRY RAY. He recalled that his son, JERRY, had indicated his plans to return to the Chicago area and he presumes he has done so. He has not seen nor heard from his son, JOHN, since the visit. He added that his daughter, CAROL, visits him almost every weekend when possible and brings him such groceries and other necessities as are needed by him for the week. For this reason, he seldom if ever leaves his residence.

Mr. RAYNES stated that during the late summer or early fall of 1967 he had decided to leave St. Louis and had for some time been looking for a small acreage in a rural area. He had seen a real estate listing for a farm in Ralls County priced at \$8000. As he did not have that much money he had contacted the banker at the Center State Bank, Center, Missouri, concerning the possibility of obtaining a loan to buy the property. During this discussion the banker had indicated the bank planned to sell 46 acres south of Center, Missouri, at a foreclosure sale at the Court House in New London, Missouri, and that the bank hoped to realize \$3000 for the property. Mr. RAYNES attended the sale and since only one other person bid on the property he was able to buy it for \$2600. He used money obtained from the sale of his property in St. Louis to buy this small farm on which he now resides, which consists of 46 acres. In paying for the place he used a \$1900 check from CAROL PEPPER and \$700 of his own money, the surplus being used to pay back taxes.

Mr. RAYNES stated that he has had no contact with the subject directly or indirectly since subject went to prison in 1960. Subject never wrote him and since his escape has not contacted him.

Mr. RAYNES stated that as a matter of pure conjecture, since he had no actual knowledge of his own concerning the matter, it seemed to him that someone else had used subject in the KING case and that if this was so such individual would probably have killed subject following the murder. He was of the opinion that subject as an experienced criminal would know better than

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On 5/16/68 at RFD Center, Missouri File # SL: 44-775
by SA JAMES A. DUFFEY : pdp Date dictated 5/16/68

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to leave his fingerprints anywhere. He was of the opinion that someone had "gotten to" subject following his escape.

Mr. RAYNES then stated that he now recalls that during the recent visit of his sons JOHN and JERRY, some statement by his son, JERRY, to the effect that subject was in Chicago, Illinois, during the summer of 1967 following his escape. Mr. RAYNES was unable to recall anything more specific about the statement and admitted that he might have misunderstood. He noted that both his sons had been drinking heavily at the time.

Mr. RAYNES stated that subject had lived with his mother while he was in St. Louis and that he knew very little about subject. He was of the opinion that subject would not kill anyone unless he was under the influence of narcotics. He does not consider the subject smart enough to plan the KING murder alone.

Mr. RAYNES stated that he was very fearful of publicity and was afraid that Negroes might attack him if his relationship to subject becomes publicly known. He stated further that during a recent visit from his daughter, CAROL PEPPER, she had indicated she had been interviewed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and that they had indicated to her the possibility that subject might have been in St. Louis following his escape. She has not exhibited to him any knowledge or information as to any knowledge on her part as to subject's whereabouts.

Mr. RAYNES again stated he would immediately contact the FBI on receipt of any knowledge or information concerning subject or his whereabouts.

The provisions of the Federal Harboring Statute were again brought to his attention.

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Date May 20, 19681.

Mr. JERRY RAYNES, RFD Center, Missouri, was contacted and asked concerning the location of his property in St. Louis, Missouri, which was sold during the summer of 1967. He stated this property was located at 1819 Park, and he sold it to a man named ROBINSON whose first name he believes is ARCHIE who resides on Hickory Street in St. Louis. He claimed it was an involved transaction, that he first had traded his property to ROBINSON for a farm and \$2,500, but they had changed the arrangement and he accepted \$3,200 for this property. He stated he turned the money over to his daughter CAROL for safe keeping. He stated he did not loan his son JACK \$1,000, but recalls that he did loan him \$700 through his daughter CAROL.

Mr. RAYNES was vague about dates and about specifics in general. He was questioned twice concerning this and still stated he did not lend JACK \$1,000, nor any money directly, but all transactions were handled through CAROL.

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On 5/20/68 at Center, Missouri File # SL 44-775
by SA JAMES A. DUFFEY:bam Date dictated 5/20/68

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1Date June 3, 1968

Mr. JERRY RAYNES, Rural Free Delivery, Center, Missouri, stated he has heard nothing from the subject, either directly or indirectly, and that he is completely unaware of subject's whereabouts. He stated he has no reason to believe that any other members of the family have any knowledge or information as to subject's whereabouts.

He expressed the opinion that subject is probably dead because in his estimation subject would have been unable to evade the intensive manhunt which has been underway for him.

Mr. RAYNES stated that because news men have called him at all hours of the day and night and due to the further fact he has received one crank call, he had caused his telephone number to be changed to the unlisted number - 267-3681.

The provisions of the Federal Harboring Statute were explained to Mr. RAYNES and he stated he would immediately contact the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the event he received any information as to subject's whereabouts, from any source.

Mr. RAYNES stated that he is extremely fearful that Negroes might take retaliatory measures against him should his location and his relationship to subject become publicly known.

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On 5/26/68 at Center, Missouri File # SL: 44-775
by SA JAMES A. DUFFEY :jfb Date dictated 5/27/68

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Date June 4, 1968

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Mr. JERRY RAYNES, Rural Free Delivery, Center, Missouri, advised on May 29, 1968, that he had no word from or about the subject and that he had no idea as to subject's whereabouts.

He stated that after his family moved from Ewing, Missouri, they went to Quincy, Illinois, for a short time but that the subject was there only a short while as he went to live with his grandmother MAHER in Alton, Illinois. Subject obtained employment with a shoe company tannery in or near Alton and worked there until he entered the Army. Subject was very frugal, saved his money, and reportedly had saved up \$1400 at the time of his entry into military service. He recalled that subject was very shy, had no close friends or associates, and depended on his grandmother to take care of his money as he apparently had no use for banks.

Mr. RAYNES stated that subject had not lived with him except for a period of approximately two weeks in Quincy, Illinois, he believed in about 1943. He thereafter had little contact with the subject except for two or three meetings with him in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1958 or 1959 when subject lived with his mother and grandmother on Hickory Street in St. Louis, Missouri.

Mr. RAYNES stated that as he knew subject he did not believe he would hurt anyone. He expressed the belief that subject lacked the intelligence to plan and carry out the murder of KING and conjectured that someone had probably coached him, payed him, and then after the murder killed him. He reiterated that in his estimation subject was a shy "countryfied" individual.

Mr. RAYNES was asked if the name LAFAYETTE DILTS meant anything to him as being an individual who might have lived as a neighbor to the family during their residence in Quincy, Illinois, during the 1940's. He stated that the name seemed vaguely familiar but that he was unable to recall ever having known DILTS. He added that in the event he had known DILTS it had been a long time ago and that he did not remember him.

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On 5/29/68 at Center, Missouri File # SL: 44-775
by SA JAMES A. DUFFEY : pdp Date dictated 5/29/68

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Mr. RAYNES expressed fear that his daughter, CAROL PEPPER, might possibly be ill as she had complained of a toothache during a brief visit with him on the previous Saturday and he has not heard from her since. During the Saturday visit she told him she was nervous because of the publicity attending this case.

Mr. RAYNES stated that CAROL PEPPER had never at any time given him any indication that she had ever been in contact with the subject since his escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary or that she has any knowledge or information as to his whereabouts.

Mr. RAYNES stated that he had read some publicity to the effect that subject had bad teeth which he did not believe was true. He recalled that subject had good teeth when the family lived in Ewing, Missouri, and Quincy, Illinois, but admitted, however, that due to his infrequent contacts with subject since that time the subject's teeth could have gone bad without his knowledge.

The provisions of the Federal Harboring Statute were explained to Mr. RAYNES and he indicated that he would never entertain even the slightest notion of harboring the subject because in his estimation if subject is alive he is probably extremely ill mentally and is urgently in need of medical help. He stated positively that in the event any information comes to his attention as to the subject's whereabouts he will immediately notify the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

1Date June 6, 1968

Mr. JERRY RAYNES, Rural Free Delivery, Center, Missouri, advised he had just returned from shopping. He stated he had driven to New London, Missouri, for this purpose as he also wanted to pay his electric bill. He explained that he has heard nothing about the subject. He stated his daughter, CAROL PEPPER, had not visited him since she was ill two weeks ago, and therefore, he had been forced to do some shopping for himself.

Mr. RAYNES was told that a recheck of Florida Marriage records under the names RAY, RAYNES, and RAYNS had failed to reflect his marriage there to LUCILLE MAHER. He stated he could not understand that and again indicated they were married near Jacksonville by a Justice of the Peace.

Mr. RAYNES stated that he has not been contacted by any member of his family except CAROL, since JACK and JERRY visited him a month ago.

He has not received any word directly from or indirectly about the subject. He again expressed the feeling that subject was "used" in the plot to kill Dr. KING and after the shooting subject had been killed by whoever masterminded the KING killing. He was of the opinion that subject is probably dead or he would have been apprehended by this time. He stated he did not consider subject to possess sufficient intelligence to so successfully evade capture for this length of time, were he alive.

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On 6/3/68 at Center, Missouri File # SL 44-775
by SA JAMES A. DUFFEY/leh Date dictated 6/4/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 6-13-68

Mr. JERRY RAYNES, R. F. D., Center, Missouri, on June 6, 1968, was recontacted.

He stated he had been in contact with his daughter, CAROL PEPPER, St. Louis, by telephone on June 5, 1968, and she stated she had been unable to obtain any information as to the whereabouts of the subject. She stated she planned to visit him this weekend, and would bring any groceries he might need.

Mr. RAYNES stated that he has no idea where subject might be. He expressed the opinion that subject would not contact him in any event. He mentioned the assassination of Senator ROBERT KENNEDY, stating it "was a terrible thing" and SHIRAHAN SHIRAHAN should be executed for this act. He also stated that if subject is guilty, he should be executed also, as the KING murder was the same kind of crime. He also mentioned the heartache SHIRAHAN had brought on not only the KENNEDY family, but on the killer's own relatives. He stated that all recent killings appear to him to be part of a plan by some evil persons.

Mr. RAYNES stated he would immediately notify the FBI in the event any information concerning subject or his whereabouts comes to his attention.

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On 6-6-68 at Center, Missouri File # SL 44-775

by SA JAMES A. DUFFEY /ral Date dictated 6-7-68

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1Date 6-20-68

MR. JERRY RAYNES advised he was aware subject had been arrested in England as he had gotten this news on television.

MR. RAYNES stated he had nothing to add to that which he had already told. He stated he has had no direct or indirect contact with subject for years. He added he and subject have never been close and subject has never discussed his problems or plans with him.

MR. RAYNES stated as far as he knows, JOHN is still in St. Louis. He further stated he has heard no talk, nor has he been contacted for money to send JOHN to England to assist Subject. He added such a gesture would be futile and a waste of time and money.

He stated CAROL PEPPER had called him on several occasions since subject's arrest, but never mentioned JOHN, or any collection. He said she was bitter because of the harassment she and her husband are getting from members of various news media who have photographed their home and talked with all their neighbors.

He stated someone attempted to contact him on Monday. This person took pictures of his house and wanted to interview him, but he refused and ordered the men off his land.

MR. RAYNES was asked if he knew subject had visited in Canada in 1967. He said he did not. He was asked if subject had any friends or associates in Canada, and he stated it was possible but he does not know of any connection subject would have there.

6-14-68

Center, Missouri

SL: 44-775

On _____ at _____ File # _____
SA JAMES A. DUFFEY :wma 6-17-68
by _____ Date dictated _____

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1.
SL 44-775
PWB:pjh

RAY FATHER - JERRY RAYNES

The following investigation was conducted by SA's
ROBERT A. HESS and PATRICK W. BRADLEY:

Mrs. DELIA ROBINSON, 1826 Hickory Street, St. Louis, Missouri, advised that she is the wife of ARCHIE L. ROBINSON, who purchased the property at 1819 Park Avenue approximately one year ago.

She made available a General Warranty Deed which reflects that JERRY RAYNS, a single man of the City of St. Louis, sold to ARCHIE L. ROBINSON and his wife, DELIA ROBINSON, property in City Block #484, known as 1819 Park Avenue, for \$100 and other valuable goods and consideration. This General Warranty Deed was dated March 28, 1967, and recorded on that date in Book #8747, page 479, Recorder of Deeds Office, City of St. Louis.

Mrs. ROBINSON stated that she is not sure of the exact transaction that took place inasmuch as her husband handled the business matters. She noted that she was acquainted with JERRY RAYNES prior to the purchase of that property, however, was not acquainted with any of his family although she understood he had some children. She observed photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and indicated he was completely unfamiliar to her.

On May 21, 1968, ARCHIE L. ROBINSON was interviewed in the vicinity of 1819 Park Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri. He stated that with regard to the purchase of the property at 1819 Park Avenue from JERRY RAYNES, that immediately prior to transfer of the title he gave JERRY RAYNES \$2,000 in cash and they were to transfer a piece of property he owns at Naylor, Missouri, to JERRY RAYNES. However, prior to the consummation of the transfer of the property at Naylor, RAYNES wanted to know how much cash ROBINSON would give to make it a straight cash deal instead of transferring the property. Mr. ROBINSON offered him \$500 and they then considered the deal closed with no transfer of the Naylor property being made. He noted this made a total cash payment of \$2,500, and this was completed on

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two separate days immediately prior to March 28, 1967. Mr. ROBINSON stated he knew JERRY RAYNES approximately one year prior to the above-mentioned transaction while JERRY RAYNES resided at 1819 Park Avenue upstairs. Mr. ROBINSON noted that JERRY RAYNES had a daughter and son-in-law who had two children, who visited regularly and sort of looked after the old man. He spoke of a son that was killed and by implication, indicated that this son had sort of been outside of the law and the bad one of the family. He mentioned another son, believed to be named JACK, who occasionally came to visit the old man and on occasion stayed for short periods of time, however, he cannot recall any time that he stayed any great length of time.

Mr. ROBINSON observed the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and stated that it is completely unfamiliar to him and he does not recall JERRY RAYNES ever mentioning a son named JAMES or JIM.

On May 21, 1968, CHARLES E. JOINES, 1817 Park Avenue, advised that he recalls about three years ago JERRY RAYNES purchased property at 1819 Park Avenue and lived there by himself upstairs. He remained there about two years and sold this property about one year ago.

Mr. JOINES stated that a daughter and son-in-law frequently visited and sort of took care of the old man and on occasion a son named JACK visited and stayed for short periods of time.

Mr. JOINES observed a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and stated that it was completely unfamiliar to him.

SHUN WONG and MUI WONG, 1825 Park Avenue, advised that they have operated a laundry at this address since 1952. They indicated that they did not know any residents at 1819 Park Avenue, nor do they know any of the other current neighbors in this area.

The WONGs viewed the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and stated it was completely unfamiliar to them.

HOWARD KEYS, 1821 Park Avenue, stated that he has operated a barber shop at this location for less than one

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year and is not acquainted with JERRY RAYNES or any former tenants at 1819 Park Avenue.

On May 21, 1968, DAVID and LEO BORNSTEIN, operators of South Side Auto Parts, 1820 Park Avenue, recalled an elderly man residing at 1819 Park Avenue by the first name of JERRY for a couple of years who moved from that address about a year ago. They recalled that he spoke of a son named JACK, however, they never observed any visitors at this residence.

They viewed the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and stated that it was completely unfamiliar to them.

It is noted that the 1800 block of Park Avenue and adjacent streets are in the throes of a deteriorating process with a number of the buildings being vacant and a number of them being in various stages of destruction.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date May 14, 1968

Carol
nee Ray
Missouri
Ms.
 Mrs. ALBERT B. (CAROL ANN) PEPPER, 2025 Bellevue, stated her new unpublished telephone number is 645-9152. She was interviewed on May 10, 1968, by SAs HOWARD C. KENNEDY and ALBERT J. RUSHING at which time she furnished the following information:

Carol Ryan
 Mrs. PEPPER is the sister of subject, JAMES EARL RAY, but is 13 years younger than subject and in all of her life has had very little contact or association with the subject having seen him only approximately three or four times in her life. These three or four times when she has seen him all occurred in the City of St. Louis after Mrs. PEPPER came to St. Louis when she was 16 years old to reside with her father in St. Louis and all of the occasions when she saw the subject were brief encounters such as when she saw him on the street. She believes the last time she saw the subject was probably in 1959 or earlier when she encountered him on the street in South St. Louis at which time she was in the company of their brother, FRANK (BUZZY) RAY, who is now deceased. Her first recollection of seeing him was following his discharge from military service.

11/5/72 dwp/llh
page 131-134
 Mrs. PEPPER was born [redacted] at Ewing, Missouri. She went to school at Quincy, Illinois, where she resided with her mother, LUCILLE RYAN. Mrs. PEPPER's birth certificate showed her name as RAYNES which she understands is an incorrect spelling of the name of her father, whose name is RAYNS and who now resides near Center, Missouri, to which location he recently moved from St. Louis, Missouri. Mrs. PEPPER prior to marriage, used the name CAROL RYAN, the same surname used by her mother, LUCILLE RYAN. Mrs. PEPPER is unable to account for the variations in the surnames and she is aware that various ones of her brothers and sister have used the surname RAY. So far as she knows they all had the same father although she expressed uncertainty in that regard and she assumes that the variations of the name are simply because her brothers and sisters decided to use the name RAY, a variation of the name RAYNS.

When Mrs. PEPPER was 16 years of age, she left her mother's residence in Quincy and came to St. Louis where she lived with her father at 1727 South 11th Street. She did

On 5/10/68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL 44-775

by SA HOWARD C. KENNEDY
SA ALBERT J. RUSHING AJR/leh Date dictated 5/10/68

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not attend school after she moved to St. Louis but had various jobs including a period of employment at Kresge's, a dime store, located on Delmar Boulevard, University City, Missouri, no longer in existence. She is not now employed. Her last employment having been by the Catholic Archdiocese in St. Louis as a teacher in the Head Start Program which was conducted at St. Joseph's School on South 12th Street in St. Louis. The later employment was for a period of about one year during the latter part of the residence of Mr. and Mrs. PEPPER at 712a Shenandoah, St. Louis, from which address they moved to their present address in the Maplewood in about October, 1967.

Sometime after Mrs. PEPPER came to St. Louis at the age of 16 years to reside with her father, her mother also came to St. Louis and resided with Mrs. PEPPER's maternal grandmother, MARY MAHER, at 1913 Hickory, St. Louis. Mrs. PEPPER however, did not at any time actually reside in St. Louis with her mother, although she occasionally spent brief periods of time with her mother at the mother's address. After the death of Mrs. PEPPER's mother in early 1961, Mrs. PEPPER did reside for a period of a few months with her grandmother, Mrs. MAHER, in St. Louis, until Mrs. PEPPER was married in St. Louis to ALBERT B. PEPPER in December, 1961.

Mrs. PEPPER and her husband have two children,
[REDACTED]

After subject, JAMES EARL RAY, was arrested and convicted on the charge for which he was sent to the Missouri State Penitentiary, Mrs. PEPPER has not ever seen him again on any occasion. For a time after he went to the penitentiary she did write letters to him on behalf of her grandmother, Mrs. MAHER and used the latter's name in the letters and she continued this practice after the death of the grandmother in 1963, continuing to use the name of Mrs. MARY MAHER, who was an approved correspondent of subject's in the penitentiary. Mrs. PEPPER estimates that after the death of her grandmother she probably wrote no more than three or four letters to the subject at the penitentiary. She is unable to recall the last such letter she wrote to him but the last time may have been as late as the early part of 1967. She occasionally received a letter from subject while he was in the penitentiary and believes she received no more than two or three letters from him. Mrs. PEPPER did not ever visit subject at

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the penitentiary or attempt to do so and insofar as she knows her husband did not ever visit him at the penitentiary. She advised she has understood from her husband that the latter has never seen the subject in his life.

Mrs. PEPPER has not at any time had any contact either direct or indirect with the subject since his escape in 1967 from the Missouri State Penitentiary. She has no knowledge of any person who has had information regarding the subject's whereabouts and stated she could furnish no such information regarding his whereabouts. She, herself, first learned that he had escaped from the penitentiary when she heard it on the radio and she knew nothing about any plans for the escape. She stated she has had no indication that anyone in her family or otherwise has been in any way in contact with the subject or had information regarding his whereabouts since his escape.

Inquiry was made of Mrs. PEPPER regarding whether she recalled anything about the receipt of a money order in approximately January, 1967, which was reportedly in the amount of \$15.00 and was sent by an inmate at the Missouri State Penitentiary to the ALBERT PEPPER Stationery Company, 712a Shenandoah, St. Louis.

In response to direct questions concerning this matter, she advised that she may have received a money order on one occasion but to the best of her recollection, it was for \$2.00 or \$3.00 and it may have been in payment for magazines which her brother had requested she mail to him. It was her recollection that if she received a money order it was received earlier than January, 1967. She said she never at any time mailed magazines to him and does not recall what disposition she may have made of any money order after it was received. Later in the interview she said the money order may have been for as much as \$15.00 but she does not recall. She also acknowledged that she might have cashed such a money order but she cannot specifically remember having done so. In this connection, she said her memory is very vague.

In response to soliciting by interviewing agents, Mrs. PEPPER stated that she would be entirely willing to notify the St. Louis Office of the FBI if she should at any time in

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the future receive any information which might have bearing on locating the subject. She also stated that she would be entirely willing to be interviewed further in the event there should be any additional matters on which an interview with her would be desired.

Mrs. PEPPER said that her first knowledge of the subject's involvement in this matter was when she heard the news announcement on the radio and she said she has never had any information regarding the possible involvement other than that which has appeared in the news media. She said she had never known of anything in her brother's attitude or associations which would suggest any motive for his involvement in the killing of a Negro leader such as MARTIN LUTHER KING.

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1Date 5-16-68

Mrs. ALBERT B. (CAROL) PEPPER was recontacted at her residence, 2025 Bellevue, Maplewood, Missouri. She again specifically denied that she has had any contact with her brother, JAMES RAY, since his escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary in April, 1967, or that she has had any knowledge whatever of his whereabouts since that time other than what she has derived from the news media. Although Mrs. PEPPER expressed her willingness and intention to notify the FBI if she should at any time be contacted by him or if she should receive any information regarding him she stated that she would certainly not expect that he would contact her and she noted in that regard that RAY would not be aware of her current address or her new un-published telephone number. She further pointed out that other than their brother, JERRY RAY, who is in the Chicago area, she believes all of the family have moved since RAY's escape from the penitentiary and that JERRY RAY would, therefore, be the only one whose address would be known to JAMES RAY.

With regard to the Grapevine Tavern, Mrs. PEPPER commented that the tavern has barely been making expenses since it was opened about the first of the current year and, therefore, it may not continue in operation very long.

On 5-14-68 at Maplewood, Missouri File # SL 44-775
by SA ALBERT J. RUSHING
SA HOWARD C. KENNEDY AJR:amb Date dictated 5-15-68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 5-21-68

Mrs. ALBERT (CAROL) PEPPER, 2025 Bellevue, Maplewood, Missouri, was interviewed at her residence, at which time she furnished the following information:

Mrs. PEPPER has received no information regarding her brother, JAMES EARL RAY (whome she refers to as JIM), since the last previous interview with her by the FBI.

Within the past several days, police officers from the St. Louis Police Department came to see Mrs. PEPPER indicating to her that they had received some inquiry from a newspaper, possibly "The Los Angeles Times" according to Mrs. PEPPER's recollection of what they said; this inquiry having to do with the finances of the RAY family. The police officers apparently came to see Mrs. PEPPER just to find out some general information about her, and they suggested to her that if people wanted to talk to her about her finances, she might want to obtain a lawyer. A representative of "The St. Louis Post Dispatch" newspaper also came to see Mrs. PEPPER within the preceding few days, but she refused to talk to him. Mrs. PEPPER has heard from an acquaintance that there was an article a few days ago in "The St. Louis Post Dispatch" which seemed to be a rehash of the erroneous information which appeared in a "Life Magazine" article concerning the RAY family, but Mrs. PEPPER herself did not read this newspaper article.

Mrs. PEPPER and her family went to see her father at Center, Missouri, over the preceding weekend, May 18-19, 1968. She has been customarily going to see him there during weekends and usually takes him groceries. She is the one in the family who maintains contact with the father and looks after his needs. The farm which the father bought about six months ago is believed to consist of about forty acres of which a little is probably tillable, and she thinks her father will grow corn on this part of the farm, but the remainder is suitable only for livestock and grazing. She thinks that he paid some amount in the neighborhood of \$2,600 for this farm. Mrs. PEPPER is uncertain in her recollection, but believes it may be correct that she gave him a check drawn on her account in the amount of \$1,900 at the time he was purchasing this farm and which was applied to the purchase. If so, this money

On 5-20-68 at Maplewood, Missouri File # SL 44-775

by SA HARRY C. JUNG
SA ALBERT J. RUSHING AJR:ral Date dictated 5-20-68

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would have been his money. Mrs. PEPPER sometimes keeps his money in her checking account or savings account, and she thinks this may have occurred in this instance. On the other hand, she may have given him such a check as a loan, but she is uncertain in her recollection. Sometime before her father purchased the farm, he sold the property in St. Louis which he formerly owned at 1819 Park, this property consisting of a two-story residential building. Mrs. PEPPER believes he received something like \$2,800 from the sale of this property. She believes that the \$1,900 which she may have returned to him in the form of her check represented part of the proceeds of the sale of that property which he gave her to keep for him in her account. In any event Mrs. PEPPER is certain that she did not herself pay for any part of the purchase of the farm by her father, and if she gave him the check for \$1,900, this was a return of his money or a loan.

While Mrs. PEPPER's father resided in St. Louis before the purchase of the farm at Center, Missouri, he had various jobs, such as, service station attendant, and he also at one time operated a second-hand store where he sold junk. This business was also located on Park Avenue, but was somewhere east of Twelfth Street, a considerable distance from 1819 Park. Her father did not own the property where he conducted this second-hand business.

Until Mr. and Mrs. PEPPER moved to their present residence in the fall of 1967, Mrs. PEPPER was always employed ever since their marriage in December of 1961. During that period of time, they have practiced thrift and economy and have always endeavored to save something from their income. They opened a savings account several years ago at the Bohemian Savings and Loan Association on South Eighteenth Street in St. Louis in the same area where they resided. A few years ago when the Bohemian Savings and Loan Association was moved to a remote section of the city, they transferred their savings account to the Manufacturers Bank and Trust Company, where they have continued to have a joint savings account. ALBERT PEPPER has been employed for more than three years by the Ace Construction and Engineering Company, which is affiliated with the New Market Hardware Store. His earnings in this employment is \$3 per hour, and in some weeks he works overtime on Saturdays. Mrs. PEPPER's last employment was with

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the "Head Start" School Program, and she was employed there by the Catholic Archdiocese being paid at the rate of \$60 per week. She had this employment for about a year until Mr. and Mrs. PEPPER moved in the fall of 1967 to their present address. Her last employment before that was in cleaning work at an office building at 1015 Locust in St. Louis. Because she and her husband have always endeavored to be economical and saving in the handling of their family finances, they were able to accumulate funds in their savings account. When they contracted in the fall of 1967 to purchase the house where they now live for a purchase price of \$10,500, they withdrew the necessary money for the downpayment from their savings account.

Mrs. PEPPER has no idea and no knowledge as to whether her father may ever have given Mrs. PEPPER's brother, JOHN LARRY RAY, any funds to hold for her father.

Mrs. PEPPER has no information regarding a trip to California made by her brother, JOHN LARRY RAY, in the summer of 1967 and never knew or heard that he made such a trip.

One of the places in St. Louis where Mrs. PEPPER lived with her father prior to her marriage was 1727 South Eleventh Street. She believes her brother BUZZY lived with them there part of the time, but she is certain that her brother JIM never lived with them there. Mrs. PEPPER never had any knowledge of her brother JIM having used the name O'CONNOR, and she never knew of any bank accounts he may have had at any bank at any time. In fact, Mrs. PEPPER had so little contact or knowledge of her brother JIM that she can now recall having seen him only on possibly a couple of occasions when she was small and shortly after he was discharged from military service, and she recalls seeing him on one occasion on the street in South St. Louis at some later time after she moved to St. Louis with her father. Although Mrs. PEPPER was known as CAROL RYAN as of 1959, she has no knowledge or recollection of having received any checks from her brother JIM or from any person under the name JAMES CARL O'CONNOR, either in 1959 or any other time. She can think of no reason why she might ever have received any such checks. Mrs. PEPPER is certain that she has never had any financial dealings of any type with her brother JIM in her life.

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With regard to the matter of a money order directed from an inmate at the Missouri State Penitentiary to the Albert Pepper Stationery Company, 712 Shenandoah, St. Louis, Mrs. PEPPER has still been unable to remember anything further regarding such a matter since she was previously interviewed regarding this matter. She still does vaguely remember that someone told her one time while he was in the penitentiary that he wanted magazines sent to him, but she cannot remember having sent magazines to him and cannot recall that she was ever reimbursed for doing so. She is certain, however, that there was never any Albert Pepper Stationery Company at 712 Shenandoah.

Mrs. PEPPER has no recollection that she has ever known of a person named Y. P. WEBBE or V. P. WEBBE, and this name is not in any way familiar or significant to her.

1

Date May 28, 1968

Mrs. ALBERT (CAROL) PEPPER, 2025 Bellevue, Maplewood, Missouri, was recontacted. She said she had understood that within the preceding two or three days, an interview with her brother, JOHN LARRY RAY, had been reported in the St. Louis Globe Democrat but she, herself, had not seen the article in the newspaper. She said she understood from her brother, JOHN LARRY RAY, that a reporter from the Globe Democrat had showed JOHN an article which had been written for publication in the St. Louis Post Dispatch newspaper and which was filled with untruths about the family. It was for this reason and in order that the truth might be furnished the press, that JOHN consented to the interview by a representative of the St. Louis Globe Democrat.

Mrs. PEPPER said that she had received no additional information whatever since she was last interviewed bearing on the possible whereabouts of JAMES EARL RAY. She volunteered a statement to the effect that she feels certain that no member of the family has been contacted by JAMES EARL RAY or has been aware of his whereabouts since his escape except for what has appeared in the press. She said she felt sure that if any of the family had been contacted by RAY or had received some information regarding him she would certainly have known of it because the family would have told her.

On 5/24/68 at Maplewood, Missouri File # SL 44-775
by SAA HOWARD C. KENNEDY
SA ALBERT J. RUSHING AJR/leh Date dictated 5/28/68
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Date June 5, 1968

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Mrs. ALBERT (CAROL) PEPPER, 2025 Bellevue, Maplewood, Missouri, advised that she had received no additional information whatever bearing on the possible location of her brother, JAMES EARL RAY, since she was last interviewed.

Inquiry was made of Mrs. PEPPER as to whether, in the event she should receive some pertinent information regarding her brother, she would furnish such information to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Mrs. PEPPER then stated that she would have no expectations whatever that her brother would communicate with her in any way, pointing out that he did not know her current address or her current unpublished telephone number. She added that she felt that he did not believe that he could expect any help from her and she said that, as a matter of fact, she would not be at all interested or willing to help him as she did not want herself and particularly her children to be in any way involved with him. She said that if she should hear from RAY and be convinced of his innocence she might find it difficult to furnish such information to the FBI. It was pointed out to Mrs. PEPPER that in the event RAY should be innocent or there should be any extenuating circumstances the entire matter would in any event be most readily resolved through locating RAY at the earliest possible time. Mrs. PEPPER expressed understanding and agreement with this idea.

Inquiry was made of Mrs. PEPPER as to her whereabouts and activities during the period between April and July, 1967. She said she was living at that period of time with her husband and two children at 712-a Sherandoah, St. Louis. She recalled that beginning in about the summer of 1966 and ending in about July or August, 1967, she was employed as a teacher's aide or assistant teacher in the "Head Start Program" at St. Joseph's School located at Twelfth and Russell Streets, St. Louis. In this employment she worked regularly during that period on Monday through Friday, each week, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 or 4:30 p.m. daily. This work involved the teaching of children three to five years of age. She was employed in this work by the Catholic Archdiocese on

On 6/5/68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL: 44-775
by SA ALBERT J. RUSHING AJR:jfb 6/5/68
SAA HOWARD C. KENNEDY Date dictated 141

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Lindell Boulevard, St. Louis, under Sister ANN CLARICE, Supervisor of the "Head Start Program" for this Archdiocese. She was paid for her work by check from the Archdiocese, although she understood that at least some of the funds for the "Head Start Program" were furnished the Archdiocese by the Human Development Corporation. Mrs. PEPPER recalled that she missed only one day from work during the entire period of her employment and that day was due to the illness of her youngest child.

Mrs. PEPPER said her first knowledge of the escape of her brother, JAMES EARL RAY, from the Missouri State Penitentiary was when she heard or read news reports regarding the escape but she is unable to recall the approximate time she heard such reports. However, since reported identification of RAY as the alleged assassin of MARTIN LUTHER KING, Mrs. PEPPER has heard or read reports to the effect that his escape from the penitentiary was not officially reported or given publicity for perhaps several weeks after the escape occurred. Mrs. PEPPER, therefore, assumed that she herself would not have learned of the escape from news reports until perhaps several weeks after the escape.

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Date June 14, 1968

Mrs. ALBERT (CAROL ANN) PEPPER, residing 2025 Bellevue, Maplewood, Missouri, telephone 645-9152, who was contacted at her residence, disclosed the following information:

She has been truthful in previous contacts by FBI Agents with her that she does not recall having any contact at all except by personal correspondence with her oldest brother, JAMES EARL RAY, since about eight or nine years ago, prior to the time he escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP), Jefferson City, Missouri. Her only contact with JAMES EARL RAY while he was incarcerated there was via mail. She admitted having written to him under the name of her grandmother who died after RAY was confined to the penitentiary.

She emphasized that she has never at anytime nor does she now know where her brother spent the time between about April 23, 1967, when he escaped from the MSP and July 1967, when his whereabouts have been established through investigation. She did not see or hear from him at all during that period of time, and insofar as is known to her, none of her brothers or sisters have seen him since he escaped from the MSP.

She was very much surprised when she learned that JAMES EARL RAY had been arrested in London, England. She first learned of these circumstances after being called by telephone by a woman friend, name not disclosed, on Saturday, June 8, 1968, the day of his arrest. This friend informed her of the news and she then heard the same news on television. Although she has saved most of the local papers for each day since that time, she has not read from more than one or two of them about her brother. The news is, of course, upsetting and she has formed an opinion that in many instances information is grossly exaggerated and misrepresented. She is somewhat bitter towards the local press, advising that CHRIS CONDON, a St. Louis news commentator, telephoned her, probably on Monday, June 10, 1968, requesting an interview with her. She declined and on the following day, Tuesday, June 11, 1968, in the late afternoon she observed CHRIS CONDON and several other men with him, both in front of the house and in a vestibule at her house. They appeared to be attempting to gain entrance but she declined to answer the door. She observed that they took pictures of the house and then on the 6:00 p.m. television news broadcast, Channel 5, she observed pictures of her house. The pictures disclosed the house number of 2025, and the news announcement indicated the house was located on Bellevue Street in Maplewood.

On 6/13/68 at Maplewood, Missouri File # SL 44-775

by SA (A) HOWARD C. [REDACTED] : pjh Date dictated 6/14/68


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On the previous evening, CHRIS CONDON reported photographs and news concerning the Grape Vine Tavern owned by her and operated by her brother, JOHN LARRY RAY, at St. Louis. She believes this news coverage is very unfair to herself and to her brother, JOHN.

At one point she commented that it is rather discouraging to know that she and many other people are paying through taxes the expenses for a representative of the United States Government to travel to London, England, in behalf of the Government for prosecution of her brother when she personally does not have money enough to afford to go there also. She said it might be possible if she had money to "help in his defense" in referring to her brother, JAMES EARL RAY, but she did not comment further. She emphasized she has absolutely no information pertaining to his activities within the past several years.

She became sad and tearful in recalling incidents of her childhood, mentioning that a Catholic children's home, not otherwise identified, was wrong in taking from her mother her three youngest children, namely SUSIE and BUZZY.



She has not seen her sister, SUSIE, who is married and who lives in the Chicago, Illinois, area, since BUZZY's funeral. Her mother, of course, was an alcoholic.

Her husband, ALBERT PEPPER, has indicated to her he believes they should obtain a gun of some kind "for protection" in view of recent publicity. She is afraid that Negroes may attempt to harm them. She personally directed JOHN RAY to close the tavern for a few days. JOHN RAY, she believes is at home. She talked to him by telephone when he called her from the tavern where he had stopped for a few minutes on June 12, 1968. She does not know when the tavern will reopen.

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Date June 14, 1968

Mrs. ALBERT PEPPER (CAROL ANN), residing 2025 Bellevue, Maplewood, Missouri, telephone 645-9152, telephonically furnished the following information at 2:30 p.m.

On inquiry as to whether her brother, JOHN LARRY RAY, is in fact intending to travel to London, England, in behalf of JAMES EARL RAY, his brother, she commented that her brother JOHN is definitely not going to leave St. Louis to travel to England or anywhere else. She said he does not have funds with which to travel and although she personally "has a few dollars" she does not intend to give any of it to JOHN. She said she might consider doing so if either of them could be of any assistance to JAMES EARL RAY, but she is confident that "there is no help for him". She said that if they can in anyway help him, they will have to do so after he is returned to this country.

She said that JOHN RAY does not have a telephone where he may be reached except at the Grape Vine Tavern. He visited her home on the afternoon of June 13, 1968, and he usually telephones her once each day. He has not yet called her today and she expects to hear from him this afternoon. At the request of SA(A) HOWARD C. KENNEDY she said she will inform JOHN RAY to telephonically contact SA PATRICK W. BRADLEY at this office.

On 6/14/68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL 44-775
by SA (A) HOWARD C. KENNEDY : pjh Date dictated 6/14/68

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SL: 44-775
HRD:wma

CAROL PEPPER -
EMPLOYMENT

Sister ANN CLARICE, Supervisor, "Head Start Program," for the Catholic Archdiocese, 4445 Lindell Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri, advised SA JOSEPH A. DUBYAK, June 7, 1968, her records disclosed CAROL PEPPER of 712A Shenandoah, St. Louis, Missouri, was employed as a teachers aide under that program and under her supervision at St. Joseph's School, 12th and Russell, St. Louis, Missouri, from 1966 until she voluntarily terminated such employment on August 18, 1967, due to the fact that she was moving to St. Louis County.

During this period she worked from 8:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. each week day, except for one five-hour absence on one day in February, 1967.

Her services were satisfactory.

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CSD/ral

Re: CAROL PEPPER - CREDIT REFERENCE

The following investigation was conducted by SA CHARLES S. DUKE on May 22, 1968, at St. Louis, Missouri:

Mr. DON HUELSING, Credit Manager, Beiderman's Furniture Store, 6759 Chippewa Street, St. Louis, Missouri, advised that an account, now closed, was established on June 4, 1966, for the amount of \$103 in the name of AL and CAROL PEPPER, residing at 712A Shenandoah, St. Louis, with an indicated previous address of 1324 Lami, St. Louis.

ALBERT's employment was listed as New Market Hardware on Laclede Avenue, St. Louis.

The record of Mr. and Mrs. PEPPER indicated a savings account at the Manufacturers Bank and a personal reference as JERRY RAYNS, 1819 Park Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri.

HUELSING advised that the record contained no derogatory information.

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CSD/ral

Re: CAROL PEPPER - CHARACTER REFERENCE

The following investigation was conducted by SA CHARLES S. DUKE at St. Louis, Missouri, on May 22, 1968:

ALENA SUTTON, 7129 Leona Street, St. Louis, Missouri, was contacted at her residence, whereupon she advised that she knew CAROL PEPPER, also known as Mrs. ALBERT PEPPER, for just a couple of years and that their association was not a social relationship but rather a teacher-parent relationship. She said that she was an instructor at the St. Joseph Church on Twelfth and Russell Streets, St. Louis, and enrolled in the project "Headstart" government program, and the program required at least one parent of one of the children attending the program to be present. She said CAROL was the parent present at this program.

SUTTON advised that she did not know where CAROL was presently residing with her husband ALBERT and two sons,
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

SUTTON stated that she did not know any of CAROL'S brothers or sisters and did not know if she even had any.

She stated that she last saw CAROL sometime in August of last year, and the only thing she could remember about any type of conversation about her family was something to the effect that her father was going to buy or did buy a farm up around Hannibal, Missouri, and that he probably would let her children go to the farm. She said that it was probably in Hannibal, but she was not sure.

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SL 44-775
HCK:amb

RE: CAROL PEPPER

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI:

On May 17, 1968, Mr. HENRY A. GRIESEDIECK, Owner and Operator of a proprietorship known as F.L.R. Investments with offices at 3638 Olive Street, St. Louis, was contacted at his place of business by SAA HOWARD C. KENNEDY. Mr. GRIESEDIECK furnished the following information:

On or about May 1, 1968, he received a \$320 check from CAROL PEPPER residing 2025 Bellevue, St. Louis, Missouri. Mrs. PEPPER is the operator of a tavern known as "Jack's Place," 1982 Arsenal Street, St. Louis. He recalled that this check was drawn on an account at Manufacturers Bank and Trust Company, St. Louis, Missouri, but he had no further description of the check received by him. The check was forwarded in response to a statement of F.L.R. Investments forwarded to Mrs. PEPPER under date of March 27, 1968, and it was in payment for a tavern bond costing \$20 and a Missouri State Liquor License costing \$300. F.L.R. Investments serves as an agent, obtaining liquor licenses and supplying bonds, for numerous taverns and cocktail lounges in the St. Louis area.

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Date May 21, 1968

JOHN LARRY RAY was interviewed in a Bureau automobile on Illinois Avenue, south of Arsenal Street.

JOHN LARRY RAY stated that as pointed out previously he was released from Menard Penitentiary in Illinois in February, 1960, and visited his brother, JAMES EARL RAY, who was incarcerated at that time at the City Jail, St. Louis. This incarceration was in connection with a holdup of the Kroger Store in October or November, 1966, by his brother and a man named OWENS.

After JAMES EARL RAY's trial about April, 1960, he was moved to the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri. From that time and until prior to his escape he visited his brother on occasion, exact number of occasions not recalled. He does recall that on at least one occasion on attempting to visit his brother, he determined that his brother was in some type of solitary confinement and could not have visitors. Therefore, although he had signed in to visit his brother, he actually did not see his brother. JOHN LARRY RAY pointed out that this may be the reason for the numerous visits shown to the Penitentiary by him, all of which he does not recall.

JOHN LARRY RAY stated that he has not seen nor heard of his brother or from his brother since his escape from the Penitentiary outside of what he has learned from newspaper articles and news commentaries.

He very emphatically denied having any knowledge, either direct or indirect, of his brother ever being in Omaha, Nebraska. He stated that his knowledge of his brother being in California is limited to what was reported in the newspaper.

When questioned regarding conversation between him and his brother on visits, JOHN LARRY RAY stated that he rarely visited his brother over a half hour because they had very little to say to one another. He indicated that his brother is "close mouthed" and the conversation consisted primarily of the welfare of JAMES EARL RAY.

On one or more occasions he does recall, however, that JAMES EARL RAY mentioned that as soon as he got out of the Penitentiary (not clarified as to whether he intended to escape or whether he meant after his sentence was served) he intended to leave the country.

On 5/9/68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL: 44-775

by SA PATRICK W. BRADLEY/mib Date dictated 5/15/68

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