TP 157-3231

The laboratory is requested to compare the enclosed samples of laundry tapes with the laundry tapes mentioned in referenced airtel to determine if they have been produced by the same machine.

Airtel

To: BACs, Atlanta (one.)

Birmingham (one.)

Poblic (one.)

Envental (one.)

From: Director, FDI

MURRIEM

Unclosed for Atlanta and Eavanach is one copy cach of a list of motor vehicles and license plates stolen in the Stale of Coorgia. A comparable-list regarding motor vehicles and license plates stolen in Aichana is enclosed for Birmingham and Hebile. The lists were compled from information retained in NCTC.

Each office should conduct necessary investigation in their respective divisions in an effort to determine whether the subject may have been involved in any of these thefts.

In view of the pencibility he may have stelen a noter vehicle and conscaled it prior to his return to Atlanta on 4-3-33, the list produces that period. Investigation should also be conducted regarding these vehicles which have been recovered in the event the subject utilized one of these and subsequently blankened it.

Homphis (info)

SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED APR 29 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS

Airiel

The

SAC'S, New Orleans (157-10678)

Memphis (44-1987)

From:

Director, FEI (44-38861)

MURKIN

Re New Orleans letter 4-22-68, submitting nine items, including a key that was not mentioned in referenced letter, found in a room at 623 Royal Street, New Orleans, for Intent print examination.

One latent fingerprint of value was developed on "Miss Clairol" can, item \$7. One latent fingerprint and four latent maim prints of value were developed on road map, item #8. No other latent prints of value were developed.

The latest fingerprists are not identical with the fingerprints of James Earl Ray, FEI \$4059426. Walter Terry Rife, FBI 44556766, or Robert Dale Porter, FBI 44590482. No paim prints are available in our Identification Division files for these individuals.

The specimens are being temporarily retained in the Latent Fingerprint Section, Identification Division.

> SEARCHED... SERIALIZED FILED

APR 29 1968

- MEMPHIS

Airtel

To: SAC's, Los Angeles (44-1574) Memphis (44-1997)

From: Director, FBI (44-38961)

MURKIN

Re Los Angeles airtel 4-18-68, submitting customer laundry receipt #31053, %176, and customer laundry receipt #30826, %177.

One latent impression from lower joint of a finger and one latent palm print developed on \$175 and one latent fingerprint developed on \$177. Latent fingerprint developed on \$177 not identical fingerprints James Earl Ray, FBI \$405842G; Robert Dale Perter, FBI \$4590482; or Vernon Kimo Rife, FBI \$4558786. No impressions of the lower joints of fingers or palm prints here for these three individuals.

Latent prints currently developed compared with available areas of latent prints previously reported this case, but no identification effected.

Result of laboratory examination and disposition of all evidence received with referenced airtel being made subjects of separate report.

	Date: 4/25/68
the following in _	
ATDMET	(Type in plaintext or code)
AIRTEL	AIRMAIL (Priority)
TO:	SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM:	SAC, COLUMBIA (44-299) (P)
SUBJECT:	MURKIN
	CR OO:MEMPHIS
	Re Los Angeles teletype to Bureau, 4/9/68,
to Bureau	13/68, Tampa airtel to Columbia, 4/16/68, New letype to Columbia, 4/12/68, Columbia teletype 1, 4/12/68, and Birmingham teletype to Bureau,
to Bureau 4/12/68.	etype to Columbia, 4/12/68, Columbia teletype 1, 4/12/68, and Birmingham teletype to Bureau,  Enclosed are 9 copies each of three inserts ng the following suspects:  NICHOLAS GEORGE TELEGAS
to Bureau 4/12/68.	etype to Columbia, 4/12/68, Columbia teletype a, 4/12/68, and Birmingham teletype to Bureau,  Enclosed are 9 copies each of three inserts ag the following suspects:  NICHOLAS GEORGE TELEGAS Charleston, S. C.
to Bureau 4/12/68.	etype to Columbia, 4/12/68, Columbia teletype 1, 4/12/68, and Birmingham teletype to Bureau,  Enclosed are 9 copies each of three inserts ng the following suspects:  NICHOLAS GEORGE TELEGAS
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to Bureau 4/12/68.  concerning	etype to Columbia, 4/12/68, Columbia teletype a, 4/12/68, and Birmingham teletype to Bureau,  Enclosed are 9 copies each of three inserts ag the following suspects:  NICHOLAS GEORGE TELEGAS Charleston, S. C.  JOHN WILLARD MYTTLE Beach, S. C.  HUGH HAMILTON CRADDOCK, JR. GOOSE Creek, S. C.  ARMED AND DANGEROUS SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED SERIALIZED SERIALIZED
to Bureau 4/12/68.  concerning  2-Memphis 2-Columbi	etype to Columbia, 4/12/68, Columbia teletype a, 4/12/68, and Birmingham teletype to Bureau,  Enclosed are 9 copies each of three inserts ag the following suspects:  NICHOLAS GEORGE TELEGAS Charleston, S. C.  JOHN WILLARD Myrtle Beach, S. C.  HUGH HAMILTON CRADDOCK, JR. GOOSE Creek, S. C.  ARMED AND DANGEROUS  SEARCHED INDEXED
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to Bureau 4/12/68.  concerning  2-Memphis 2-Columbi	Enclosed are 9 copies each of three inserts ag the following suspects:  NICHOLAS GEORGE TELEGAS Charleston, S. C.  JOHN WILLARD Myrtle Beach, S. C.  HUGH HAMILTON CRADDOCK, JR. GOOSE Creek, S. C.  ARMED AND DANGEROUS SEARCHED INDEXED APR 2 9 1968

Employed

Charleston Naval Shipyard

Charleston, S. C.

civilian Government employee

Building 187

Occupation Military Social Security

Number Arrest admitted Electronics Apprentice Former USMC SN

May, 1966, creating disturbance, Charleston, S. C., found not

guilty

September, 1966, creating disturbance, Charleston,

guilty

Address

113 Counsellor Court Charleston, S. C.

**Parents** 

H. H. Craddock, Sr. 3907 Paramount, Charleston, S. C.

CO 44-299 MBM:1mb

RE: SUSPECT - HUGH

HAMILTON CRADDOCK, JR.

113 Counsellor Court Goose Creek, South Carolina

On April 12, 1968, Attorney DAVID ALFRED PISKORSKI, 144 West Main Street, Plainville, Connecticut, advised as follows:

In January, 1966, he entered on active duty in the U. S. Marine Corps under the Enlisted Reserve Program and he was on active duty until December 20, 1966. At time of release he was assigned to Company F, Second Battalion, Second Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. During the early part of December, 1966, his outfit went on maneuvers and approximately 30 reservist remained at Camp Lejeune processing for their discharge. During this period, an M-14 rifle was stolen from his company and the theft was not resolved.

In conversation with DAVID PARRISH, also of the United States Marine Corps, PISKORSKI learned that HUGH HAMILTON CRADDOCK, JR., who was a buddy of PARRISH had indicated to PARRISH that when he got out of the service, he, CRADDOCK, intended to kill DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PARRISH stated that in conversation with other members of his unit, he recalls that they indicated that CRADDOCK possibly stole this rifle.

PISKORSKI stated that DAVID PARRISH could possibly furnish additional information regarding CRADDUCK and PARRISH was from Birmingham, Alabama, where he was released to report to the 14th Marines, 4th Marine Division, Birmingham, Alabama.

On April 12, 1968, DAVID CAVANAUGH PARRIS, 9713
Red Lane Drive, Birmingham, Alabama, advised as follows:

He was on active duty with Marines in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, during December, 1965. He base

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HUGH CRADDOCK, JR. of Charleston, South Carolina, very well and CRADDOCK admitted to him he, CRADDOCK, stole an M-14 rifle while at Camp Lejeune. He stated CRADDOCK also expressed his hate for Negroes and made statements about killing KING. He said CRADDOCK could be located through Charleston, South Carolina, telephone directory.

The following investigation was conducted at Charleston, South Carolina, by SA EDWARD E. FLECK and SA WARDLAW E. SKINNER:

On April 12, 1968, Mrs. VIRGINIA SHAW, Employee Relations Clerk, Personnel Office, Electronics Division, U. S. Naval Station, Charleston, S. C., advised her records reflect HUGH HAMILTON CRADDOCK, JR., was on annual leave March 25 - 29, 1968, but worked the entire week of April 1 - 5, 1968, from 8:00 AM to 4:45 PM. She stated CRADDOCK's supervisor is Mr. V. D. RUSS.

Mr. VAN RUSS, Supervisor, Electronics Division, U. S. Naval Station, Charleston, advised CRADDOCK was on annual leave from March 25-29, 1968 in order to get married. He recalled that CRADDOCK came by work for his pay check at 11:45 AM, March 29, 1968, apparently upon return from his honeymoon.

HUGH HAMILTON CRADDOCK, JR., home address 113 Counsellor Court, Goose Creek, South Carolina, was interviewed at his job, where he stated he has been employed for the past three years. He denied any knowledge whatsoever concerning the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING. He admitted that he probably has made remarks in the past indicating he would like to see KING dead, but stated he cannot recall specifically saying he would like to, or intended to kill KING, although he added it is possible he may have made such a remark.

CRADDOCK stated he used 40 hours of annual leave from March 25-29, 1968, as he got married and went on his honeymoon. He said he was married Saturday, March 23, 1968, at Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina, and spent that night at the downtown Holiday Inn, Charleston. On March 24, 1968, he and his bride traveled to Atlanta, Georgia, and spent that night

at a Howard Johnson Motel located on the east side of Atlanta by the Atlanta Stadium. He also spent March 25, 1968, at this Howard Johnson. He spent the night of March 26, 1968 at the Waldorf (possibly) Motel located on the same super highway at Atlanta. On March 27, 1968, he and an associate, JOSEPH BAZZLE, went to Summerville, South Carolina, where BAZZLE bought some tires for his car. On March 29, 1968, he ordered a telephone, opened accounts at South Carolina National Bank and J. M. Fields Department Store, and stopped by his job to pick up his pay check. On the night of March 30, 1968, he went to Walterboro, South Carolina, along with JERRY TESTON, who works at Moody Oil Company, Hollywood, South Carolina, HERMAN GODBBEE, who works in Building 177 (mark 84) on the Naval Station, and "Scooter" (LNU), to watch the drag races.

He could furnish no infirmation relating to this matter.

CRADDOCK said he spent six months active duty at Camp LeJeune, North Carolina, a couple of years ago, at which time he heard that a rifle turned up missing. He said he recalled an investigation was conducted concerning the rifle, although he was not interviewed about it. He said he did not take the rifle.

The following description was obtained as result of interview and observation:

Name HUGH HAMILTON CRADDOCK. JR. Aliases Hugh Craddock, Jr. H. H. Craddock, Jr. Sex male Race white Age 21 years Date of Birth Charleston, South Carolina Place of Birth 5'11" Height Weight 145 Build slim married, JANICE LEE CRADDOCK, nee Marital Status Parker

CO 44-299 MBM: 1mb

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RE: SUSPECT - JOHN WILLARD 805 12th Avenue
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

On April 9, 1968, Dr. J. H. THIBOKAU, 114 East Berkeley Street, Santa Anna, California, telephonically advised the Los Angeles Division of the FBI as follows:

He resided in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, until 1964. While there he had a patient named LILLIAN WILLARD, wife of JOHN WILLARD, an attorney with office in Conway, South Carolina. JOHN WILLARD was a racist and an alcoholic and he fits the description of a penciled sketch of the JOHN WILLARD that Dr. THIBORAU saw in a recent newspaper of the wanted killer of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He described WILLARD as a white male, age 40, 5'9" tall, 160 pounds. He believes that LILLIAN WILLARD is well known to PHYLLIS BELLAMY, wife of the Chief of Police of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JON W. ARMSTRONG on April 10, 1968:

PHYLLIS BELLAMY, Woodland Drive, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, advised that JOHN and LILLIAN WILLARD are residents of Conway, South Carolina, where they share a house with Mrs. MARGARET GRAINGER, 805 12 Avenue. She stated JOHN WILLARD is a practicing attorney with an office on 3rd Avenue, Conway, South Carolina.

She stated she has not associated with the WILLARDS for 2 years and has no knowledge regarding their present activities. She stated several years ago JOHN WILLARD drank excessively and as a result nearly ruined his law practice and marriage. She stated to her knowledge, JOHN WILLARD does not now drink or at least does not drink excessively. She described him as a white male, 45 plus years, brown hair greying, approximately 5'11", and stated he is a

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CO 44-299

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brilliant attorney.

On same date, Chief of Police H. T. BARKER, Conway. South Carolina, Police Department, advised that JOHN WILLARD is a practicing attorney in Conway, South Carolina. He stated WILLARD used to drink excessively, and that during the period 1960-1964, JOHN WILLARD was arrested by his department on numerous occasions for being drunk and or disorderly. He stated that since 1964 his department has had no trouble from WILLARD. He stated very few attorneys in Conway, South Carolina, associate with WILLARD due to his past history of drinking and due to the abusive language he frequently uses. He stated WILLARD occupies an office by himself on the 2nd floor at 1123 3rd Avenue, Conway, S. C. described WILLARD as a white male, Date of Birth 6', 175 pounds, brown hair greying, brown eyes. He advised that his department has never received any information to indicate that WILLARD is a racist.

He advised that on April 1, 1968, WILLARD was present at a hearing held in Conway, South Carolina. BARKER stated he has a good friend, SAM COX, Cox's Surveyor's Company, who occupies the space directly below WILLARD's office and adjacent to the entrance to WILLARD's office, who might be able to confidentially furnish information regarding WILLARD's activities.

SAM COX, Owner, S. D. Cox Surveyors, Inc., 1121 3rd Avenue, Conway, South Carolina, advised that during the week April 1-6, 1968, he saw JOHN WILLARD on several different days. He advised that when WILLARD is at his office, he parks his car behind his, COX's place of business. He stated as he recalls, he remembers seeing WILLARD's car parked behind his place of business each day during the period April 1-6/68. He advised that to his knowledge, WILLARD has not been out of the Conway, South Carolina, area in the recent past.

CO 44-299
MBM: lmb

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RE: SUSPECT - NICHOLAS GEORGE TELEGAS U540A Rutledge Avenue Charleston, South Carolina

On July 26, 1967, Chief of Police TRENTON T. TILLMAN, Charleston, South Carolina advised as follows:

NICHOLAS GEORGE TELEGAS, Police Department #75-276,540A Rutledge Avenue, who also hangs out at Folly Beach, South Carolina, told several persons he planned to kill Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. when KING spoke at Charleston, July 30, 1967.

On July 26, 1967, TELEGAS who is emotionally disturbed, was arrested and committed to State Hospital, Columbia, South Carolina, for observation.

Miss EVANGILINE MANOS, 540A Rutledge Avenue, Charleston, S. C., advised April 12, 1968, the saw TELEGAS April 11, 1968, at his parent's home at this address. He told her he had just returned from Florida where he visited his girl friend. He had a bag of oranges in his possession.

On April 13, 1968, JOHN MISOYIANIS, 1203 Parkwood Drive, Charleston, South Carolina, advised TELEGAS has girl friend, name unknown, who resides Orlando, Florida., her father's name is Kincade or Kinard and is manager of XYZ Trailer Sales, Orlando. MISOYIANIS has amateur bank which practices ever Wednesday night. TELEGAS sets up equipment for band practice. After band practice on Wednesday night, April 3, 1968, he took TELEGAS to railroad station,

SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED MEMPHIS

CO 44-299

Charleston, and dropped him off about 12:30 AM, April 2, 1968, and TELEGAS was to board train about 5 AM same date for Orlando. He feels certain TELEGAS did go to Orlando and stayed with girl friend until he returned to Charleston two or three days ago.

Chief Of Police ED HARMON, Police Department, Folly Beach, South Carolina, advised April 13, 1968, TELEGAS was at Folly Beach, South Carolina, until he left for Orlando about April 4, 1968, to visit girl friend. Since TELEGAS returned about two or three days ago, he showed him pictures TELEGAS took of girl friend at Orlando with house trailers in background. He not out TELEGAS does not drive a car.

HARVEY MORGAN, Manager, Morgan's Red Pern, Folly Beach, South Carolina, advised April 13, TELEGAS worked for him on night of March 29, 1968 at tavern and was at Folly Beach until he left to visit girl friend at Orlando.

TELEGAS described as white male, born Charleston, Santh Carolina, 5'10", 203 pounds, black hair, brown eyes, heavy build, offive complexion.

TELEGAS, who presently resides at 540A Rutledge Avenue, Charleston, South Carolina, was interviewed on April 15, 1968, by SA WARDLAW E. SKINNER and SA EDWARD E. FLECK at which time he advised as follows:

On April 4, 1968 at 4:50 AM, he left Charleston, South Carolina, via Southern Coastline train for Orlando, Florida, arriving at Orlando, at about 2:30 PM, same date. At Orlando he visited Mr. and Mrs. FRED KENNEMER, and their daugher, DEBBIE who resides at 8650 South Orange Blossom Trail, Orlando, Florida. Mr. KENNEMER is manager of ETZ Trailer Sales at Orlando. He remained at Orlando with this family until April 11, 1968, when he returned to Charleston, South Carolina.

CO 44-299

Prior to the trip to Orlando he was at Folly Beach, South Carolina, resided with Mrs. IVA JOHNSON at Folly Beach, South Carolina, and worked the weekend before he left for Orlando, at the Red Barn, Folly Beach, South Carolina.

NICHOLAS GEORGE TELEGAS is described as follows:

Name Address NICHOLAS GEORGE TELEGAS 540A Rutledge Avenue Charleston S. C.

Born

Sex
Race
Height
Weight
Hair
Eyes
Complexion
Father

Charleston, S. C. male white 5'11" 210 black brown olive

Marital Status

single

GEORGE TELEGAS

On April 13, 1968, the Tampa Division was requested to identify the manager of the XYZ Trailer Sales, Orlando, Florida, whose daughter TELEGAS reportedly visited and verified his presence in Orlando, Florida, on April 4, 1968.

On April 18, 1968, the Tampa Division advised as follows:

On April 16, 1968, FRED KENNEMER, Manager, XYZ Mobile Home Sales, 8620 South Orange Blossom Trail, Orlando, Florida, furnished the following to SA GORDON W. TINDLE:

NICHOLAS GEORGE TELEGAS is "sort of" a friend of the family. He may be in love with DEBORAH KENNEMER, his daughter, but she is not romantically interested in him.

KENNEMER said he spoke to TELEGAS in Charleton, South Carolina, just before he departed to visit with them and made arrangements to pick him up at the Orlando, Florida, Train Station, advising TELEGAS that he might be a little late.

KENNEMER said he went to meet TELEGAS' train which was due about 1:55 PM on April 4, 1968, from

DIRECTOR, FEX (44-38861)

4/25/68

SAC, ALBANY (44-493) (P)

MURKIN

(00:MEP(PHLS)

ReButel to all continental offices, 4/14/68.

### RE HRIC STARVO GALT:

Dancing schools within the Albany Division have been contacted with negative results. No information identifiable with GALT has been developed.

2 - Bureau

2 - Momphis (44-1987)

2 - Albany

JEL: lma

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4/24/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

DIRECTOR, FRI (44-38061)

TROIT:

SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

MINITED IN

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(00:ME)

Rematel to Bureau, 4/23/66.

A check of the passenger manifests for departures of Coastal Aviation, Orlando, Fig., on 4/24/68, reflected no portinent information pertaining to JAMRS EARL RAY and known alinses.

Constal Aviation makes almost daily flights from Orlando to Nelbourne and Jacksonville, Fla., terminating at Yest End and Freeport, Grand Bahamas, Passenger manifests checked from April 4 - 23, 1968, govered departures from all points.

Mr. CHARLES BAIRD, President; Captain JUNE AMBERSON, pilot and LEON MARBY, Operations Hanager and Pilot could not identify photographs.

3 - Bureau

- Birmingham (44-1740) (Info)

(1) - Hemphia (44-1987)

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APR 2 9 1968

FBI - MEMPHIS

Airin

To: SAC's Atlanta (44-2386).

Memphis (44-1987)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKEN

Re Atlanta teletype 4-25-48.

Letest Augerprints this case later identified as Angerprints of James Rari Ray FRI 84050426, were searched all sections of single Angerprint file. In addition, Ray's Angerprints have been compared with latest prints in bank robbery section of National Unidentified Latest File and are being compared with intent prints in all current cases with PNI and outside contributor cases). The comparison of latest prints in surrent cases with Ray's Angerprints will continue until his apprehension.

Atlanta's suggested land to have all law enforcement agencies compare fingerprints of Ray against their unidentified latents is being considered and you will be separately address.

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Airtel

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	To: SAC, Memph	is (44-1987)			
-	From: Director	, FBI (44-3886)	1)		
	MURKIN				
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	also being ret airtel. The l	ifts which are dated 4-10-68	evidence list described in	sted in refe Latent Fir	erenced Bu- ngerprint
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Airtel

To: SAC'S, New Orleans (157-10673) Memphis (44-1987)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

Re New Orleans let 4/22/68, submitting Q285, contents from ash tray, for laboratory and latent print examination.

No latent prints of value developed. Laboratory report and disposition of Q285 subjects of separate report.

Mile, Breach (44-884)

April 26, 1969

Director, PAI (44-20051)

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APR 29 1968

#### 4/25/88

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TOS

DIRECTOR (44-38861)

FROM:

SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760)

(P)

MURKIN

Enclosed herawith for Bureau and Memphis are two copies each of FD-302, plus enclosures, regarding an interview with ORLAN EUGENE ROSE, Inpute, Missouri State Penitentiary.

Kansas City is taking no action in this matter, UAC by Bureau or Memphis.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

2-Bureau (Enc. 2) 2-Memphis (Enc. 2) MM 2-Kansas City

RBH:lib

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

	4/24/68	
	4/24/00	
Date		

ORLAN EUGENE ROSE, Inmate No. 73723, Missouri State Penitentiary, said he first came to the Missouri State Penitentiary in 1958. He said he first met RAY in jail at Kansas City, Missouri in 1955, and celled with him and WALTER RIFE prior to the time that all three went to Leavenworth, Kansas. He said RIFE may have been a homosexual as he liked to fool around with young boys, but he said at the Jackson County Jail, Leavenworth, and Jefferson City, Missouri, RAY gave no indication of abnormal sexual behavior.

He described RAY as quiet, a loner, and "not a loud mouth". He could not picture RAY, he said, as being vicious. He said RAY liked to follow baseball. He said they both lived in K Hall and associated together. He said they talked every day. He said RAY "did not fool" with as many as five men in the penitentiary. He said RAY used amphetamines when he could get them. He paid from \$2.00 to \$5.00 a shot. He did not get into debt and did not gamble.

He said he was in maximum security when RAY escaped and knew nothing of the details. He said the rumor inside is that RAY did not escape in a bread truck, but he had no information as to how he did escape.

He said RAY has a half-sister in St. Louis, Missouri with his mother. He said RAY did not like his mother as she left him and started living with an ex-convict out of Illinois. He said RAY has a brother and some half brothers. He believed his mother is living and re-married after the ex-convict died. She may have had some property "which she lived up".

ROSE said the inmates call him "The Jew" in the penitentiary, but he said RAY was "tighter" with his money than ROSE. He said he could not imagine RAY spending any money for dancing lessons or leaving a gun behind him someplace because of this characteristic.

ROSE said he did not know any RAYMOND LEWIS CURTIS, nor did he know of this person as an associate of RAY's.

KC 44-760

On April 22, 1968, Warden HAROLD SWENSON, in addition to furnishing a copy of the entire files of the Missouri State Penitentiary, furnished an article handed to him on April 22, 1968 by ORLAN ROSE which is:

#### Warden Swenson:

Would you look the attached article over and consider turning it over to a reporter of the Kansas City Star newspaper. I have a feeling that Jimmy Ray might give himself up if he happens to read what I have written. If you do release the article I give you full permission to reword it as you see fit as long as it contains the same line of thought.

There is a possibility that he might get killed before it is ever learned whether or not he is actually guilty of whating shooting Doctor King. If this would happen, it would be another Oswald case in the eyes of the world.

If you do not think it appropriate to release this articke to the news media, just tear it up, however, knowing Jimmy as I do there is a very faint possibility that he would give himself up if he were to read what I have written. I am sure that he will be reading either the K.C. Star or the St. Louis papers whereever he is.

The above of the attacked 4- page statement hauled to east. Wyrick by Orlan Rose-73723, then to me- HPS

KC 44-760

## J"IF JAMES EARL RAY IS GUILTY, WHO IS REALLY TO BLAME?"

For quite a number of years I have been one of the very few close friends of James Earl Ray. Because of this I would like to say a few things about him since everyone else who discusses him reveals that he is either anti-social, a loner, an escape artist, seeks recognition, etc. If this sort of unfavorable publicity continues to be brought out against him there is a very good chance that he might end up like Lee Harvey Oswald without ever having been given a chance to prove his innocence or guilt before a trial court. If this happens it will be a disgrace in the eyes of the world and bring about the same amount of doubt and criticism that arose after Oswald was killed in cold blood by a fanatic who decided to take the law into his own hands.

I first met Jimmy in the Kansas City jail during 1955 where he was being held on a forgery charge. His accomplice on the forgery charge was another man named Walter Rife and we all three lived in the same cell together and passed many hours shooting the breeze while playing three-handed card games for candy bars. Jimmy loved candy bars and always managed to win his share.

On one of our several trips to the federal courthouse, prior to our sentencing, we were taken in the same group. Jimmy's fall partner, Rife, was facing a parole violation or detainer of some sort from the state of Illinois and planned to escape if the proper situation arose. On our trip to the courthouse, a chance did come up by means of a unlocked door in the holdover room which led to a hallway or strirs. Rife begged Jimmy to leave with him through the unlocked door, but Jimmy quashed the deal by saying that all he wanted to do was to plead guilty to the forgery and get his sentence served. I mention this reluctance to escape on Jimmy's part because everyone always brings up that he was continually trying to escape custody. This is not so. I will explain what I think to be the real reason behind his later escape attempts while he was serving the twenty year sentence, but first I would like to point out a few things about Jimmy Ray's personality that have never been mentioned by anyone up to the present time.

Eventually, we all three ended up in the federal prison at Leavenworth, Kansas where our friendship continued. Rife went to work in the

prison hospital and lifted weights during his off duty hours while Jimmy and I either walked the yard or watched the ball games together. It is true that Jimmy is sort of a loner, but this is not unusual in a penitentiary. Being a loner doesn't mean that he didn't have many friends. Jimmy always wore a smile and laughed softly at the various occurrences during our time together in jail and while we were at Leavenworth. His friendly smile alone made him many friends and got him many greetings, but he just wasn't one to mix or join a group bull session as is most usually the case in jail or prison. He would rather stroll around the yard with one or two persons and discuss clothes, travel, baseball, or the enjoyment he got while working as a painter just prior to his arrest. It must have been one of the best paying jobs he ever had because he was always talking about it. If I remember correctly, I believe him and Rife lived in the Pickwick Hotel dawing the time they both worked for the painting contractor. He liked nice clothes and was always very neatly dressed during his court appearances. He would sometimes mention his brother, but I never heard him ever mention his mother or father in any of our conversations. I took it for granted that he had not been blessed with many luxuries while growing up. He was very saving with the few dollars he was able to obtain while serving time, in fact, I often accused him of being a miser. Somehow he was able to smuggle a wristwatch into the jail at Kansas City and he was so proud of it that I actually believe it was the first wristwatch he ever owned. He did not want to part with it for anything, however, he finally did so because he learned that he could not possibly take it into the prison at Leavenworth with him. I ended up with the watch and passed it on to my brother, but only after having paid Jimmy a much higher price than is usual in jail. Up until I left him at Leavenworth, he was one of my best friends and he was always a very enjoyable person to be around.

When I again met him in 1960 at the Missouri State Penitentiary, he had aged a great deal, he lacked his usual smile, and his whole demeanor seemed to be changed. He was very withdrawn and it took quite a number of conversations before he finally opened up to me and told me why he felt so bad. We were both assigned jobs in the Food Service Department. He worked upstairs in the Bakery and I worked on the bottom

floor where he would deliver bread each weekday for outside delivery. We both lived on the same tier in K Cellhouse and would often talk with each other after our jobs were over. It was during these conversations that I finally learned what I think to be the main reason behind his personality change. He told me that two police officers had framed him on the robbery charge he was serving the twenty years on. He swore up and down that he was innecent of the crime, but that he did not have the money to hire lawyers to prove his innecence or carry his case into the United States Supreme Court. I later learned that the two police officers were not above planting evidence in order to convict an exconvict, and that their conscience must have bothered them because they both resigned from the police force shortly after Jimmy was convicted. Anyway, Jimmy made several attempts to get his case reopened without making any headway. Escape was continually on his mind and after four different attempts, he finally made it.

As far as him being prejudice toward any person or race, I have never heard him ever mention one thing against anyone in all our time spent together. If he couldn't say something good about someone, he just wouldn't say anything. In fact, there was no outward showing of animosity ever revealed by him toward the two police officers who he accused of framing him. If there was he just kept such things to himself.

As far as him being the person who shot Martin Luther King, I just can't believe it is possible. However, if he is guilty of it I am wondering whether or not it all leads back to the fact that he was actually sent to prison on a trumpted up charge which in turn caused him to do so as a means of retaliation against society for the twenty year sentence he swears he didn't deserve.

I hope Jimmy is innocent of killing Doctor King. I also hope that he doesn't become a scapegoat simply because he drove a white mustang and happened to favor the alleged assassinator of Doctor King

For the benefit of you persons with hate in your heart toward Jimmy before he has been proven guilty or given the benefit of a fair trial I ask you to withhold your opinions. Instead I would ask you to think of him as being innocent until proven guilty. In the meantime, put

KC 44-760

yourselves in his place, on the run from 200 million persons, without a known friend or voice raised in your behalf, and a hundred thousand dollar reward placed on your head. If you were innocent, how would you feel?

In closing, I would like to say that if this article reaches a newspaper and is published and read by Jimmy, I would like to advise you, Jimmy, as a friend to make immediate arrangements for your personal protection by contacting a Judge or Lawyer and give yourself up so that you can be given a fair trial. Don't put it off until you are recognized by some trigger happy happy nut like Jack Ruby who wants to make a name for himself. You realize that you are on the top wanted list with a large reward on your head. You know that the odds are against you because of this. You can't win. In the meantime, while you are thinking this over, if you happen to be cornered by police officers, for Christs sake don't hold a shootout. Grab a phonebook and call a judge or lawyer.

There's no need for me to mention my name because you know who I am. You do have some friends. Turn yourself in, but use discretion in doing so.

AIRTEL

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM:

BAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

CIVIL RIGHTS

ReButel, 4/14/68.

Re Dancing Schools, Houston Division.

Investigation to determine if JANES EARL RAY, aka had ever attended a dancing school, Houston Division, has been completed. Numerous leads were developed, but were negated when run out.

Houston investigation produced no information that the subject had attended a dencing school in this division.

2 - Memphis (44-1987)
1 - Houston
Jaw/sju

SEARCHED .....

Zale BL

FBI

Date: 4/25/68

A T Derive		(Type in plainte	xt or code)		
AIRTEL		(E	Priority)		-
TO: DIRECTO	OR, FBI (44-	38861) (P)			
FROM: SAC, W	FO (44-703)	(P)			
MURKIN					
			10		
	Re: NORM P	ERRY, look-a	-like.		
	ReAlexandria	a telephone (	call to WF(	, 4/24/68	••
HANNAH FORD, N.W., WDC, re Delta flight had a stopove to London, Er	Supervisor, garding NOR number 106 at Dulles	M PERRY, who rom Atlanta Airport, Vi:	n Airlines had been a to WDC on rginia, and	16th and passenge 4/6/68.	K Stree r aboare PERRY
to obtain the		dvised that an record on		ike two da	ys for 1
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WFO 44-703

#### LEAD

## WASHINGTON FIELD

AT WASHINGTON, D.C. Will contact Miss HANNAH FORD, Pan American Airlines, WDC on 4/26/68, re information concerning NORM PERRY.

F B I Date: 4-26-68 AIRTEL TO: SAC, MEMPHIS SAC, CLEVELAND (44-565) (P) FROM: 1-1917-51/01 RE: Re PG tel to CV and CI, 4-10-68, CV airtel to ME, 516 and PG airtel to CV, 4-23-68. 4-11-68, and/PG airtel to CV, 4-23-68. INVEST/IGATION REGARDING SURNAME LOWMEYER RE: Referenced PG tel, 4-10-68, advised that one P. F. LOHMEYER formerly resided Pittsburgh and currently resides 2344 Ardleigh Dr., Cleveland Heights, Ohio. Investigation at Cleveland reflects PAUL FRANCIS LOHMEYER resided above address and was employed as vice President, Carling's Brewery Co. It was determined that LOHMEYER left Carling's about one year ago and is currently residing 33 Crows Nest, Bronxville, N.Y., and is employed by Continental Can Co., 100 Park Ave., NYC, telephone 972-7722. Records Drivers' License Division, Ohio Motor Vehicle Bureau, reflect PAUL FRANCIS LOHMEYER 6'4", 215 lbs., brown hair, grey described: WM, DOB eyes. In view of variance of physical description, no additional investigation being requested to check LOHMEYER's whereabouts during pertinent period. 2 - Memphis 1 - New York (Info) 2 - Pittsburgh (44-578) 2 - Cleveland JFK:ral (7)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_M Per \_\_\_\_\_\_ Special Agent in Charge

4/25/68

AIRTEL

ATRMATE

TO:

DIRECTOR. PBI

FROM:

SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) P

MURKIN

00: Memphis

Mr. MARGLD SWENSON, Warden, Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Mo. furnished the cell assignments of JAMES EARL RAY and RAYMOND LEWIS CURTIS.

RAY was in the penftentiary from 3/17/60 to 4/23/67 when he escaped.

# He occupied the following cells:

	April 12, 1980 - July 28, 1980 B-24
	July 28, 1980 - March 15, 1981 X-178
i V	March 13, 1961 - November 22, 1961 Kalls
	November 22, 1961 - May 25, 1962
•	May 25, 1962 - June 8, 1962 B-16
	June 8, 1962 - July 23, 1962 July 23, 1962 - August 10, 1982 K-15
- 14	August 10, 1962 - August 15, 1962 K-161
	August 15, 1962 - March 8, 1968 K-168
	March 8, 1963 - October 22, 1965 K-172
	October 22, 1965 - December 15, 1965 K-2
	December 16, 1965 - March 4, 1966 J-47 March 4, 1966 - March 14, 1966 CB-6
	March 4, 1966 - March 14, 1966 CB-6 March 14, 1965 - June 11, 1966 BB-9
	June 11, 1966 - September 8, 1966 State Hospital #1

3-Bureau
D-Memphis
2-Kansas City

RBH:880 (7)

KC 44-760

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RAYMOND LEWIS CURTIS, FORBAS, served from May 15, 1962 to June 27, 1966 when he was paroled. He occupied the following cells:

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#### 4/25/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

PDAM.

SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) (P)

MURKIN.

00: Memphis

Enclosed herewith is a list of money orders received by JAMES EARL RAY at the Missouri State Penitentiary from 1963 through February, 1967.

Gopies are being sent to interested offices, and senders in each division should be contacted for any information they may have regarding the subject in this matter.

### ARMED & DANGEROUS

3-Bureau (Enc. 2) 2-Chicage (Enc. 2) 2-Memphis (Enc. 2) 2-Minneapolis (Enc. 2) 2-St. Louis (Enc. 2) 2-Springfield (Enc. 2) 2-Kansas City RBH 11ib (15)

SEARCHED WHO EXED SERIALIZED FIFTLED APPLIES CHARLES SERIALIZED APPLIES AND AP

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date	4/25/68	
Duile	1/20/00	

Mr. M. J. STEWART, Treasurer, Missouri State Penitentiary (inmates' accounts), stated money orders had been received by JAMES EARL RAY at the Missouri State Penitentiary as follows:

1963	Amount	Sender
February 20	\$ 35.00	JOHN RAY, 1807 Galle, St. Louis, Missouri
April 16	65.00	11
May 23	25.00	JERRY RAY, Box 337, Glenview, Illinois
June 19	50.00	PHILLIP L. BAKER, 516 Guitar Building Columbia, Missouri
June 19	50.00	JOHN RAY, 1807 Galle St. Louis, Missouri
July 10	15.00	JERRY RAY, Box 337, Glenview, Illinois
August 15	1.00	West Publishing Company St. Paul, Minnesota
August 20	30.00	JERRY RAY, Box 337, Glenview, Illinois
August 28	35.00	JERRY RAY, 1713 Lafayette St. Louis, Missouri
January 3	5.00	Mrs. M. FULLER, 2601 Chestnut, Quincy, Illinois

							44-1987-Suf B-40
On	4/24/6	8	ot_ Jefferson	City,	Missouri	File#	SEARKICO 44 - 7 GOEXED
_							SERIALIZEDFILED
by	SA ROW	EN B.	AYERS	(lib)		Date dicta	APR 2 6 1968 ted 6 224-468 is
This	document cor	itains neit	her recommendations no e distributed outside you	r conclusion	s of the FBI. It is		the fall and is located to voluntagency;

KC 44-760

(1964)	Amount	Sender
January 13	1.50 (return draft)	Circuit Court St. Louis, Missouri
February 17	1.00 (return draft)	West Publishing Company St. Paul, Minnesota
March 25	10.00	Mrs. MARY MAHER, 1324 Lami, St. Louis, Mo.
May 27	40.00	JERRY RAY, Box 269 Glenview, Illinois
July 9	15.00	JERRY RAY, Box 93 Flossmarr, Illinois
August 31	20.00	JERRY RAY, 1324 Lami, St. Louis, Mo.
December 24	10.00	Mrs. M. FULLER, 2601 Chestnut, Quincy, Illinois
1965 March 11	1.00	JERRY RAY, Box 82, Wheeling, Illinois
April 5	4.50	JERRY RAY, Box 82 Wheeling, Illinois
May 18	8.50	JERRY RAY, 1819 Park Ave., St. Louis, Missouri
June 14	8.50	JERRY RAY, 1819 Park Ave., St. Louis, Missouri
August 11	1.50	JERRY RAY, Box 22, Wheeling, Illinois
September 1	13.50	JERRY RAY, Box 22, Wheeling, Illinois
December 8	1.50	JERRY RAY, Box 22, Wheeling, Illinois

KC	21.11	-7	A	n
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(1965) December 20	\$ 10.00	MABEL FULLER, 2601 Chestnut, Quincy, Illinois
1966 February 10	1.00	JERRY RAY, Box 22 Wheeling, Illinois
March 24	8.50	tt.
April 1	8.50	11
May 17	3.50	ti .
May 27	10.00	11
July 7	4.50	Circuit Court St. Louis, Missouri
August 18	6.75	JERRY RAY, Box 22, Wheeling, Illinois
December 20	5.00	MARY MAHER, 1819 Park, St. Louis, Missouri
December 20	5.00	JERRY RAY, Box 22, Wheeling, Illinois
1967		
February 3	15.00	JOHN RAY, 2010 Shenandoah St. Louis, Missouri

Park ( Mar. Dan Galland (Mat-Maria) (A)

 MD 187-18873

MILLAND DIVISION

## FBI

	(Type in plaintext or code)
AIRTEL	AIRMAIL
	(Priority)
TO:	SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM:	SAC, MOBILE (157-2627) (P)
SUBJECT	r: MURKIN
	Re: CHECK OF NAMES ERIC STARVO GALT, JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOMEYER. Or LOWMYER
telepho tion re	Reference is made to Bureau teletype to all office M, 4/8/68, instructing that all offices check city and one directories, driver's license records, auto regist ecords, voter registration records, and credit and all records on the surnames LOWMEYER and LOWMYER.
of <b>Sèl</b> e d <b>ir</b> ecto f <b>ina</b> nci	Reference is also made to Bureau things to all s, 10:16 AM, 4/10/68, instructing that check be made ective Service headquarters, city and telephone ories, driver's license bureaus, motor vehicle divisional institutions, credit and criminal, and other logical concerning ERIC STARVO GALT.
informa	All of these checks were made throughout the Division territories as instructed, but developed no ation concerning the suspect. These contacts have been in Mobile file and no insert concerning this invest is being submitted in view the regative nature of sults of these contacts.
2 - Men 2 - Mol JTB:cri (4)	mphis oile
	44 1927 Seet B-

4/24/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, RICHMOND (44-657)

FROM: BAC, ATLANTA (44-2386)(P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

00: MEMPHIS

Be Richard airtel to Atlanta, 4/19/68.

The following investigation was conducted by SA THOMAS C. REMAGNAW, JR., at Atlanta, Georgia;

Mr. B. A. DODD Supervisor, Crew Scheduling, Beats Airlines, Atlanta Airport, on 4/23/68, identified the stewardesses aboard DAL Flight 725 on 4/1/68, as SYLVIA PAGE, DIAME MOSSIET and SUE STUMLER. DODD advised that SYLVIA PAGE is currently on a leave of absence, having recently been married.

SUE STUMIER, Stevarders, DAL, was interviewed on 4/23/68, at the Atlanta Airport, and advised that on 4/1/68, she was the First Class Stevarders on Delta flight 785. She advised in this capacity she received passengers at the front of the plane and recalled receiving a rifle case from a male passenger. She advised as is customary, she brought the case to the pilot's cabin and stored it there until termination of the flight in Atlanta, Ga. She advised DAL policy does not require that any record be made indicating the name of passengers bringing weapons on plane.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

2 - Richmond () - Nemphis (Infe) 1 - New Orleans (Infe) 2 - Atlata TCR:lec (6)

SERIALIZED \_\_\_\_FILED ...

#### AT 44-2386

She advised she had little or no regolisction of the individual from whom she received the weapon. She stated a review of the passengers as listed on the manifest for that flight did not refresh her memory in identifying this individual. The published wanted flyer of JAMES EARL RAT was exhibited to Miss STUMEN and she advised she recalled having seen photo on television but could not connect it with passenger bringing weapon on plane.

BIAM HORLEY, 538 Cleveland Avenue, Apt. 12\_C, Hapeville, Georgia, advised on 4/23/68, that she was on duty in the tourist section of DAL Flight 735 on 4/1/68, with SYLVIA PAGE. She advised that her duties required her to remain in the rear section of the plane while the passengers boarded and that she does not recall a passenger bringing a weapon case on the plane. She also advised SYLVIA PAGE was in the rear of the plane and would not have been in a position to observe this. Miss MGSELEY advised based on the limited description swallable, she could not recall the individual described in referenced zirtel.

The published wanted flyer of JEANES EARL RAY was exhibited to Miss MOSELEY who advised she was unable to identify him.

In view of information furnished by Miss MOSSLEY it appears as though Stewardons SYLVIA PAGE would not have been in a position to observe incident or identify individual, and in view of her unavailability, she will not be interviewed.

Armed and Dangerous

4-26-68

Airtel

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

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

RK: MURKIN CR

Enclosed for the Bureau are two copies of the death certificate of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

These copies were received on 4-28-68, from SUE LACKEY, Assistant Registrar, Memphis and Shelby County Realth Department.

3- Bureau (enc. 2) 1- Hemphis HDT: FJ (4)

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SEARCHED

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FILE

44-1917 Sub B-405

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Airtel		(Type in plaintext or code)	
44.4.4			
		(Priority)	
Do: SAC	Memphis (44-1987	)	
From: Di	rector, FBI (44-38	861)	
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MURKIN			
	parate cover by re	ems of evidence are being registered mail. Those items of ent are to be returned to the	obtained from
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AIRTEL	AIRMIL	(Prior	earl .	
		(Prior	·	1
TO:	SAC, MEMPHIS	(44-1987)	g	or its
FROM:	SAC, ST. LOUIS	(44-775) P	_	my Jours
RE:	MURKIN			13/3
relatives Division.	REURTEL, 4-25- of subject into	68, requesting erviewed and t	appr0priate heir locatio	data concernins in this
They are:	Subject has the	ree relatives	in the St. L	ouis Division.
FATHER:	JERRY RAYNES,	aka Jerry Rayn	<b>S</b> .	- Allen
separated MARY MAHE	ly returned to in 1949 or 1956 R in SLMO, after the RUBY CARPENT le, Mo., 1952;	0. Believed s r family moved ER intermitten SLMO, 1953 to	ubject lived from Ewing. tly 1952 to 1960; Claren	with Grandmot RAYNES began 1961. Lived a ce. Mo.,
1961-62;	SLMO, 1963 to F	a11, 1967; Sep		200, 001101, 1
1961-62; S 1959, KRO employed : 4-19-68,	SLMO, 1963 to Face SLMO, 1963 to Face SLMO, 1963 to Face State Sta	as not seen su ry arrest. He ry in SLMO bef 5-68. Furnish	bject since understood ore arrest. ed names of	before Oct., subject was Interviewed children.
1961-62; \$ 1959, KRO employed \$ 4-19-68, \$ Appeared 6	He claimedhe he GER armed robber at unknown baker 4-20-68 and 4-20 cooperative, but is A M S D	as not seen su ry arrest. He ry in SLMO bef 5-68. Furnish	bject since understood ore arrest. ed names of and appears	before Oct., subject was Interviewed children. mentally conf
1961-62; 1959, KRO employed: 4-19-68, Appeared	He claimedhe he GER armed robber at unknown baker 4-20-68 and 4-20 cooperative, but is A M S D	as not seen su ry arrest. He ry in SLMO bef 5-68. Furnish	bject since understood ore arrest. ed names of and appears	before Oct., subject was Interviewed children.

SL:

44-775

BROTHER: JAMES LARRY RAY, FBI # 368 725 A

White, male, born Ewing, Mo., on ... Has Social Security # 5'10", 170 #, brown hair, brown eyes, single, medium complexion, slight speech impediment, no military service; has white over blue Ford Thunderbird, two door hardtop automobile bearing Mo. Lic. AE 2-558. Residence - 1900a Cherokee St., SLMO. Operates GRAPEVINE TAVERN, 1982 Arsenal, SLMO, since 12/67/ Bar license is in name of sister, CAROL PEPPER.

On interview 4-22-68, he claimed to have last seen subject on visit to Mo. State Pen. two to four years ago. Prior to this, he said had not seen subject since subject was discharged from Army in 1948 at Quincy, Ill. Claimed he was not aware that subject had escaped from the Pen. and denied that he had been contacted by subject or that he knew subject's whereabouts. He is being reinterviewed at this time. Prison records indicate he visited subject: 10-17-62, 7-7-63, 11-3-63, 11-7-63, 5-6-65, 7-10-66, 11-13-66, 12-20-66, and 4-22-67. It should be noted subject escaped 4-23-67.

SISTER: CAROL ANN PEPPER. nee RAYNES, aka CAROL ANN RYAN,
MRS. ALBERT B. PEPPER.

White female, born , Ewing, Mo., 5.6", 140 #, black hair, medium complexion, married to ALBERT BENNY PEPPER, has two children, Resides 2025 Belleview, Maplewood, Mo. Interviewed 4-19-68 and 4-20-68, as well as 4-22-68. Furnished names of family members. Denied she had seen or heard from suffict since escape, or that she was aware of his whereabouts. On 8, she declined interview, saying she and husband were disdabout whole affair; that she was not sure she was even related about to that she would decline to talk to FBI unless her as band consented and interview was in his presence.

Her husband, ALBERT BENNY PEPPER was born Chicago, Ill., white, male, Social Security # 5'7", 135 #, resides 2025 Belleview, Maplewood, Mo. Employed by NEW MARKET HARDWARE CO., 4064 Laclede, SLMO. Interviewed 4-19, 4-20 and 4-22-68. Denied knowledge or contact with subject subsequent to escape or info as to his whereabouts. He too declined interview on 4-22-68.

Subject's mother, LUCILLE MARY RYAN nee MAHER, born, Alton, Ill., died at SLMO, 1-25-61.