

SI 44-561

(9) Contacts with informants and sources,  
Springfield Division

(10) Surveillances of subject's family and  
associates, Springfield Division

During the course of this investigation, appropriate dissemination has been made by the Springfield Division to all law enforcement agencies and mass media contacts within the Division.

Interviews with SI 1656-C

On March 25, 1968, a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306 443 A, made at Missouri Department of Corrections on March 17, 1960 was exhibited by SA ELYON H. DAVIS to SI 1656-C. Informant advised that the photograph was familiar to him and was someone that he thought he had known in St. Louis, Missouri, in either 1959 or 1960. Informant stated that he had never seen RAY to his knowledge in Quincy, Illinois. Informant advised that he is very close to WALTER TERRY RIFE and sees RIFE on a daily basis. He advised that RIFE had been living at the home of his brother, LONNIE RIFE at Baylis, Illinois, however, in February, 1967, WALTER TERRY RIFE had started running the restaurant in the Virginia Hotel, in Quincy, Illinois. Informant advised that he would contact WALTER RIFE and determine if RIFE knew anything concerning RAY's whereabouts. Informant advised that he did not feel that WALTER RIFE would cooperate with the Federal authorities inasmuch as it was RIFE's nature to not cooperate with police. Informant advised that WALTER RIFE had been working on a daily basis at the Virginia Hotel in Quincy, and informant knew that in the recent past, RAY has not been in contact with WALTER RIFE.

On April 7, 1968, SI 1656-C was recontacted by SA ELYON H. DAVIS concerning JAMES EARL RAY. Informant advised that he had contacted WALTER TERRY RIFE on several occasions since last contacted and that WALTER RIFE had no information as to the present whereabouts of JAMES EARL RAY. He advised

- D -

Cover Page

SI 44-561

that WALTER TERRY RIFE had told him he had not seen RAY since RIFE left Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary in 1957.

On April 19, 1968, SI 1656-C was contacted by SA ELYON H. DAVIS and SA THOMAS M. SCHOENHOFFER and was exhibited photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306 443 A, made at Missouri Department of Corrections on March 17, 1960, as well as a photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT. Informant advised that he has never to his knowledge seen this individual in the Quincy, Illinois area. He advised that he had been contacting WALTER TERRY RIFE almost on a daily basis and that this individual is definitely not with JAMES EARL RAY at the present time. The informant advised that he is certain that WALTER TERRY RIFE was working at his restaurant at the Virginia Hotel during the period from March 29, 1968 through April 4, 1968. Informant advised that he cannot remember exactly where he had ever seen RAY, however, he feels it was in bars located on Olive Street in St. Louis, Missouri, and to the best of his knowledge, it would have been sometime around 1959 or 1960. The informant advised that he is certain that RAY has not been in the Quincy area in the recent past or else the informant would know of it.

Informant advised that he personally is acquainted with all of the Country Music Night Clubs in the Quincy, Illinois general area and visits these places quite frequently and he is certain that RAY has not recently been to any of these night clubs.

Informant was instructed to work full time concerning the development of any information concerning the whereabouts, activities or background concerning RAY.

Interviews with SI 1661-R-Prob:

On May 1, 1968, SI 1661-R-Prob was exhibited the photograph of an unknown male allegedly resembling the subject in this matter taken at a Minutemen Meeting. Informant was unable to identify this individual as being anyone he has come in contact with within the Minutemen Organization.

- E -  
Cover Page

SI 44-561

Re Prior Threats to MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

On May 3, 1968, Mrs. EUGENE WALDON (protect), Route 3, West Frankfort, Illinois, mother of JOHN C. MEDIZER, advised her son is presently residing at 5506 E. R. L. Thornton (possibly Thornton) Freeway, Dallas, Texas.

During the course of this investigation, WILLIAM HICKLE, Service Representative, Illinois Bell Telephone Company, Quincy, Illinois, (whose identity should be protected,) has furnished information affording appropriate coverage of all of subject RAY's family and associates in the Springfield Division. All leads derived from this source have been checked and telephone subscribers eliminated as having no connection with this matter.

Records of the Illinois Bell Telephone Company, should they be needed in the future, can be obtained through the issuance of a Subpoena Duces Tecum directed to Mr. HICKLE.

It should be noted that the investigative period of this report precedes the date of KING's assassination; this fact due to Springfield Division's prior investigative interest in JAMES EARL RAY, SI file 88-5361, Bufile 88-41730, entitled "JAMES EARL RAY, Aka - Fugitive, UFAC - ROBBERY FIRST."

- F\* -  
Cover Page

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of: SA WILLIAM ROBERTS, III      Office: Springfield  
Date: May 24, 1968  
Field Office File #: SI 44-561      Bureau File #: 44-38861  
Title: JAMES EARL RAY  
IO 4182  
WF 442-A  
TOP TEN FUGITIVE  
DOCTOR MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -  
Character: VICTIM  
Synopsis: CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;  
UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID CONFINEMENT - ROBBERY

Springfield files reflect HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER located and interviewed and determined not identical with subject in this case. Birth and other pertinent records located for subject JAMES EARL RAY. Numerous files reviewed re family of JAMES EARL RAY and those within Springfield Division located and interviewed. Prison records checked re RAY. Contact being maintained with all relatives at this time. Information developed and furnished re actual and alleged past associates of RAY. Interviews with possible fellow inmates of RAYs at Illinois State Penitentiary, Pontiac, Illinois, negative. Information developed and set forth re BENNY K. PINKSTON and JOHN C. MEDIZER, who have made prior threats against MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. Investigation conducted to eliminate numerous possible suspects and lookalikes to JAMES EARL RAY. Wife of ROBERT HOOD STRADER located and interviewed. Investigation continuing to locate CECIL RAY. ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- P -

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|  | PAGE |
|--|------|
| I. HARVEY EDWARD <del>LOHMEYER</del> . . . . .                           | 5    |
| II. JAMES EARL <del>RAY</del> . . . . .                                  | 15   |
| III. FAMILY OF JAMES EARL RAY . . . . .                                  | 28   |
| A. SUMMARY . . . . .   | 29   |
| B. MELBA MARIE <del>RYAN</del> . . . . .                                 | 42   |
| C. SUSAN <del>DOMIAN</del> . . . . .                                     | 51   |
| D. FRANK <del>RYAN</del> . . . . .                                       | 55   |
| <div style="background-color: black; height: 1.2em; width: 100%;"></div> |      |
| F. JOHN AND JERRY <del>RAY</del> . . . . .                               | 60   |
| G. RUBY <del>CARPENTER</del> . . . . .                                   | 64   |
| H. EARL EVERETT <del>RAY</del> . . . . .                                 | 75   |
| I. WILLIAM AND MILDRED <del>MAHER</del> . . . . .                        | 79   |
| J. MRS. FRANK (MABLE) <del>FULLER</del> . . . . .                        | 82   |
| IV. ASSOCIATES OF JAMES EARL RAY . . . . .                               | 88   |
| A. WALTER TERRY <del>REE</del> . . . . .                                 | 89   |
| B. JOSEPH ELMER "BLACKIE" <del>AUSTIN</del> . . . . .                    | 106  |
| C. MILTON DEAN "BUCKY" <del>BATCHELDER</del> . . . . .                   | 113  |
| D. PAUL ALVIN <del>DAIL, JR.</del> . . . . .                             | 115  |

SI 44-561

|   | <u>PAGE</u> |
|---|-------------|
| E. HILLIARD ALLEN SANDERS . . . . .   | 117         |
| F. WILBUR CONNORS . . . . .   | 119         |
| G. KATHERINE DORIS BUSKIRK CONNORS . . . . .                                | 122         |
| H. JOSEPH ADAMS . . . . .   | 125         |
| I. JOHN EUGENE GAVRON . . . . .   | 127         |
| J. MELVINA "RUSTY" TYLER . . . . .  | 130         |
| K. JAMES LAOMA OWENS . . . . .  | 134         |
| L. ANDREW WILSON "BLACKIE" DE CORE . . . . .                                | 137         |
| V. INVESTIGATION AT ILLINOIS STATE PENITENTIARY<br>PONTIAC BRANCH . . . . . | 141         |
| A. RECORDS RE JAMES EARL RAY . . . . .                                      | 142         |
| B. INTERVIEWS WITH POSSIBLE INMATES OF<br>JAMES EARL RAY . . . . .          | 145         |
| VI. PRIOR THREATS AGAINST MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. . . . .                   | 152         |
| VII. "INTEROFFICE" LOOKALIKES AND POSSIBLE SUSPECTS . . . . .               | 154         |
| A. VINCENT DE PALMA . . . . .   | 155         |
| B. CARL RICE . . . . .  | 157         |
| C. WILLIAM RAY KING . . . . .   | 159         |
| D. UNKNOWN SUSPECT . . . . .  | 164         |
| E. ALLEN RICHARD THAYER . . . . .   | 166         |
| F. WILLIAM LONMEYER . . . . .   | 168         |

SI 44-561

|   | <u>PAGE</u> |
|---|-------------|
| G. J. J. <del>TRARES</del> . . . . .                      | 170         |
| H. UNKNOWN SUSPECT . . . . .                              | 172         |
| I. ROBERT L. <del>PLUNK</del> . . . . .                   | 174         |
| J. A. J. <del>CONSOLINO</del> . . . . .                   | 176         |
| K. UNKNOWN SUSPECT, AKA RICHARD <del>GALT</del> . . . . . | 178         |
| L. CLOYD <del>DRAKE</del> . . . . .                       | 182         |
| M. JOSEPH <del>CLAYTON</del> MONTAGNE . . . . .           | 184         |
| N. PAUL STANLEY <del>BOOTHBY</del> . . . . .              | 186         |
| O. UNKNOWN SUSPECT, AKA J. <del>CARNAHAN</del> . . . . .  | 189         |
| P. JAMES E. <del>BONKER</del> . . . . .                   | 191         |
| Q. WILLIAM A. <del>MARSHALL</del> . . . . .               | 193         |
| VIII. MISCELLANEOUS . . . . .                             | 195         |
| A. ROBERT HOOD <del>STRADER</del> . . . . .               | 196         |
| B. INVESTIGATION, ELDORADO, ILLINOIS . . . . .            | 203         |
| C. CECIL <del>RAY</del> . . . . .                         | 205         |

SI 44-561

I. HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER



SI 44-561

On April 8, 1968, a check of Springfield Division indices reflected a reference to HARVEY LOHMEYER, white male, age 23 in 1955; 5' 8" tall; FBI #730 979A; home address, Palmyra, Illinois.

On April 13, 1968, a recheck of the records of the Illinois State Prison Farm, Vandalia, Illinois, regarding the sentence served by HARVEY LOHMEYER, inmate number 33316, FBI # 730 979A, was verified as June 5, 1951 to October 20, 1951. LOHMEYER was sentenced from Adams County, Quincy, Illinois, on a charge of riot.

His previous identification and arrest record contains only an arrest on August 10, 1959, by Adams County Sheriff's Office on the charge of robbery and the disposition for the charge is shown as "pending". His inmate number 33316 and FBI number 730 979A do not show other sentences at this institution for this person under the name LOHMEYER or in the alias file.

Also, on April 13, 1968, the records of the penitentiary show HARVEY LOHMEYER, Illinois State Penitentiary Menard Number 24525, received at Menard, May 19, 1955, to serve 2 to 5 years on a charge of burglary. He was paroled July, 1958. A review of the file for associates and correspondents reflects no information that LOHMEYER associated for corresponded with ERIC GALT.

On April 13, 1968, THOMAS R. LOHMEYER, DONALD L. LOHMEYER, WALTER R. LOHMEYER, JR, all brothers of HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER, FBI #730 979 A were interviewed and all presently reside in Quincy, Illinois area. DONALD L. LOHMEYER is employed by Durst Dairy at Quincy, Illinois, and was working during period March 29, 1968 and April 4, 1968 and his attendance at work was verified. THOMAS R. LOHMEYER and WALTER R. LOHMEYER, JR. are both employed by Monogram Industries, Quincy, Illinois, and both were in Quincy, Illinois, from March 29, to April 4, 1968.

SI 44-561

On April 12, 1968, investigation was conducted in the Quincy, Illinois area in an effort to locate HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER, FBI #730 979A.

Investigation showed that HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER has not been in the Quincy area for many years and that his last known place of residence was somewhere in the State of California.

On April 13, 1968, the records of the Quincy, Illinois Police Department, were reviewed and showed the following records for brothers of HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER:

WALTER R. LOHMEYER, JR.

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Race           | White   |
| Sex            | Male  |
| Date of Birth  |   |
| Place of Birth | Quincy, Illinois  |
| Height         | 5' 10½"   |
| Weight         | 180 lbs.  |
| Hair           | Brown   |
| Eyes           | Brown   |
| Complexion     | Ruddy   |
| Build          | Medium  |
| Tattoo         | Two swords on left forearm  |
| Occupation     | Laborer,<br>Monogram Industries<br>825 South Front Street<br>Quincy, Illinois |

SI 44-561

The file showed the following arrests for WALTER LOHMEYER, JR.:

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>CHARGE</u>     | <u>DISPOSITION</u>                              |
|-------------|-------------------|---|
| 6-16-40     | Selling liquor    | \$25 fine                                       |
| 10-2-43     | Speeding          | \$10 fine                                       |
| 3-15-51     | Peace disturbance | \$25 fine                                       |
| 7-19-52     | Careless driving  | \$15 fine                                       |
| 7-16-54     | Reckless driving  | Sentenced 90 days<br>Vandalia State Prison Farm |
| 3-16-55     | Peace disturbance | \$25 fine                                       |
| 8-23-59     | Careless driving  | \$15 fine                                       |

The Quincy Police Department files showed the following physical description of DONALD LOHMEYER:

|                |          |
|----------------|----------|
| RACE:          | White    |
| SEX:           | Male     |
| DATE OF BIRTH: |          |
| HEIGHT:        | 5'7"     |
| WEIGHT:        | 153 lbs. |
| HAIR:          | Brown    |
| EYES:          | Brown    |

The file showed the following arrests for DONALD LOHMEYER:

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>CHARGE</u>    | <u>DISPOSITION</u> |
|-------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 4-26-47     | Investigation    | Released           |
| 1-29-51     | Careless driving | \$25 fine          |
| 4-29-52     | Speeding         | \$20 fine          |
| 10-27-56    | Speeding         | \$5                |

SI 44-561

The files showed the physical description of THOMAS R. LOHMEYER as follows:

|               |                                    |
|---------------|------------------------------------|
| RACE:         | White                              |
| SEX:          | Male                               |
| AGE:          | not shown                          |
| HEIGHT:       | 5'7"                               |
| WEIGHT:       | 150 lbs.                           |
| HAIR:         | Brown                              |
| EYES:         | Brown                              |
| COMPLEXION:   | Ruddy                              |
| HOME ADDRESS: | 1501 North 4th St.<br>Quincy, Ill. |

The files showed the following arrest record for THOMAS R. LOHMEYER:

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>CHARGE</u>     | <u>DISPOSITION</u> |
|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 6-28-45     | B & E             | Released           |
| 3-15-51     | Peace disturbance | \$25 fine          |
| 5-25-52     | Peace disturbance | \$10 fine          |
| 3-15-55     | Peace disturbance | \$15 fine          |

On 4-13-68 ELIZABETH ROTH, Credit Bureau of Quincy, Inc., Quincy, Ill., furnished the following information concerning the LOHMEYERS in the files of her office:

WALTER RAY LOHMEYER, JR., in 1/68 was residing at 1877 Hampshire Street, Quincy, Illinois. He presently owns his home at that address and is very slow in payment on credit bills. He has been employed by Monogram Industries, Quincy, Ill., for approximately 20 years. No information of any connections of WALTER R. LOHMEYER, JR., outside Quincy, Illinois.

The file showed that THOMAS R. LOHMEYER's last known address was 1527 South Fifth Street, Quincy, as of 6/65. He later made inquiries concerning purchasing a home in Payson, Illinois. As of 4/66 a credit check showed he had been employed by Monogram Industries in Quincy for 11 years. Nothing was contained in the file that would indicate that LOHMEYER had ever lived anywhere except the Quincy area.

SI 44-561

The credit bureau files showed that DONALD L. LOHMEYER was last known to reside at 1501 North Fourth Street, Quincy, Ill., as of 8/66. On 11/66 the records show he was employed as a laborer at Durst Dairy, Quincy, and his wife at Illinois Bell Telephone Co., Quincy, Ill. The file did not show any residence for DONALD LOHMEYER outside the Quincy, Ill., area.

On 4-13-68, CHARLES GABRIEL, Office Manager, Durst Dairy, Quincy, Ill., advised that DONALD L. LOHMEYER is employed by that company as a laborer and that he was working on 3-29-68 and 3-30-68 and 4/1-4/68. He advised that LOHMEYER did not work on 3-31-68 as that was his day off. He also advised that LOHMEYER has been a good employee for many years and was a very quiet individual and had not been involved in any violence during the period of time he was employed by Durst Dairy.

On 4-13-68, DONALD L. LOHMEYER was interviewed at his place of employment, Durst Dairy, Quincy, Ill. He advised he has not been out of the State of Illinois, for a number of months and that he was working on 3-29 and 3-30-68 as well as 4/1-4/68. He advised he has not seen his brother, HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER for many years and only knew that HARVEY was living somewhere in California. He stated during the period from 3-29-68 until 4-4-68 he had seen his brothers, WALTER R. LOHMEYER and THOMAS R. LOHMEYER almost on a daily basis and knew for certain that neither one had been outside the Quincy, Ill., area. He advised that the name ERIC STARVO GALT was completely unfamiliar to him and he has never known anyone by that name to be associated with any member of the LOHMEYER family. He also advised he has never known any member of his family other than HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER, to use the name HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER.

On 4-13-68 Mrs. WALTER R. LOHMEYER, JR., 1877 Hampshire Street, Quincy, Ill., was interviewed and furnished the following information:

Her husband has not been out of the State of Illinois since 3/29/68 and he has been employed regularly at Monogram Industries with the exception of the dates 3-29 and 30-68 and 4-1 and 4-2-68 during which dates the union was on strike at Monogram. She advised that on these dates her husband was on the picket line and did not leave Quincy. She stated also that THOMAS R. LOHMEYER is employed by Monogram Industries and was at work on 4-3 and 4-4-68 and was on the picket lines at Monogram Industries on 3/29-30/68 and 4/1-2/68.

SI 44-561

On 4-13-68 WALTER R. LOHMEYER, JR., 1877 Hampshire St., was interviewed and advised he has not been out of the Quincy, Ill., area since 8-15-67. He advised he has been to work every day during work days with the exception of 3/29-30/68 and 4/1-2/68 on which dates he was on the picket line at Monogram Industries his place of employment in Quincy, Ill. He stated that on each date from 3-29-68 until 4-4-68, he saw his brother, THOMAS R. LOHMEYER, who is also employed by Monogram Industries and was at work on each date with the exception of the dates the union was on strike.

On 4-13-68 BILL LONG, Personnel Manager, Monogram Industries, 825 South Front St., Quincy, verified that WALTER R. LOHMEYER, JR., and THOMAS LOHMEYER were employed on every date during the last two months, with the exception the days the union was on strike.

He advised on 3/29-30/68 and 4/1-2/68 both the LOHMEYERS had been observed on the picket lines at Monogram Industries.

SI 44-561

On April 20, 1968, the following investigation was conducted by SA ELYON H. DAVIS and SA JAMES T. GOSS at Quincy, Illinois:

Five photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306443A were exhibited to WALTER R. LOHMEYER, 1877 Hampshire Street, Quincy, Illinois. LOHMEYER advised that he has never to his knowledge seen this individual before and he did not remember ever hearing any member of the LOHMEYER family mention JAMES EARL RAY. He advised that he specifically had never heard his brother HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER mention JAMES EARL RAY.

On April 20, 1968, photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306 443 A were exhibited to Mrs. RITA F. LOHMEYER, 1877 Hampshire Street, Quincy. She advised that she had never seen this individual to her knowledge in her life and had never heard any member of the LOHMEYER family mention him.

On April 20, 1968, photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306 443A were exhibited to THOMAS LOHMEYER, Payson, Illinois. He advised that the photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, were not familiar to him and that he could not state that he had ever seen this individual in his life. He also advised that he had never heard his brother, HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER, mention this individual.

On April 20, 1968, the photographs of RAY were also exhibited to Mrs. THOMAS LOHMEYER, Payson, Illinois, who advised that she did not know RAY and had never heard any member of the LOHMEYER family mention RAY.

On April 20, 1968, DONALD LOHMEYER, 1507 North Fourth Street, Quincy, Illinois, advised while being interviewed by SA DAVIS and viewing photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, that he did not recognize the photograph of RAY as anyone that he had ever known. He stated that these photographs were vaguely familiar to him and that if he had ever seen RAY, it was only to see RAY and not that of an acquaintance. He advised that he had never heard his brother HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER ever mention JAMES EARL RAY.

SI 44-561

The photographs of RAY were also exhibited by SA DAVIS to Mrs. LUCY LOHMEYER, 1507 North Fourth Street, Quincy, Illinois and she advised that JAMES EARL RAY is not known to her and that the photographs of RAY are not familiar to her.



SI 44-561

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The following investigation was conducted by SA  
ELYON H. DAVIS:

On April 21, 1968, EARL JACK HILAND, Operator, Sky Ride Inn Tavern, 236 Front Street, Quincy, Illinois, advised that HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER was at one time a brother-in-law of HILAND and that HILAND was in jail at the Adams County Jail, Quincy, Illinois, with LOHMEYER and ROBERT KELLY in 1951 after they were involved in a brawl at the Barn Night Club, Quincy, Illinois. HILAND viewed a number of photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and advised that the photographs are vaguely familiar to him as someone he has seen in the past. He stated that he definitely is not an associate of RAY and has never been a close associate of RAY and stated he could not furnish any information concerning RAY, RAY's associates, activities, or whereabouts.

On April 21, 1968, ROBERT KELLY, 1210 Hampshire Street, Quincy, Illinois, advised he was arrested at the Barn Night Club in Quincy, Illinois, with JACK HILAND, HARVEY LOHMEYER and JOHN O'DEAR.

KELLY advised that he is not acquainted with JAMES EARL RAY and did not know anything concerning RAY's family, whereabouts, or activities.

On April 21, 1968, JOHN O'DEAR, Route 6, Quincy, Illinois, advised he had been arrested for causing a riot at the Barn Night Club in Quincy in the early 1950's and that he was arrested with HARVEY LOHMEYER, JACK HILAND and BOB KELLY. He stated that JAMES EARL RAY is not an associate of his. He also advised that he is not acquainted with RAY's relatives and could furnish no information concerning RAY.

SI 44-561

II. JAMES EARL RAY

- 15 -

SI 44-561

The following investigation was conducted  
by SA ROBERT C. HAINES:

On April 19, 1968, Sergeant HAROLD COX, Alton Illinois Police Department, made available Alton Police Department file 7514 on James Earl Ray:

This file disclosed RAY was arrested by the Alton Police Department as early as 1949 and as recently as 1959 for charges ranging from traffic violations through vagrancy, burglary and armed robbery. A photograph of RAY taken in 1955 was made available and will be submitted to the case file.

Conference with officers at the Alton Police Department, disclosed that the last known residence for RAY's parents JAMES and LUCIE RAY was 1439 Locust Street, Quincy, Illinois. Contact with relatives on RAY's mother's side of the family with family name, MAHER, disclosed that LUCILLE MAHER RAY divorced RAY's father and is currently residing in East St. Louis, Illinois area but her exact whereabouts are unknown. Likewise, her new married name is unknown to relatives in Alton.

Mrs. MARGARET KESHNER, Circuit Clerk, Alton, Illinois, made available a photo copy of a Certificate of Birth. #123 which disclosed JAMES EARL RAY was born [redacted] to JAMES RAY and LUCIE MAHER.

All Alton Police Department Units have been furnished a photograph of RAY and have been alerted to be on the lookout for him.

RAY is not known to have been in the Alton, Illinois area since 1959 when he perpetrated an armed robbery at Wagoner's Foodliner, an independent grocery store located on the corner of 9th and Alby Streets in Alton, Illinois.

SI 44-561

Previous investigation concerning RAY was conducted in January, 1968, under the Unlawful Flight to Avoid Confinement classification and efforts at that time to locate WILLIAM MAHER at 1118 East 7th Street, disclosed that MAHER no longer resides in Alton, Illinois and all public source records failed to disclose any information concerning his current whereabouts.

The Kansas City Division indicated that RAY was employed by the International Shoe Company at Hartford, Illinois, prior to incarceration at the Missouri State Penitentiary. It is to be noted that the tannery operated by the International Shoe Company at Hartford is no longer in business having shut down operations approximately 2 years ago.

On April 20, 1968, a certificate of birth was located showing JAMES EARL RAY was born [redacted] at Alton, Illinois to JAMES RAY and LUCIE MAHER.

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA ROBERT BLUM RASCOE:

On April 19, 1968, a review of the files furnished by U.S. Probation and Parole Office, Springfield, Illinois, was made by SA ROBERT BLUM RASCOE: The following information was obtained for lead value:

Correspondence while JAMES EARL RAY was incarcerated in the Missouri State Penitentiary:

---

Aunt, Miss LUCY RYAN, 701 $\frac{1}{2}$  Washington Street, address also given as 801 North 12th Street, Quincy, Illinois;

One time co-defendant was WALTER TERRY RIFE, who is incarcerated in Leavenworth, Kansas. RIFE now lives in Quincy, Illinois.

Employment:

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SI 44-561

Dryden Rubber Company from July, 1949 to September, 1949, Chicago, Illinois;

International Shoe Company, May, 1944, to December, 1945, Hartford, Illinois;

Neo Product Company, April, 1950 to July, 1950, Chicago, Illinois;

Arbey Corporation, July, 1950, to July, 1951, Chicago, Illinois;

Borg - Erickson Corporation, August, 1951, to May, 1952, Chicago, Illinois;

Relatives:

---

Uncle who resides in Quincy, Illinois, no name given

Other names and addresses

---

WILLIAM MAHER, 1118 East 7th Street, Alton, Illinois.

SI 44-561

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The following investigation was conducted by  
SA JOSEPH L. MC KINSTRAY.

On April 23, 1966, EDNA BAER, coordinator, Selective Service System, St. Clair County, advised she had no record of JAMES EARL RAY under that name or any known aliases. She stated that the serial number given 16163129 indicates to her that the first "1" means the man was an enlistee and the second digit "6" indicates he enlisted in the Sixth Corp or Army area. She stated that she recalled that in 1946 inductees from this area were sent to Chicago, Illinois for induction and there was no induction center at East St. Louis, Illinois.

Mrs. ADA S. DANIELS, Selective Service System, Madison County, Illinois, advised she could locate no record identifiable with JAMES EARL RAY under that name or known aliases or through the above military service number or the birthdate

At East St. Louis, Illinois

Sergeant TOMMY CARROLL, Army Recruiter, 650 Missouri Avenue, advised that his office does not maintain old records concerning enlistments. He suggested that if the military service number of an individual is known, his record could be located at the Department of Defense, Military Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri.

On 4/22/68, ROY WEHRMAN, Personnel Manager, Quincy Compressor, Inc., Quincy, Illinois, advised that the records of his office show that JAMES EARL RAY, Social Security [REDACTED], was employed by Quincy Compressor on 8/6/51 and that he quit work on 9/4/51. He was employed as a drill press operator on the night shift and his application was filled out by the foreman PETER DUNKER.

The records show that JAMES EARL RAY's home address was 1439 Cherry Street, Quincy, Illinois. His education was listed as four years of grade school at Quincy, Illinois and four years of high school at Chicago, Illinois. Identities of the schools not shown.

The file showed previous employment with the Arvey Corporation or Avery Corporation, Chicago, Illinois, as a laborer for one year. Hourly wage \$1.40, dates of employment not shown.

The previous employment to that was apparently with Neo Produce Company, Chicago, Illinois. Period of employment was four months, position, labor.

The file showed the following description of JAMES EARL RAY:

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| Race                | White      |
| Height              | 5'11"      |
| Weight              | 150 pounds |
| Date of application | 8/6/51     |

On 4/23/68, PETER DUNKER, Superintendent, Drill Press Room, after viewing the application of JAMES EARL RAY and the photographs of RAY advised that he cannot

SI 44-561

remember or recall JAMES EARL RAY. He pointed out that RAY only worked in his department for three weeks and that many thousands of people had worked in the Drill Press Section of Quincy Compressor. He stated that the record showed that RAY FELKER would have been the immediate foreman of RAY.

On 4/23/68, RAY FELKER, supervisor, Quincy Compressor, Inc., advised that after viewing several photographs of JAMES EARL RAY that he does not remember JAMES EARL RAY and does not recall the name. He advised that there is no one presently employed in the drill press operation that was working on the night shift in 1961. He advised that he cannot furnish any further information concerning RAY.



On 4/23/68, ELSIE RUDER, clerk, Local Board #1, Quincy, Illinois, advised that the files of her office show that JAMES EARL RAY, 214 Spring Street, Quincy, Illinois; registered with the local board #1 on 4/13/49. His home address was shown as 214 Spring Street, Quincy, Illinois and his date of birth, [redacted] at Alton, Illinois. His closest relative was shown as LUCILLE RAY, his mother, at 214 Spring Street. His occupation was listed as student, American Television School, St. Louis, Missouri.

The file showed previous military service with the United States Army from 2/19/46 until 12/23/48 and this was with the First Division, 16th Infantry Regiment. The file showed RAY to be holder of Serial Number 16163129.

The file showed his description as:

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| Eyes       | Blue       |
| Hair       | Black      |
| Complexion | Ruddy      |
| Height     | 5'11"      |
| Weight     | 157 pounds |

Mrs. RUDER advised that this was all of the information located at Local Board #1. The complete file would be located at the Illinois State Headquarters of the Selective Service System, Springfield, Illinois.

SI 44-561

On April 18, 1968, the following individuals were recontacted by SA ELYON H. DAVIS and advised that they had no information concerning JAMES EARL RAY:

VIOLA MAYFIELD,  
2716 Cherry Street,  
Quincy, Illinois;

FLOYD RIFE,  
226 Lind Street,  
Quincy, Illinois;

Sergeant ROLAND HANSON,  
Quincy, Illinois Police Department,  
Quincy, Illinois.

SI 44-561

EHD:ras

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA  
ELYON H. DAVIS:

On April 23, 1968, JUDSON GREEN, Business Manager, Quincy Clinic, Quincy, Illinois, advised that the records of his office shows that JAMES RAY first visited the Quincy Clinic on August 15, 1938. The records showed he was in the third grade at that time and also the family consisted of two other living children and one that had died of burns. JAMES RAY was listed as the oldest member of the family and his home address at that time was in care of Mrs. JAMES RAY, 315 Cherry Street.

On this first visit, he was attended to by Dr. WHITAKER and at that time suffered from loss of consciousness, sudden onset, both legs withdrawn. He was unconscious for thirty minutes and jerked and twitched with no biting of tongue. He did not soil his clothes and later had no memory of this attack. He had a history of frequent outcries at night. The records showed Dr. WHITAKER had diagnosed this as possible epilepsy, spontaneous in origin and not traumatic. No other symptoms at that time. He was also a persistent bed wetter and seemed to have no control at night.

Later, he was treated on July 3, 1940, by Dr. GUY TURNER for a small blister right thumb and forefinger caused by a firecracker explosion. On the second day, this wound was cleaned. No other information available concerning any medical treatment. The file contained the following addresses, dates of the addresses not shown; however, the first entry made was on March 4, 1936 and the last on October 29, 1940. The addresses were shown all in Quincy, Illinois, as follows:

412 North Fifth Street

Rural Route 3, 18th Street

212 Spring Street

1258 Hampshire Street.

SI 44-561

EHD:ras

2

928 Lind Street

1616 North Second Street

121 South Ninth Street

1517 North Fourth Street

701 $\frac{1}{2}$  North Fifth Street

128 $\frac{1}{2}$  North Fifth Street

1439 Cherry Street

214 Spring Street

315 Cherry Street

413 Vermont Street

SI 44-561  
EHD/eab/sjs

1

The following investigation was conducted at Quincy, Illinois, by SA ELYON H. DAVIS:

On March 25, 1968, ROSIE RIFE, 400 College Avenue, Quincy, advised that she is the mother of WALTER TERRY RIFE. A photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306 443 A, was exhibited to her, however, she advised that she did not know RAY. She advised that she has not seen this individual with her son, WALTER TERRY RIFE, and knew nothing concerning RAY's whereabouts.

On March 25, 1968, VIOLA MAYFIELD, 2716 Cherry Street, advised that she is the sister of WALTER TERRY RIFE and operates VI's Style Salon at that address. She advised that her brother, WALTER RIFE, had been living with another brother, LONNIE RIFE, at Baylis, Illinois. She advised that the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY was unfamiliar to her and that she had, to her knowledge, never seen this individual in her life. She could furnish no information concerning JAMES EARL RAY.

On March 25, 1968, FLOYD RIFE, 226 Lind Street, Quincy, Illinois, advised that he is the brother of WALTER TERRY RIFE. He viewed a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and stated that he had never seen JAMES EARL RAY to his knowledge. He advised that WALTER RIFE has been operating for several weeks the restaurant located in the Virginia Hotel in Quincy, Illinois and he, FLOYD, is in that restaurant almost on a daily basis and he had not seen or heard anything concerning JAMES EARL RAY.

On March 25, 1968, Captain HAROLD HUNSAKER, Quincy, Illinois Police Department advised that his department has received no information in the recent past concerning JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306 443 A. He advised that the last record in his file concerning RAY was when RAY was arrested in Hannibal, Missouri, in 1955 with WALTER TERRY RIFE.

On March 25, 1968, DONALD G. OITKER, 321 South 7th Street, Quincy, advised that he has lived at that address for a number of years and that the name KATHERINE DORIS BUSKIRK is unfamiliar to him. He advised that the name JAMES EARL RAY is unfamiliar with him and after viewing a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306 443 A, advised that he does not know this individual.

SI 44-561  
EHD:eab:sjs

2

On April 11, 1968, Sergeant ROLAND HANSON, Quincy, Illinois Police Department, was contacted by SA ELYON H. DAVIS at which time Sergeant HANSON advised that he had no information concerning JAMES EARL RAY and that the Quincy Police Department has received no information concerning the present whereabouts of RAY.

SI 44-561

III. FAMILY OF JAMES EARL RAY

SI 44-561

A. SUMMARY



On 4-20-68, GEORGE PARSONS, 2826 College Street, Quincy, Illinois, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

PARSONS advised that he is a supervisor for the Illinois Youth Commission and has had numerous contacts with the family of LUCILE RYAN. He stated that this family is also known by the name RAY. PARSONS advised that around 1955 and 1966 he had kept a member of this family, MELBA MARIE RYAN, in his home and that he had always been close to MELBA MARIE RYAN. He stated that this individual has mental problems and that nothing says can be relied upon.

PARSONS advised that he does not have any exact dates concerning anything in the family but that he knows the family is supposed to have moved to Quincy, Illinois, sometime during the 1940s and that the entire family lived at 214 String Street, Quincy, Illinois, during the 1940s until approximately 1955. He stated that this area at that time was an area infested with houses of prostitution and a very rough neighborhood and a very poor neighborhood. PARSONS stated that the entire family had been very close to each other and that he felt that members of the family would certainly harbor JAMES EARL RAY. He stated this would be particularly true of JERRY RYAN and JACK or JOHN RYAN. He felt that these two would harbor JAMES EARL RAY if they thought it would be to JAMES EARL RAY's advantage.

He furnished the following names for members of the family:

|        |                           |
|--------|---------------------------|
| Father | JAMES, JIM or JERRY RAY   |
| Mother | LUCILE RAY or LUCILE RYAN |
| Son    | JAMES EARL RAY            |
| Son    | JERRY RAY                 |
| Son    | JACK RAY                  |
| Son    | FRANKLIN DELEANOR RAY     |

SI 44-561

|          |                 |
|----------|-----------------|
| Daughter | MELBA MARIE RAY |
| Daughter | CAROL RAY       |
| Daughter | SUSAN RAY       |

He advised that this was all of the members of the family with whom he was acquainted and he felt this included the entire family.

He stated that when the family moved from Quincy, Illinois, in approximately 1965, the mother, LUCILE RYAN, moved to Alton, Illinois; however, during this period of time in approximately 1952, the father had run off with some woman and had gone to St. Louis, Missouri, to live.

After the father left, the entire family became practically wards of the court in charity cases and that Catholic charities had furnished most of the subsistence and supervision of the children.

He advised that several of the younger children of the family, including FRANKLIN DELEANOR RAY, CAROL RAY, SUSAN RAY and MELBA MARIE RAY, had been placed in a Catholic orphanage in Alton, Illinois.

He advised that during the period of time that he kept MELBA MARIE RAY in his home that she seemed to think a lot of JACK RAY and JERRY RAY; however, she never spoke favorably of JAMES EARL RAY or JIMMY RAY and often stated that she had no feeling for JIMMY as he was bad. He stated that he did not know the reason for this feeling; however, that JAMES EARL RAY had never to his knowledge contacted MELBA MARIE for any reason.

PARSONS advised that when JACK RAY had served a period of time in prison, he had gone to Mt. Prospect, Illinois, in the Chicago area, to work at a golf course and he had also obtained JERRY RAY a job at that golf course. PARSONS advised that this was several years before and he was not sure if this would be in the late 1950s or the early 1960s.

SI 44-561

PARSONS advised that LUCILE RYAN had worked as a prostitute in Quincy, Illinois, and had also pimped for her daughter CAROL when CAROL was 14 years old and that CAROL had also worked bars and at other places as a prostitute.

PARSONS advised that he had never heard of JAMES EARL RAY working any where and from his knowledge of JAMES EARL RAY and that family, he did not know of any racial hatred or dislike of Negroes by the family. He stated, however, that he did hear JERRY RAY mention one time after being in St. Charles Reformatory, St. Charles, Illinois, in approximately 1952 or 1953 that he had had considerable trouble with Negroes at St. Charles. He stated that he had found this to be so with most white prisoners who had been in a penitentiary with Negroes and that sometimes there seems to develop some type of racial difficulty at prisons.

PARSONS advised that at the present time, MELBA MARIE RYAN is living on a disability pension. He stated that she had been arrested in Quincy on several occasions for breaking out window lights with a cross and claimed that God had told her to do this. He advised that MELBA MARIE will make a cross out of a large two by four and smash window lights on occasions. He stated he did not know of any violence on any other member of the family.

PARSONS advised that he had not had any recent contact during the last four years with any member of the family other than MELBA MARIE RYAN but he knew that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and that SUSAN RYAN was either adopted by some family in Quincy or else was placed in a foster home. He stated that the case worker for Catholic charities in Quincy, Illinois, should be able to furnish background information concerning the family.

SI 44-561

On April 22, 1968, Circuit Judge RICHARD SCHOLZ, Quincy, Illinois, made available the dependency files concerning the LUCILE RYAN family in Quincy, Illinois.

The file contained the following information:

On March 9, 1955, five members of the family became wards of Adams County Circuit Court, Quincy, Illinois. The file showed the following to be the complete list of the members of the family:

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| Father   | GERALD RYAN   |
| Mother   | LUCILE MAHER RYAN   |
| Son      | JAMES, age 26, whereabouts not known                        |
| Daughter | MARJORIE, died at age 2                                     |
| Son      | JOHN, age 24, Pontiac Prison                                |
| Son      | JERRY, age 20, Parolee from Pontiac                         |
| Daughter | MELBA, age 16   |
| Daughter | CAROL, age 14, living with mother                           |
| Son      | FRANKLIN, age 12, Catholic Children's Home, Alton, Illinois |
| Daughter | SUZAN, age 8, Catholic Children's Home, Alton, Illinois     |

On that date, MELBA, CAROL, FRANKLIN, SUZAN became wards of the Adams County Court.

The file showed that MELBA MARIE RYAN was born at Macomb, Illinois, and was taken from GEORGE PARSONS, Supervisor, Illinois Youth Commission, who had been caring for MELBA on June 28, 1955 and was given to a Mrs. TURNER FOLEY, 332 North 24th Street, Quincy, Illinois.

SI 44-561

[REDACTED]

On 8/9/55 MELBA MARIE RYAN was committed to the Jacksonville State Hospital, Jacksonville, Illinois, and custody of RYAN taken from GEORGE PARSONS and given to the Illinois Youth Commission. Judge SCHOLZ advised that apparently at that time MELBA MARIE RYAN had attempted to set fire to the PARSONS' home. He stated that this had been kept quiet by PARSONS and was not known generally.

[REDACTED]

The file showed that on [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On 8/6/57 MELBA MARIE RYAN was granted a discharge from the Jacksonville State Hospital.

On 10/24/57 custody of FRANKLIN RYAN and SUSAN RYAN was given to the Catholic Charities of Springfield, Illinois.

SI 44-561

[REDACTED]

On 8/21/58 a court order gave custody of MELBA MARIE RYAN, CAROL RYAN, FRANKLIN D. RYAN and SUZAN RYAN [REDACTED] to the Catholic Charities, Springfield, Illinois.

A notation was contained in the file that on 7/57 LUCILE RYAN moved to St. Louis, Missouri, and was residing at 1135 South Tenth Street, Apartment 8, St. Louis, Missouri.

At that time the father of the RYAN children, GERALD RYAN or GERALD RAY, was residing at 4149 West Pine Street, St. Louis, Missouri.

The file contained information that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On 6/30/60 a letter was addressed to the Court from Mrs. JENNY RAYNES from St. Louis, Missouri.

Judge SCHOLZ advised that apparently this would be a woman living with the father of the RYAN children.

On 128/60 JERRY RAYNES was shown residing at 1727 South Eleventh Street, St. Louis, Missouri; his DOB was shown as [REDACTED] and employed by J & R Auto Sales, St. Louis, Missouri. At that time he was living with daughter, CAROL RYAN, DOB [REDACTED] who was employed by the Kresge Company in the St. Louis area.

At this time JERRY RAYNES gave JACK RANDOLPH, 5901 South Broadway, St. Louis, Missouri, as a reference. The file showed that JACK RANDOLPH was the owner of J & R Auto Sales and that RAYNES was employed as a car salesman on a used car lot for RANDOLPH.

The file showed that custody of FRANKLIN D. RYAN was given to his father JERRY RAYNES, 1727 South Eleventh Street, St. Louis, Missouri, on 3/30/60.

Judge SCHOLZ advised that FRANKLIN D. RYAN had died in approximately 1962 or 1963 when an automobile in which he was riding drove into the Mississippi River in West Quincy, Missouri. He advised that any records concerning the death of FRANKLIN D. RYAN would be in Missouri.

SI 44-561

Judge SCHOLZ advised that FRANKLIN D. RYAN was also known as BUZZY RYAN and that possibly some people would not know the true name of FRANKLIN D. RYAN.

The file showed that FRANKLIN D. RYAN was first declared a dependent on 9/8/52 and at that time was residing at 214 1/2 Spring Street.

Included in the FRANKLIN D. RYAN section of the dependency records was a letter dated 3/29/59 from LUCILE RYAN, his mother, who at that time was residing at 1913 Hickory Street, St. Louis, Missouri. In the letter she stated that "JIMMY is going to Chicago". The letter indicated that at that time JIMMY was residing with LUCILE RYAN at 1913 Hickory Street, St. Louis, Missouri.

The file contained information showing that before 9/24/59 Mrs. LUCILE BERNES, aka LUCILE RAY and LUCILE RYAN resided 1209 East Fourth Street, Alton, Illinois, and that she had moved from that address to 1913 Hickory Street, St. Louis.

A notation was contained in the file that one 8/20/59 LUCILE RYAN's son, JAMES EARL RAY, and an accomplice JOSEPH ELMER AUSTIN were arrested for an armed robbery of a supermarket in Alton, Illinois, and that this matter was pending in Circuit Court, Madison County, Illinois.

The file contained a section concerning JERRY W. RYAN, DOB [REDACTED]. He was declared a delinquent on 3/10/50 for unlawfully growing up in idleness and crime and was to be sent to St. Charles Boys' Reformatory, St. Charles, Illinois.

At that time his father was GERALD RYAN, 214 Spring Street, Quincy, Illinois, and mother, LUCILE RYAN, at same address.

Psychological tests given JERRY W. RYAN at that time showed he functioned between a low, average and dull in intelligence.

The file showed that SUZAN RYAN, aka SUSANNE RYAN, DOB [REDACTED] had been a ward of the court from 9/8/52 until 4/15/65 when she was discharged from the supervision of the court.

SI 44-561

HAZEL HAMILTON, Case Worker, Catholic Charities, Quincy, Illinois, had been SUZAN RYAN's supervisor since 3/54.

The file showed SUZAN RYAN resided at Catholic Children's Home, Alton, Illinois, from 3/8/54 until 1961.

The file showed that the RYAN children had an uncle, WILLIAM E. MAHER, who resided 1118 East Seventh Street, Alton, Illinois.

Also, the file included that an aunt, Mrs. SADIE FITZSIMMONS, address unknown, visited SUZAN RYAN while under supervision.

On 9/2/59 SUZAN RYAN had apparently run away from the supervision of the Catholic Children's Home and was located in Alton, Illinois, with a Mrs. MARY MAHER.

On 8/31/59 SUZAN RYAN was located with her mother, 1209 East Fourth Street, Alton, Illinois, where the mother lived under the name of BERNES. Apparently at one time the mother had resided at a home in St. Louis that was condemned at which time she had moved to Alton, date of the move or other information not shown.

The file contained information that JAMES RYAN resided at 1913 Hickory Street, St. Louis, Missouri, or 1727 South Eleventh Street, St. Louis, Missouri, where he lived with CAROL RYAN. The file did not indicate whether this was the father or son, JAMES RYAN.

The file contained a letter dated 3/30/60 that JACK was going to Chicago and that he had been held "for those licenses".

The file showed that MELBA RYAN, CAROL RYAN, and FRANKLIN RYAN were born in St. Louis County, Missouri, and SUZAN [REDACTED], Quincy, Illinois.



SI 44-561

On 4/22/68 HAZEL HAMILTON, Case Worker, Catholic Charities, 510 Jersey Street, Quincy, Illinois, was interviewed and furnished the following information.

She advised that sometime around 1948 the RYAN family or the RAY family of which EARL RAY, FBI #306443A, is a member, moved to Quincy, Illinois.

HAZEL HAMILTON advised that the RAY family moved to Quincy, Illinois, from Des Moines, Iowa, and that the family had moved to Des Moines from Ewing, Missouri. She advised that the family apparently changed names whenever it suited them and she knew that the family had used names including RAY, RYAN, BERNES, RAYNS, and RAYNES.

She advised that the mother and father of JAMES EARL RAY and the other children were absolutely no good and that when this family first moved to Quincy, Illinois, some member of the family was working at the Hotel Lincoln Douglas.

She advised that five of the children, MELBA MARIE RYAN, CAROL RYAN, FRANKLIN RYAN, SUZIE RYAN [REDACTED] had at times been under the supervision of Catholic Charities and had been wards of the Adams County Court.

She advised that she had had very little contact with the three older brothers, JAMES EARL RAY, JERRY RAY or JERRY RYAN, and JOHN RAY or JACK RYAN. She stated that the youngest daughter, SUZAN RYAN, graduated from Notre Dame High School, Quincy, Illinois, in approximately 1965, after which she moved to Chicago, Illinois, and the last known address she had for SUZIE was Apartment 809, 117 North Dearborn. Chicago, where she lived with a JANET VAIR.

SI 44-561

In 1963 she had information that the father, living under the name of JERRY RAYNE, was residing at RFD, Clarence, Missouri.

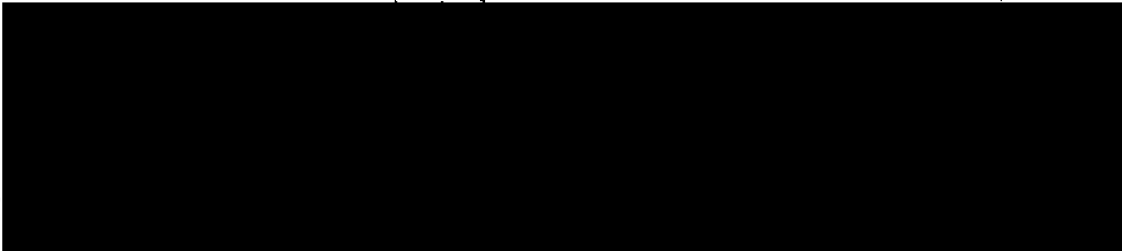
In 1963 FRANKLIN D. RYAN had died in West Quincy, Missouri, and was later buried.

She advised that she does not know what exact year the family moved to Quincy, but thought it was around 1948 and stated that definitely JAMES EARL RAY was the oldest child in this family. She listed the children as follows in order of age:

|          |                 |
|----------|-----------------|
| Son      | JAMES EARL RAY  |
| Son      | JOHN RAY        |
| Son      | JERRY RAY       |
| Daughter | MELBA RAY       |
| Daughter | CAROL RAY       |
| Son      | FRANKLIN D. RAY |
| Daughter | SUZAN RAY       |

She advised that she knew that the father of this group of children had used the name of JAMES RAY, GERALD RAY, JAMES RYAN and GERALD RYAN, as well as JERRY. She stated that the father RAY had been a ladies' man and it was her understanding that he had lived with many women but had probably never married any other than the mother of the children.

She advised that a Mrs. MAHER was the grandmother of the children, and in the past had induced them to run away from home and apparently had died in St. Louis while Mrs. MAHER was living with LUCILE RYAN.



She felt that the entire family is close enough to the criminal element that the family has developed an attitude of not cooperating with the law and she feels that it is possible that any member of the family might harbor JAMES EARL RAY; however, she stated that this is merely a personal belief and she had no information that the family had ever harbored anyone.

SI 44-561

MWO:mpb

1.

The following investigation was conducted by SA  
MACK W. OLIVER, Jr.

At Quincy, Illinois

On April 24, 1968, Miss Elizabeth Roth, Manager, Quincy Credit Bureau, advised that she had a file for JERRY WILLIAM RYAN, Jr. and that this individual had been in her files since 1950. Miss ROTH stated that RYAN's address in 1950 was 214 Spring Street; in 1954 the Tremont Hotel; and in 1956, 339½ South 7th Street. Miss ROTH advised that according to her file, JERRY WILLIAM RYAN, Jr., along with JAMES A. ALDERTON, LONNIE RIFE, EUGENE BARRIGAR, and FLOYD SIDENER, sought parole from the Menard State Penitentiary on August 29, 1958. Miss ROTH stated that she had no information on JERRY WILLIAM RYAN, Jr., since the 1950's.

Miss ROTH advised that she had a file for LUCILLE RYAN and that she had had this file since 1954. Miss ROTH said that the only address she had for LUCILLE RYAN was 536 York, Quincy, Illinois. Miss ROTH said that according to her information, LUCILLE RYAN was arrested on July 19, 1954, by local authorities, for assault and battery and again on August 24, 1957, for larceny, and that she was supposed to have robbed JOHN B. THOMPSON of the Pacific House. Miss ROTH said that she had one collection on LUCILLE RYAN and that the collection was in 1961 for the Bringaze Grocery Store of Quincy.

Miss ROTH advised that she had a file for SUSAN RYAN and that she had been in file since September 15, 1965. Miss ROTH advised that she had two addresses for SUSAN RYAN, 129½ North 9th Street and Fowler, Illinois. Miss ROTH advised that according to her information, SUSAN RYAN moved from Quincy, Illinois, on June 23, 1966, to 1117 North Dearborn, Chicago.

Miss ROTH advised that she had a file for MELBA RYAN who resides at the Virginia Hotel, and this name had been in file since February 27, 1966. Miss ROTH stated that she had no further information concerning MELBA RYAN.

SI 44-561

2

Miss ROTH advised that she had a file for GERALD RAYNES since October 24, 1940, and that RAYNES was 38 years of age at that time. Miss ROTH stated that according to her information, RAYNES was living at R.R. #1, Ewing, Missouri, his wife was LUCILLE, and that he had four children (no names). Miss ROTH said that she had no information concerning GERALD RAYNES since 1948. Miss ROTH stated that according to her information, GERALD RAYNES came to Quincy, Illinois, from St. Louis, Missouri, and gave the following addresses and places of employment for GERALD RAYNES:

| <u>Addresses</u>                      | <u>Date</u>        |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1507 North 4th<br>Quincy, Illinois    | September 28, 1944 |
| Adams, Illinois                       | January 13, 1948   |
| 214 Spring Street<br>Quincy, Illinois | November 12, 1961  |

| <u>Date</u>      | <u>Employment</u>                  |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| October 24, 1940 | Gardner, Denver                    |
| January 13, 1948 | Novelty salesman for<br>BILL POPP. |

Miss ROTH advised that she had a file for RUBY CARPENTER since May 25, 1964, and that RUBY CARPENTER came to Quincy, Illinois, from Clarence, Missouri. Miss ROTH stated that RUBY CARPENTER worked for the State of Illinois, Family and Children Service, and gave the following addresses that she had for RUBY CARPENTER:

1711 $\frac{1}{2}$  Broadway  
Quincy, Illinois

410 North 9th Street  
Quincy, Illinois

630 North 6th Street  
Quincy, Illinois.

SI 44-561

3

Miss ROTH advised that she had a file for JAMES RAY which she had crossreferenced with JOHN V. RAY and that she had had this file since December of 1966. Miss ROTH stated that according to her information, JAMES RAY turned himself into the Adams County Sheriff's Office on March 3, 1967, and advised them that he was wanted in Ogden, Utah. Miss ROTH said that on June 15, 1967, RAY committed himself to the Veterans Alcoholic Hospital in Jacksonville, Illinois. Miss ROTH said she had four addresses for RAY which are as follows:

324 York Street  
Quincy, Illinois

221 South 5th Street  
Quincy, Illinois

323 York Street  
Quincy, Illinois

1201 South Main Street  
Jacksonville, Illinois.

Miss ROTH said that she had no further information concerning JAMES RAY.

Miss ROTH stated that she a file for JOHNNY LARRY RAY since April 8, 1953, and that he was 23 years of age at that time. Miss ROTH stated that JOHNNY LARRY RAY was sentenced to serve from three to four years, on June 2, 1953, at the Menard State Penitentiary, for auto theft. Miss ROTH stated that according to her information that JOHNNY LARRY RAY attempted to escape from the Adams County Jail on May 24, 1953. Miss ROTH said the only address she had for JOHNNY LARRY RAY was 214 Spring Street, Quincy, Illinois.

SI 44-561

B. MELBA MARIE RYAN

- 42 -

SI 44-561

On 4-20-68, MELBA MARIE RYAN was interviewed at the Virginia Hotel, 534 North Second Street, Quincy, Ill.

MELBA MARIE RYAN furnished the following information to SA ELYON H. DAVIS and ASAC DONALD T. SULLIVAN:

MELBA MARIE RYAN advised that she is the sister of JAMES EARL RAY and identified a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306 443 A, mated to Missouri Department of Corrections on 3-17-60, as her brother. She advised that she had only seen her brother JAMES EARL RAY three or four times during her life time and that she has spent a considerable amount of her life in mental hospitals. She stated that she has been in the Jacksonville State Hospital, Jacksonville, Ill., on three occasions.

RYAN advised that she has been living at the Virginia Hotel since December, 1967, and has had no contact with JAMES EARL RAY since his escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary.

She advised that she last saw JAMES EARL RAY around 1959 when he was living in St. Louis, Missouri, at a boarding house operated by their mother, LUCILE RYAN. She advised that she was staying with her mother, LUCILE RYAN at that time and that JAMES EARL RAY stayed with them for approximately six months.

She advised that she has never received a letter from JAMES EARL RAY in her life and had no idea as to his present whereabouts.

She advised that her mother is presently deceased and that her father is approximately 70 years of age. She stated that he was living in Missouri; however, she stated that she had talked to him on the previous night on the

SI 44-561

telephone and he did not want to furnish his present address to anyone. She stated for this reason she would not give the FBI the address of her father.

She advised that she has received letters in her life from her brother JOHN RAY or JOHN RYAN and also from JERRY RAY, aka JERRY RYAN. She advised that the real name of the family is RAY and that when the family moved from Ewing, Missouri, to Quincy, Illinois, the mother changed the name from RAY to RYAN inasmuch as they were going to St. Bonaface Catholic School in Quincy and the mother thought that RYAN sounded more Catholic than RAY.

She advised that her father once had a brother named EARL RAY; however, he is presently deceased.

MELBA RYAN furnished the following list of her brothers and sisters:

|         |                     |
|---------|---------------------|
| Brother | JAMES EARL RAY      |
| Brother | JOHN RAY, aka       |
|         | JOHN RYAN,          |
|         | JACK RYAN           |
| Brother | JERRY RAY, aka      |
|         | JERRY RYAN          |
| Sister  | CAROL PEPPER        |
| Sister  | SUSAN RYAN          |
|         | Whereabouts unknown |

MELBA RYAN advised that she also had a brother named FRANKLIN DEIANOR RYAN who had drowned in the Mississippi River around 1963. She stated also an older sister had died in a fire in Ewing, Missouri, before the birth of MELBA RYAN.

She stated that when she knew her brother JAMES EARL RAY around 1959 he had mentioned at that time he might go back to Germany inasmuch as he liked Germany when he was stationed there in the Army. She also was under the belief that JAMES EARL RAY had had a girlfriend in Germany; however, she had no knowledge of any contact RAY had with anyone in Germany since his discharge from the service. She thought that he had been discharged sometime during the 1940s.



SI 44-561

She advised that she had moved to Quincy, Illinois, with her mother and father approximately 1948 when she was 10 years of age.

She stated around 1953 her father had left the family and that her mother had, at that time, "put several members of the family out for adoption", and the family had not been very close since that period of time.

The following physical description of MELBA MARIE RYAN was obtained during the interview:

|                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Race           | White           |
| Sex            | Female          |
| Date of Birth  |                 |
| Place of Birth | Ewing, Missouri |
| Height         | 5'5½"           |
| Weight         | 165 pounds      |
| Build          | Stout           |
| Hair           | Brown           |
| Eyes           | Blue            |
| Complexion     | Medium          |
| Occupation     | None            |

SI 44-561

On 4-21-68, the files of the Quincy, Illinois, Police Department, were checked and revealed the following arrest record for MELBA MARIE RYAN, date of birth  at Ewing, Missouri:

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>CHARGE</u>               | <u>DISPOSITION</u>      |
|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 3-12-63     | Mental Case                 | Released without Charge |
| 2-13-66     | Drunk                       | \$10.00 and Costs       |
| 4-24-66     | Intoxication                | \$10.00 and Costs       |
| 12-14-66    | Drunk                       | Dismissed               |
| 12-14-66    | Disorderly Conduct          | Dismissed               |
| 12-30-67    | Drunk                       | \$10.00 and Costs       |
| 8-22-67     | Drunk                       | \$15.00 and Costs       |
| 9-18-67     | Drunk                       | Dismissed               |
| 9-18-67     | Interfering with an Officer | Dismissed               |
| 9-18-67     | Criminal damage to property | 20 days in County Jail  |

The following physical description of MELBA MARIE RYAN was obtained from the Quincy, Illinois, PD, as furnished by Captain HAROLD HUNSAKER of that Department: