

6-15-68

CODE

CABLEGRAM

URGENT

TO LEGAT LONDON

FROM DIRECTOR FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN.

PRESS ACCOUNTS JUNE FIFTEEN, INSTANT, INDICATE SUBJECT'S BROTHER, JOHN LARRY RAY, IS PLANNING TO TRAVEL TO ENGLAND TO VISIT HIS BROTHER. PRESS ACCOUNTS INDICATE HE INTENDS TO APPLY FOR PASSPORT ON MONDAY, JUNE SEVENTEEN, NEXT.

JOHN LARRY RAY IS WHITE MALE, BORN [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] ALTON, ILLINOIS, HEIGHT FIVE FEET TEN TO FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES, WEIGHT ONE HUNDRED SIXTY TO ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY POUNDS, BROWN HAIR, BROWN EYES, MEDIUM COMPLEXION, HAS SLIGHT SPEECH IMPEDIMENT. MARITAL STATUS, SINGLE.

INVESTIGATION HAS INDICATED HE VISITED HIS BROTHER, THE SUBJECT, WHILE BROTHER IN PRISON ON AT LEAST NINE OCCASIONS, THE LAST OF WHICH WAS APRIL TWENTY TWO, NINETEEN SIXTY SEVEN, THE DAY BEFORE THE SUBJECT ESCAPED. HE HAS SENT HIS BROTHER MONEY WHILE IN PRISON. DENIES ANY KNOWLEDGE OF BROTHER'S ESCAPE OR KNOWLEDGE OF HIS WHEREABOUTS FOLLOWING ESCAPE.

- ① - MEMPHIS (44-1987)
1 - St. Louis (44-775)

44-1987-Sub D-771

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Hester RB

CABLEGRAM TO LEGAT LONDON
RM. MURKIN

IDENT RECORD FOR JOHN LARRY RAY, FBI NUMBER THREE SIX EIGHT SEVEN TWO FIVE A, INDICATES HE RECEIVED SENTENCE OF TWO TO FIVE YEARS FOR SECOND DEGREE BURGLARY JANUARY TWENTY FOUR, NINETEEN FIFTY, AND SERVED TIME IN STATE REFORMATORY, PENDLETON, INDIANA. ALSO SERVED TIME IN STATE PENITENTIARY MENARD, ILLINOIS, FOR LARCENY OF MOTOR VEHICLE, RECEIVED THERE SIX TWO FIFTY THREE AND DISCHARGED TWO ONE NINETEEN SIXTY.

ABOVE INFORMATION SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO APPROPRIATE BRITISH AUTHORITIES IN EVENT JOHN LARRY RAY ATTEMPTS TO VISIT SUBJECT. AIR MAIL COPIES TO MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS.

CAROL PEPPER, SISTER OF JOHN LARRY RAY AND SUBJECT, HAS ADVISED THAT JOHN LARRY RAY DOES NOT HAVE FUNDS TO MAKE TRIP, THAT SHE DOES NOT INTEND TO FURNISH HIM FUNDS AND SHE DOUBTS IF HE WILL MAKE TRIP TO LONDON.

F B I

Date: 6/18/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN

RE SPRINGFIELD TEL JUNE SEVENTEEN LAST AND LOUISVILLE
AIRTEL TO BUREAU JUNE TWELVE LAST.PHOTOGRAPHS OF RAY DISPLAYED TO CURRENT AND FORMER
OWNERS MEN'S STYLE SHOP, MAYFIELD, KENTUCKY, WITH NEGATIVE
RESULTS.CANVASS OF BANKS ALTON AND VICINITY CONTINUING IN EFFORT
TO LOCATE ANY ACCOUNTS POSSIBLY UTILIZED BY RAY. RESULTS
OF THESE CONTACTS AND DISPLAY OF PHOTOGRAPHS AT AREA BANKS
UNPRODUCTIVE TO DATE.

COPIES MAILED CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS.

1 - Springfield (44-561)
1 - Chicago (44-1114)
① - Memphis (44-1987)
1 - St. Louis (44-775)
RCH/ssj
(4)

44-1987-Sub G-772

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Bayer BB

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

BU 44-374

-1-

RE: GUESTS OF THE PROVINCIAL MOTEL,
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA,
DECEMBER 17-19, 1967

New Orleans advised by communicated dated May 7, 1968, that the subject, as ERIC GALT, had registered at the Provincial Motel, New Orleans, Louisiana, on December 16, 1967, as ERIC S. GALT and was assigned Room 126. He checked out December 19, 1967.

The following investigation was conducted by SA LEE MASON EIDSON at Buffalo, New York:

Information was received from the New Orleans Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that Mr. and Mrs. VINTON P. OSTRANDER, 126 Meadow Lane, Buffalo, had registered on December 19, 1967, at the Provincial Motel, 1024 Chartres Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. They were reported to have been driving a Cadillac automobile, bearing New York License TP 3035 and stayed in Room 207 of that motel.

On May 10, 1968, Mrs. VINTON P. OSTRANDER, 126 Meadow Lane, Kenmore, New York, advised SA LEE MASON EIDSON that she and her husband, Mr. OSTRANDER, stayed in Room 207 of the Provincial Motel, New Orleans, Louisiana, on December 19, 1967. She said Room 207 is located on the second floor of the motel. She said they parked their car, a Cadillac bearing New York License TP 3035, in the courtyard parking area. She said that she did not recall having seen a white Mustang automobile while staying at that motel. Mrs. OSTRANDER observed photographs of the subject, and she stated she could not recall ever having seen any individual resembling the subject.

Mr. VINTON P. OSTRANDER, Administrative Assistant Scout Executive, Greater Niagara Frontier Council, Boy Scouts of America, 344 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, New York, residence 126 Meadow Lane, Kenmore, New York, advised that he and his wife checked into the Provincial Motel in New Orleans, Louisiana on December 19, 1967, exact time unrecalled, but sometime after dark. He said he and his wife went out

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44-1987-Sub-B-773

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that evening and returned rather late to the motel. He said the next morning he and his wife had breakfast in the motel dining room and then went shopping; and, therefore, spent very little time in the vicinity of the motel. Mr. OSTRANDER reviewed photographs of the subject and stated he could recall having seen no one resembling the subject. Mr. OSTRANDER said he could recall having seen no white Mustang automobile while at the Provincial Motel in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The following investigation was conducted by
SA EUGENE A. HEVERON at Penfield, New York:

On May 10, 1968, Mrs. CUTLER J. COULSON, 200 Collingsworth Drive, advised that she and her husband left Rochester, New York, on or about Sunday, December 17, 1967, by airplane and flew to New Orleans, Louisiana, arriving there the same date.

They checked into the Provincial Motel, Chartres Street, New Orleans, where they remained until Thursday, December 21, 1967 or Friday, December 22, 1967.

Mrs. COULSON said the purpose of their trip was to take a freighter from New Orleans to South Africa. Her husband was formerly assigned to the United States Foreign Service for seven years and during part of this time she was employed at the United States Embassy, New Delhi, India. Her husband is semi-retired, doing education photography throughout the world.

Mrs. COULSON advised that the Provincial Motel did not have a lobby as such nor a barroom; and, therefore, they would not necessarily see everyone at the motel. They spent a great deal of time touring New Orleans and eating in various restaurants in New Orleans.

Mrs. COULSON advised that in view of the fact they did not have a car at the motel, they did not go into the small parking area at the motel. Mrs. COULSON and her husband have observed numerous photographs of subject in newspapers and magazines; and, after viewing photographs of subject, she advised she does not recall seeing anyone resembling the subject.

BU 44-374

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Mrs. COULSON advised that Mr. COULSON was not presently available; but when he returned, she would ask him if he recalled ever seeing a white Mustang or anyone resembling the subject at the motel. If he does recall any information whatsoever, she said she would immediately contact the Rochester, New York, Resident Agency of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

BU 44-374

-1-

RE: PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT
ORDERED BY JAMES EARL RAY
FROM SUPERIOR BULK FILM
COMPANY, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS,
UNDER NAME ERIC S. GALT

By communication dated April 30, 1968, Chicago advised that JAMES EARL RAY ordered photographic equipment from Superior Bulk Film Company in late September, 1967.

Ordered was one Kodak Dual Projector, M-95-Z. He also ordered Kodak Super 8 D-38 plus an HP 1 combination 8 MM Super Splicer.

The Super 8 camera was not in stock and Superior shipped a Crestline camera as a replacement. The subject returned the Crestline and insisted on the Kodak Super 8, Model M 8.

Chicago desired to know if serial numbers were available on this equipment, and they also desired a search of warranty slips under RAY's true name and aliases.

On May 2, 1968, BERT S. LONNGREN, Coordinator, Outbound Traffic, Eastman Kodak Company (EKCO), Rochester, New York, advised SA WALTER J. SAMELSTAD that no warranty is given for any Kodak camera and serial numbers are not recorded when shipped by EKCO.

RAYMOND PORTER, Director of Security, EKCO Office, Rochester, advised that warranty is furnished for Kodak projector M-94-Z, and approximately 50 per cent are returned by purchasers.

Approximately 6,000 projectors have been sold with warranties returned since October, 1967. Mr. PORTER said these would be examined to determine if subject had returned a warranty which should contain a serial number. 44-1987-Sub G-774

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RICHARD TOWNSEND, General Manager, Repair Center, EKCO, Rochester, advised cameras received for repairs are recorded by name and by state in which the owner lives. There are also repair shops for EKCO at New York City, Atlanta, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago and Dallas, plus 34 camera shops recognized by EKCO to do repairs on EKCO equipment.

On May 7, 1968, RAYMOND PORTER, advised SA SAMELSTAD that a review of the 6,000 warranties for the Kodak Dual Projector M-95-Z, failed to locate any information for RAY under his true name or known aliases.

Mr. PORTER said that a review of repair records could be made at each of the seven regional centers, but he estimated it would take approximately 40 Agent hours at each center. The time needed for review of records at the 34 authorized shops in the United States was not known to Mr. PORTER because he did not know the volume or nature of the records maintained at these shops.

By letter dated May 23, 1968, F. H. WAKELEY, Manager, Equipment Services, EKCO, advised that the following letter was mailed to all EKCO repair shops in the United States, Hawaii and Bermuda, where a person might seek service on a piece of Kodak equipment. This letter was accompanied by an identification sheet of JAMES EARL RAY.

The letter reads as follows:

"May 23, 1968

"The FBI recently asked us to send the enclosed identification sheet to you with the information that the party wanted -- James Earl Ray -- purchased a Kodak Instamatic M8 Movie Camera and a Kodak Instamatic M95 Movie Projector around October or November, 1967. The serial numbers of the equipment are not known.

BU 44-374

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Center. There is the chance that Ray
may appear sometime, at some place,
to request service for his equipment.
Should this happen in your place of
business, please notify your local
FBI Office at once. You will find the
address and phone number on the back
of the identification sheet.

SAME

YOUR

tion for

"Yours very truly,

"/s/ F. H. Wakeley

"Manager,
"Equipment Services

"FHWakeley:smb

"Enclosure"

BU 44-374

-1-

RE: INVESTIGATION CONCERNING EARL EVERETT RAY,
DECEASED UNCLE OF JAMES EARL RAY

By communication dated April 23, 1968, Albany advised that EARL EVERETT RAY, uncle of the subject, died May 2, 1959, in Buffalo. His body was found under a railroad bridge at the foot of Commercial Street, Buffalo, New York. EARL RAY came to Albany in 1957 from 476 Franklin Street, Buffalo, New York, where he was employed at Buffalo Hospital.

On April 24, 1968, SA ELMER F. MOULIN, JR., contacted WILLIAM J. COLLINS in charge of the micro section of the Buffalo Police Department. His records show that EARL E. RAY's body was found under the D. L. & W. railroad bridge at the foot of Commercial Street. Dr. LEE of Emergency Hospital pronounced RAY dead on arrival.

On April 24, 1968, NICHOLAS SALINARDO, Erie County Morgue, made available records which disclosed the body was brought to the morgue by the Roberts Funeral Home and after laying in the morgue for two days, was claimed by Mrs. FRANK FULLER, sister, 2601 Chestnut, Quincy, Ill., the claim being made by telegram.

GEORGE ROBERTS, Roberts Funeral Home, 2400 Main Street, Buffalo, on April 24, 1968, advised he took the body to the Erie County Morgue on May 2, 1959. His copy of the death certificate disclosed RAY's last place of residence as Western Road, Albany; occupation, steward; but unemployed at time of death; marital status, divorced; father, JAMES RAY and mother, LILLIAN MATTHEWS. The death certificate was signed by Dr. ROCCO DE DOMINICIS.

Mr. ROBERTS said the body was shipped to the Duke's Brothers Funeral Home, 823 Broadway, Quincy, Illinois, on May 4, 1959, as ordered by Mrs. FRANK FULLER.

The records of Buffalo General Hospital were checked by personnel director, TOM MICHEL, on August 24, 1968, but he could locate no employment record for RAY.

;cgp

44-1987-Sub G-775

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Hester

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On this same date, Miss ELLEN JONES, Personnel Office, Buffalo State Hospital, advised she could locate no employment record for RAY.

No neighborhood could be conducted at 476 Franklin Street, Buffalo, as residences in this downtown area were torn down in 1960 and have been replaced by business establishments.

The records of the Buffalo Retail Merchants Credit Bureau contain data on one EARL RAY, 476 Franklin Street, Buffalo, in 1956. His previous residence was shown as 439 Cherry Street, Quincy, Illinois. His employment was shown as Buffalo General Hospital in 1956 with a previous employment shown as St. Mary's Hospital, Quincy, Illinois. His credit bureau file has been inactive since 1956.

The file contains a report from the Quincy Credit Bureau which showed that in July, 1955, EARL RAY paid a \$15 fine on a charge of assaulting YVONNE MC GINLEY. It also showed that RAY was in Menard Prison as of May 19, 1951, arising out of an assault charge for which he was sentenced three to ten years in September, 1948.

BU 44-374

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RE: EASTERN AIRLINES
CHECK AT BUFFALO

Atlanta advised on April 23, 1968, that F. A. ALLEY, co-pilot, Eastern Airlines Flight 328, leaving Atlanta on April 5, 1968, made stops at Pittsburgh and Buffalo, terminating in Toronto, Canada. He suggested Eastern Airlines ticket agents in Buffalo be contacted as normal procedure is for the ticket agent at Buffalo to board the plane to distribute declaration forms for customs and, thus, facilitate entry into Canada at Toronto.

On April 23, 1968, SA JAMES A. COMFORT contacted MARSHALL J. ROWLETTE, Supervisor, Eastern Airlines, Buffalo International Airport, Cheektowaga, New York. The Identification Order (IO) photograph of RAY was shown to all Eastern Airlines employees but none recalled seeing RAY at the airport at any time and, in particular, on April 5, 1968.

Copies of the IO were left with Mr. ROWLETTE for appropriate posting at the airport.

Similar contacts and display of the IO were made through the following persons:

HAROLD J. ROLLER,
Supervisor,
American Airlines

RICHARD HODDER,
Manager,
Mohawk Airlines

P. J. GERNER,
Ticket Counter Supervisor,
and CHARLES HULL,
Flight Operations,
United Airlines

No employee recalled RAY as having been at the Buffalo Airport. IOs of RAY were left with the above persons for appropriate posting.

;cgp

44-1987-Sub G-776

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Hester

F B I

Date: 6/18/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (44-374) (P)
MURKIN
(OO: Memphis)

ReBuairtel to all SACs and Legats, dated 5/7/68,
instructing that 15 copies of all inserts be prepared for
Memphis in this case.

Transmitted herewith for Memphis are 15 copies
each of inserts bearing the following captions:

J "TELEPHONE CALLS BY SUBJECT
JAMES EARL RAY ENROUTE FROM
LOS ANGELES TO NEW ORLEANS"

G "GUESTS OF THE PROVINCIAL MOTEL,
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA,
DECEMBER 17-19, 1967"

E "CHARLES DUNHAM
INFORMATION CONCERNING"

G "PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT
ORDERED BY JAMES EARL RAY
FROM SUPERIOR BULK FILM
COMPANY, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS,
UNDER NAME ERIC S. GALT"

E "DARK BLUE MUSTANG
GEORGIA LICENSE
2D 112-56"

② - Memphis (Encs. 165) (AM)
1 - Buffalo
RGE:mfm
(3)

44-1987-Sub G-777

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[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]

*Inserts placed in
files indicated*
Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

BU 44-374

E "DRIVER OF 1964 OR 1965 FORD,
FLORIDA LICENSE 4W 69100"

G "INVESTIGATION CONCERNING EARL EVERETT RAY,
DECEASED UNCLE OF JAMES EARL RAY"

"EASTERN AIRLINES
CHECK AT BUFFALO"

E "INFORMATION FROM
MRS. GLADYS MEEHAN"

E "THREATS TO MARTIN LUTHER
KING, JR.; INFORMATION
FROM MRS. JESSIE KILGRAS,
PENFIELD, NEW YORK
NOVEMBER 13, 1967"

"MRS. VIOLA V. BORYS"

6/19/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) P
MURKIN

Re Memphis teletype to Director dated 6/17/68.

Records Credit Bureau of Greater Kansas City, city and telephone directories, also logical informants, fail to reveal any individual by the name of BEVERLY HILL in the Kansas City area.

On 6/18/68, BUSTER HILL furnished the following information. His true name is LACLADE LINDEN HILL. He served in the Missouri State Penitentiary from 9/20/65, until 12/15/67, for burglary. He advised that he knew JAMES EARL RAY only by reputation at the prison inasmuch as he was always attempting to escape. He stated that he has never seen RAY in the Kansas City area and that the last time he ever saw RAY was at the prison during one of his escape attempts. He was taken to solitary because of this and has not been seen by HILL since that time.

HILL advised that he knows of no pertinent information regarding RAY, his activities or feelings. HILL advised that he does, at times, go to the Old Fortress Tavern in Kansas City, but has certainly never seen RAY there.

3 Bureau
2 Memphis
2 Minneapolis
2 Kansas City
RBH:IKC
(9)

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Boyle RB

KC 44-760

HILL stated that he has no sister by the name of BEVERLY. He has only two sisters, one of them age 11 and the other named JOYCE.

HILL advised that he has been residing with his parents at 4408 54th Terrace, Kansas City, Missouri, telephone EM 1-1589, but is planning to move to St. Louis and does not know his St. Louis address as yet but can be located through his parents any time that the Bureau wishes to talk to him.

HILL again stated he knows of no one by the name of BEVERLY HILL and that the only person he knows by the name of BEVERLY is a BEVERLY VOGAN who may have been a prostitute and who was recently arrested in Kansas and has been sent to the Kansas State Penitentiary at Lansing, Kansas. HILL advised that he has no other information he believed would be helpful in this matter.

KAY HAMMOND, barmaid, Old Fortress Tavern, Kansas City, advised she knows of no one who patronizes the tavern or in the Kansas City area by the name of BEVERLY HILL.

LEAD:

KANSAS CITY

AT LANSING, KANSAS

Interview BEVERLY VOGAN, inmate, Kansas State Penitentiary, to determine if she has ever used the alias BEVERLY HILL or can furnish any information regarding JAMES EARL RAY.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

May 20, 1968



RE: **JAMES EARL RAY**, also known as:
Eric Starvo Galt, W. C. Herron,
Harvey Lowmyer, James McBride,
James O'Conner, James Walton,
James Walyon, John Willard,
"Jim"

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is attempting to locate James Earl Ray, who is being sought for violation of a Civil Rights Statute and Interstate Flight to Avoid Confinement for the crime of Robbery. He is described as follows:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Birth Data:	3-10-28 at Alton, Illinois
Height:	5' 10"
Weight:	163 to 174 pounds
Hair:	Brown, possibly cut short
Eyes:	Blue

If you have any information which may relate to Ray, or if you observe him in the future, please contact the nearest office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the number of which may be found on the first page of your telephone directory.

Your attention is directed to the fact that Ray may be armed and should be considered dangerous. No action should be taken which will endanger anyone's safety.

Your cooperation in this matter will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

44-1987-Sub G-779

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June 20, 1968

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, Kansas City
FROM: Director, FBI (44-38861)
MURKIN

Unless already completed, Kansas City, at Missouri State Prison, will interview the warden to ascertain whether any information has ever come to his attention concerning the existence of a Coolley Organization.

It is possible sources available to the warden including persons assigned in various capacities to the Missouri State Prison furnished information to the warden which may have been obtained by them in connection with their contacts with various inmates of the prison.

① - Memphis

G

44-1987-Sub-A-480

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Boyle *BB*

F B I

Date: 6/21/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: SAC, BALTIMORE (44-669)
 FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
 SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Los Angeles tel to Baltimore and Memphis dated 4/26/68; and Baltimore airtel to Los Angeles which was undated.

Referenced Baltimore airtel set forth information concerning interview with Mrs. STANLEY WHITNEY OLSON (MARGARET STELLA OLSON), residing in a trailer home behind Star-Lite Inn, Pocomoke City, Maryland, with mailing address of Post Office Box 245, Pocomoke City, and having home telephone number (area 301) 957-2337, who furnished information regarding her daughter, KATHERINE PATRICIA OLSON WILLIAR. KATHERINE WILLIAR placed a call to the home of Mrs. OLSON from the St. Francis Hotel, Los Angeles, where JAMES EARL RAY resided.

Investigation at Los Angeles determined that KATHERINE WILLIAR lived for a time with RITA STEIN. RAY made a special trip to New Orleans, Louisiana to pick up STEIN's children and returned them to STEIN's address, 5656 Franklin Avenue, Los Angeles, at which location OLSON was reported to have left subsequent to RAY's trip to New Orleans.

Efforts to locate KATHERINE WILLIAR in Los Angeles through friends and places she was known to have frequented has met with negative results.

Credit and criminal records in the Los Angeles Division were reviewed with negative results concerning KATHERINE PATRICIA OLSON WILLIAR.

- 2 - Baltimore
- ① - Memphis (Info)
- 2 - Los Angeles

BDH/gja
(5)

44-1987-Sub. A-781

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FBI - MEMPHIS	

[Signature]

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

1 5 9

Date:

Transmit the following in _____

LA 44-1574

(Type in plaintext or code)

(Priority)

LEADBALTIMORE

AT POCOMOKE CITY, MARYLAND: Will recontact Mrs. STANLEY WELTNEY OLSON for any additional information which she might be able to furnish which would assist Los Angeles in locating her daughter.

- 2 -

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

FBI MEMPHIS

??

FBI DETROIT

3:31 PM URGENT 6-24-67 RWA

TO DIRECTOR /44-38861/ AND MEMPHIS 44-1987/

FROM DETROIT /44-616/ /RUC/ 1P

MURKIN.

RE MEMPHIS TEL TO DIRECTOR, JUNE TWENTY LAST.

INQUIRY AT DETROIT POLICE DEPT. AND MICH. STATE POLICE

REVEALS NO RECORDS IN CITIES OF 15 THOUSAND DOLLARS

IN STATE OF MICH. DURING PERIOD APRIL TWENTY THREE, NINETEEN

SIXTY SEVEN, THROUGH JULY FIFTEEN, NINETEEN SIXTY SEVEN,

IF HIGH SUSPECT MIGHT HAVE BEEN INVOLVED.

END

RKS

FBI MEMPHIS

44-1987-Sub-A-182

5 5

6

Boyle GB
Pinter JH

6/24/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) (P)
MURKIN
OO: Memphis

Re Kansas City airtel to Bureau, 5-19-68.

BEVERLY VOGAN^U interviewed this date at the Kansas State Penitentiary. She advised she is currently serving one to seven years for forgery, having been incarcerated since April 1968. She stated she has never used the name BEVERLY HILL, and knows of no one by that name. She advised that BUSTER HILL from Kansas City is a close friend of hers and some people may think they are related, but she never actually used the name BEVERLY HILL.

She does not know the Old Fortress Tavern by name, but stated she frequented several taverns in that area on Troost Boulevard, Kansas City, Missouri, and does not know all of their names. She stated she does not know JAMES EARL RAY, nor has she heard of anyone using that name or any of his aliases. She read about him in the newspapers but knows nothing more. She viewed a photograph of RAY and stated she does not remember seeing the person in the photograph anywhere. She advised she was sick with blood poisoning most of the month of February 1968, and did not visit any taverns at this time. BEVERLY VOGAN also stated she knows of no one by the name PAUL BRIDGEMAN.

3 - Bureau
② - Memphis
2 - Minneapolis
2 - Kansas City
RBH:mlb
(9)

44-1987-Sub-A-783

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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FBI - KANSAS CITY	

Hester

Boyer RB

CO 44-299

WCE: geh

1

RE: PAUL OSBORNE BRIDGMAN

The following investigation was conducted by
SA WILLIAM C. ERVIN at North Augusta, South Carolina, on
June 7, 1968:

Mrs. RONALD GREENE, Apartment 27-A, Savannah Terrace Apartments, advised that she is the manager of these apartments, and has held that position since September of 1964. She stated that when she took the position she was not given any records other than the records of current rental payments to that time. The previous owner was Mr. HUGO SIMS, an Orangeburg, South Carolina attorney. She stated that she came to work when Mr. SIMS sold the Savannah Terrace Apartments to Mr. R.O. BARTON, JR. of the Boatwright Company in Augusta, Georgia, who continued to own these apartments.

Mrs. GREENE advised that she had no current record of Mr. and Mrs. ROBERT L. JENKINS, who resided in Apartment 40-D. She stated that she would attempt to locate any record of them from records given to her at the time she began working. She advised that Mrs. LILLIAN C. PRICE, who resides in Apartment 41-B, had been at that address for approximately fifteen years, and would know Mr. and Mrs. JENKINS, had they resided in the apartments for any length of time.

Mrs. LILLIAN C. PRICE, Apartment 41-B, Savannah Terrace Apartments, advised that she was closely acquainted with ROBERT and RUBY JENKINS, who previously resided at 40-D, the apartment adjacent to hers. She stated that Mr. JENKINS was a Sergeant at Fort Gordon, Georgia, with the United States Army, and he and his wife RUBY had no children. She further advised that RUBY came from Bloomington, Illinois, where her mother currently resided, and where she returned on several occasions to work temporarily in a department store. These occasions were usually caused by temporary duty on the part of her husband, who was frequently called to training exercises in other states. Mrs. PRICE mentioned that ROBERT and RUBY JENKINS frequently received the Bloomington,

44-1987-Sub-B-723A

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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JUN 26 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Herlin *glt*

Illinois, newspaper which was apparently mailed to them under a subscription. She further advised that her recollection is that they moved from the Savannah Terrace Apartments in September of 1963, possibly to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and from there to Germany. Mrs. PRICE continued that her recollection is that the JENKINS' maintained a checking account in a bank in Augusta, Georgia. She continued that she would possibly be able to locate their last address on a card written to her by Mrs. JENKINS; however, this would take some time.

On June 7, 1968, Mrs. RONALD GREENE was recontacted and advised that a search of her records indicates that Mr. and Mrs. ROBERT L. JENKINS, resided in Apartment 40-D, from approximately November, 1963, to November, 1964. No other information was available in these records.

On June 7, 1968, Mrs. LILLIAN PRICE was recontacted and she advised that on December 14, 1964, she received a postcard from RUBY M. JENKINS, who was at that time residing at 2600½, A, Fort Bragg Road, Fayetteville, North Carolina. In that postcard Mrs. JENKINS advised that she was very friendly with her neighbors residing directly behind her. Mrs. PRICE further advised that she received an additional postcard on January 26, 1965, which stated that Mr. JENKINS had been transferred to Germany, and Mrs. JENKINS would join him shortly.

Mrs. FRANCIS KIRSCH, Credit Bureau of Augusta, Augusta, Georgia, provided the following credit report:

A September, 1963, credit report for ROBERT JENKINS reflects that an inquiry was made by the Junction City, Kansas, Credit Bureau, which listed JENKINS as a Sergeant E-5, of the 206th Signal Company, Army Serial Number RA55535647. A 1965, month of February, credit report reflects an address of 260½, Fort Bragg Road, Fayetteville, North Carolina. This report under the name ROBERT L. JENKINS, and indicates a permanent address of 409 East Mill Street, Bloomington, Illinois, Zip Code 61701. Credit record was satisfactory, and no further pertinent information was located.

CO 44-299

CAG:jrc

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA CLARENCE A. GROOMS, JR., on June 11, 1968:

WILLIAM A. CARSWELL, SR., 1317 South Boundary Street, S.W., Aiken, South Carolina, operator of a general store, Highway 215, Aiken, South Carolina, advised approximately a year and a half ago, he recalled a discussion by several individuals at his store concerning the activities of MARTIN LUTHER KING, and that someone mentioned it was a miracle he had not been killed. He further recalled that during this conversation, someone remarked "what would you do if someone approached you," presumably, meaning what would he do if someone approached him to kill KING or donate money for someone to kill KING.

Mr. CARSWELL stated the entire conversation took place so long ago that he is not even sure of the statements made or the individuals who were in his store at that time. He recalled that he did state at the time that he would not be a part to any such action against KING.

Mr. CARSWELL adamantly denied that he had ever been approached to contribute money for the murder of KING. He stated under no circumstances would he ever contribute money for such a cause. He denied any personal knowledge of the KING murder.

WILLIAM A. CARSWELL, JR., 769 Boardman Road, Aiken, South Carolina, informed approximately two years ago, he was in his father's store, identified above, and overheard a discussion between several individuals and his father and recalled that some statement was made about "money being collected" and the "activities of MARTIN LUTHER KING." CARSWELL, JR., stated his recollection of the conversation is now extremely vague, and since his father was a direct participant in the conversation, any statement he, CARSWELL, SR., made as to what was said would be correct. He adamantly denied he had any knowledge any individual had ever approached his father to collect money to murder KING and stated he did not intend to convey such an impression in any conversation he may have had in the past with any individual or individuals. CARSWELL, JR., stated he had absolutely no personal knowledge of the KING murder.

The above two mentioned residents of Aiken, South Carolina, were interviewed based on information received that WILLIAM CARSWELL, SR., had possibly been approached prior to the death of MARTIN LUTHER KING by an individual collecting money to have Dr. KING murdered.

44-1987-Sub-A-783B

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Wester

F B I

Date: 6/25/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, COLUMBIA (44-299)
RE: MURKIN

Re Pittsburgh teletype to Director, 6/10/68, Springfield teletype to Bureau, 6/6/68 and Columbia teletype to Bureau, 6/7/68.

Enclosed are as follows:

1. Nine copies of an insert re PAUL OSBORNE BRIDGMAN showing investigation at North Augusta, S.C., on 6/7/68. This investigation resulted from Springfield teletype to Bureau, 6/6/68.

2. Fifteen copies of an insert showing investigation by SA CLARENCE A. GROOMS, JR., on 6/11/68 at Aiken, S.C. This investigation resulted from referenced Pittsburgh teletype to Bureau, 6/10/68. It is to be noted that this teletype requested that the identity of the source of this information be protected and the last paragraph of this insert explains reason for investigation in order to avoid using a T symbol.

The cost data for this case will be submitted about 7/1/68.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

② - Memphis (Encs. 24)
1 - Columbia

MEM:jc
(3)

44-1987-Sub-A-783C

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SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUN 26 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester

Approved: RT Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

6/25/68

A I R T E L

TO : SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Springfield airtel to Boston dated 5/31/68.

For information of Cincinnati, St. Louis has advised that JOHN EUGENE GAWRON, alleged JAMES EARL RAY and an unnamed man, robbed a bank in June - July, 1967. GAWRON subsequently revealed the location as the Bank of Alton, Illinois, and the unnamed man as JIMMIE (LNU), and that he was visited by JIMMIE (LNU) the night of 5/13 - 14/68. One JAMES H. CARPENTER, FBI #230 243 is known to have visited GAWRON on these dates, however, CARPENTER was in St. Louis City Jail from 6/5/67 - 3/1/68, and could not have participated in the Alton bank robbery.

The bank of Alton, Illinois was robbed by 2 unknown subjects on 7/13/67, wearing nylon stocking masks and using a sawed off shotgun. They escaped with \$27,230. Description of the number 2 man could fit RAY.

Subsequent to the bank robbery a shotgun and items of clothing were found in a vacant lot in Alton, including a white Van Heusen Van-Guard shirt with markings "NO" or "NO", "JOH - U" or "JOH - O", inside collar; a pair of tan pleated trousers with the markings "44--" and "3107-3" on the right front pocket and "T6276" and "07703" on the right rear pocket.

- 2 - Springfield
- 2 - Cincinnati (44-1987) (Info)
- ① - Memphis (44-1987) (Info)
- 1 - Indianapolis (Info)
- 1 - St. Louis (Info)
- 2 - Chicago
- (1 - 91-5375)

JHW:CMS

(4)

44-1987-Sub-A-784

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FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyer 10/15

CG 44-1114

Bureau has instructed that certain offices are to canvas laundry and dry cleaning establishments regarding these laundry and dry cleaning marks.

Mr. RALPH YONKE, American Laundry and Dry Cleaning Institute, Chicago Street, Joliet, Illinois, advised these marks were probably made by a machine manufactured by the National Marking Machine Company, 4026 Cherry Street, Cincinnati, Ohio and that they could indicate the location of machines making the above described markings. He does not know of any such markings being used in the Chicago area.

LEADS

SPRINGFIELD

AT SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS. Will furnish Cincinnati, Chicago and other interested offices specific information re the laundry and dry cleaning markings on the recovered clothing as to whether they were machine or hand made, the color of the ink used and whether they were stamped in the clothing or on material pinned to the clothing.

CINCINNATI

AT CINCINNATI, OHIO. Will contact the National Marking Machine Company, 4026 Cherry Street, and obtain all available information regarding the above described laundry and dry cleaning markings.

F B I

Date: 6/25/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
 (Type in plaintext or code)
 Via TELETYPE URGENT
 (Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
 FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN

RE SI TEL TO BUREAU JUNE TWENTYFOUR LAST.

CAROLYN WYATT INTERVIEWED. STATES SHE KNOWS HAROLD
 RICHARD COVINGTON; THAT HE IS ASSOCIATE OF FORMER BROTHER-
 IN-LAW JOHN MC CLINTOCK, ALSO SUSPECT IN BR; THAT SHE HAS
 LITTLE TO DO WITH HIM AND NOT AWARE HE EVER LIVED FOURTH
 STREET, ALTON. PHOTOS JAMES EARL RAY DISPLAYED WITHOUT
 EFFECTING IDENTIFICATION.

MACOUPIN COUNTY SHERIFF ELVIN SAWYER ADVISED COVINGTON
 HAS NOT BEEN ARRESTED TO DATE BUT NECESSARY PAPERS BEING
 ISSUED FOR ARREST ON THEFT CHARGES. SHERIFF WILL ADVISE
 IF AND WHEN COVINGTON IN CUSTODY THAT COUNTY IN ORDER THAT
 HE MIGHT BE INTERVIEWED BY BUAGENTS.

MAIL COPY SENT CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS.

1 - Springfield (44-561)
 1 - Chicago (44-1114) (AM)
 ① - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
 1 - St. Louis (44-775) (AM)
 RCH/ssj
 (4)

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[Signature]

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
 Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date: 6/26/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)
Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN

RE SI TEL TO BUREAU JUNE TWENTYFIVE LAST.

SI ONE SIX ONE FOUR DASH C TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED HE HAS BEEN UNABLE TO MAKE CONTACT WITH PERSONS WHO WOULD BE ABLE TO VERIFY RESIDENCE OF HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON ON FOURTH STREET, ALTON, JULY, NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN. STATED HE IS CERTAIN COVINGTON LIVED THERE AND CONTINUING EFFORTS TO VERIFY.

COVINGTON NOT YET ARRESTED BY MACOUPIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE.

MAIL COPY SENT CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS.

1 - Springfield (44-561)
1 - Chicago (44-1114) (AM)
① - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
1 - St. Louis (44-775) (AM)
RCH/ssj
(4)

G

44-1987-Sub-A-786

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SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUN 27 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle GP

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

June 26, 1968

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO SAC SPRINGFIELD (44-561)
FROM DIRECTOR FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO BUREAU JUNE TWENTYFIVE
INSTANT.

IN VIEW OF FACT COVINGTON CONSIDERED A SUSPECT
IN ALTON BANK ROBBERY, YOU SHOULD INSTITUTE YOUR OWN
EFFORTS TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW HIM. YOU ARE REMINDED
THAT ALL ASPECTS OF THIS BANK ROBBERY MUST BE IMMEDIATELY
INVESTIGATED TO DETERMINE IF SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY IS
IMPLICATED. KEEP BUREAU FULLY ADVISED OF PERTINENT
DEVELOPMENTS. AIRMAIL COPY TO MEMPHIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

① - MEMPHIS

44-1987-Sub-A-787

6

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
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FBI - MEMPHIS	

glt

6/27/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, BALTIMORE
(44-38861)

FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114)

MURKIN

RE CHICAGO AIRTEL TO SPRINGFIELD JUNE TWO FIVE SIXTY
EIGHT.

FOR INFO BALTIMORE, ST. LOUIS ADVISED THAT JOHN
EUGENE GAVRON HAS ALLEGED JAMES EARL RAY AND UNNAMED MAN
ROBBED BANK OF ALTON, ILLINOIS ON JULY THIRTEEN SIXTY SEVEN.
THIS BANK WAS ROBBED ON THAT DATE BY TWO UNKNOWN SUBJECTS
WEARING NYLON STOCKING MASKS AND USING SAWED OFF SHOTGUNS.
LOOT TWENTY SEVEN ^{THOUSAND} TWO HUNDRED THIRTY DOLLARS. SUBSEQUENT
TO BANK ROBBERY SHOTGUN AND CLOTHING ITEMS FOUND IN VACANT
LOT IN ALTON AND LAUNDRY AND DRY CLEANING MARKS LOCATED IN

- 1 - Springfield (44-561)(Info)(AM)
- 1 - St. Louis (44-775)(Info)(AM)
- 1 - Indianapolis (44-775)(Info)(AM)
- ① - Memphis (44-1987)(AM)
- 2 - Chicago
(1 - 91-5376)

JHW:CMH
(6)

44-1987-Sub-A-788

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JUN 28 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

[Signature]

DATE FILE STRIPPED 6/4/87
INITIALS mo
RE: BU AIRTEL DTD 11/3/88

PAGE TWO

~~RE~~ CLOTHING. BUREAU HAS INSTRUCTED CHICAGO, SPRINGFIELD, ST. LOUIS AND INDIANAPOLIS TO CANVAS LAUNDRY AND DRY CLEANING ESTABLISHMENTS RE THESE MARKS. CIRCULAR BEING PREPARED BY BUREAU TO FURNISH TO LAUNDRY AND DRY CLEANING ESTABLISHMENTS. ADDRESSOGRAPH PLATES AVAILABLE FOR LAUNDRY CIRCULARIZATION IN ILLINOIS. LIST OF DRY CLEANING ESTABLISHMENTS IN ILLINOIS AND OTHER STATES WHERE CIRCULARIZATION DESIRED CAN BE OBTAINED THROUGH NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DRY CLEANERS, NINE ZERO NINE BURLINGTON AVENUE, SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND. APPROXIMATELY ONE FOUR ZERO ZERO DRY CLEANERS LOCATED IN STATE OF ILLINOIS. BALTIMORE CONTACTED THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DRY CLEANERS AT SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND, OBTAIN LIST OF DRY CLEANERS IN TERRITORIES OF CHICAGO, SPRINGFIELD, ST. LOUIS AND INDIANAPOLIS. DETERMINE IF ADDRESSOGRAPH AVAILABLE. IF NOT, DETERMINE IF COUNTY BREAKDOWN CAN BE OBTAINED FOR INTERESTED OFFICES.

AIR MAIL COPIES BEING SENT TO SPRINGFIELD, ST. LOUIS, INDIANAPOLIS, AND MEMPHIS.