

PAGE TWO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 19, 1968

ATTORNEY GENERAL RAMSEY CLARK ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE FBI HAS IDENTIFIED JAMES EARL RAY, AN ESCAPEE FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, AS ERIC STARVO GALT, AGAINST WHOM A FEDERAL COMPLAINT WAS FILED LAST WEDNESDAY IN CONNECTION WITH THE FATAL SHOOTING OF THE REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER SAID THAT A SYSTEMATIC AND EXHAUSTIVE SEARCH OF LATENT FINGERPRINTS UNCOVERED IN THE DR. KING CASE AGAINST THE FINGERPRINTS OF THE OVER 53,000 PERSONS FROM WHOM "WANTED NOTICES" HAVE BEEN POSTED IN THE FILES OF THE FBI'S IDENTIFICATION DIVISION LED TO THE DETERMINATION THAT GALT AND RAY ARE IDENTICAL.

MR. HOOVER SAID THAT RAY, WHO IS 40 YEARS OF AGE, WAS REPORTED MISSING FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI, SINCE APRIL 23, 1967. HE HAD BEEN RECEIVED AT THAT INSTITUTION ON MARCH 17, 1960, TO SERVE A 20-YEAR SENTENCE FOLLOWING CONVICTION IN ST. LOUIS FOR ARMED ROBBERY AND FOR OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE OWNER.

PAGE THREE

IN SEPTEMBER, 1966, WHILE SERVING THIS SENTENCE, HE WAS CONFINED FOR A TIME IN THE MAXIMUM SECURITY WARD AT THE STATE HOSPITAL AT FULTON, MISSOURI.

ACCORDING TO MR. HOOVER, RAY HAS A KNOWN ARREST RECORD DATING BACK TO 1949. PRIOR TO THE 1960 CONVICTION FOR WHICH HE RECEIVED THE 20-YEAR TERM, RAY HAD BEEN CONVICTED OF BURGLARY IN LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, IN 1949; ARMED ROBBERY IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, IN 1952; AND FORGING UNITED STATES POSTAL MONEY ORDERS IN MISSOURI IN 1955.

HE HAS SERVED TERMS IN THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY JAIL IN 1949; IN STATE PRISONS AT JOLIET AND PONTIAC, ILLINOIS, IN 1952-54; AND IN THE FEDERAL PENITENTIARY AT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS, IN 1955-58.

RAY WAS AN ENLISTED MAN IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY FROM FEBRUARY, 1946, TO DECEMBER, 1948, AT WHICH TIME HE WAS GIVEN A GENERAL DISCHARGE DUE TO INEPTNESS AND LACK OF ADAPTABILITY FOR MILITARY SERVICE. WHILE IN THE ARMY, HE RECEIVED A THREE-MONTH SENTENCE AT HARD LABOR FOR BEING DRUNK AND BREAKING ARREST.

MR. HOOVER SAID THAT DURING HIS CRIMINAL CAREER, RAY HAS ALSO USED THE NAMES OF JAMES MCBRIDE, JAMES WALTON, W. C. HERRON AND JAMES O'CONNER. HE IS A WHITE MALE; CLAIMS TO HAVE

*James O'Conner  
aka  
James Jerome  
Munich  
88-4387*

*James Walter Mitchell  
aka  
James O'Conner  
aka  
James Jerome  
Munich  
88-4387  
aka  
James O'Conner  
aka  
James Jerome  
Munich  
88-4387*

PAGE FOUR

BEEN BORN [REDACTED], IN ILLINOIS; IS APPROXIMATELY 5 FEET 10 INCHES TALL AND WEIGHS ABOUT 163 TO 174 POUNDS. HE HAS BLUE EYES AND BROWN HAIR. THERE IS A SMALL SCAR ON THE CENTER OF HIS FOREHEAD AND A SCAR ON THE PALM OF HIS RIGHT HAND.

RAY HAS CLAIMED THAT HE ATTENDED SCHOOL THROUGH THE 10TH GRADE IN ALTON, ILLINOIS. HE HAS HAD THE REPUTATION OF BEING A "DRIFTER" SINCE LEAVING SCHOOL. HIS VOCATIONAL EXPERIENCE INCLUDES WORKING AS A BAKER, LABORER AND COLOR MATCHER.

IN CONNECTION WITH HIS ESCAPE FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, AN FBI COMPLAINT WAS FILED IN JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI, ON JULY 20, 1967, CHARGING RAY WITH UNLAWFULLY FLEEING FROM THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO AVOID CONFINEMENT. HE HAS BEEN A FEDERAL FUGITIVE SINCE THEN.

RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS. ANYONE HAVING INFORMATION CONCERNING HIM SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT FBI HEADQUARTERS IN WASHINGTON, D. C., OR THE NEAREST FBI OFFICE.

END

KAS

FBI OMAHA

4/19/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114)  
FROM: SAC, OMAHA (44-310)(P)  
RE: MURKIN

Re Chicago teletype to Omaha 4/18/68.

On 4/18/68 LE (MRS. CHARLES R.) REECHER, aka Mrs. LE MORISSE, her previous married name, currently residing with her daughter BRENDA (MRS. JERRY ALLEN) WEBER, (P.O. Box 85), Mead, Nebraska, advised that both she and her daughter are in process of obtaining divorces from their husbands who travel together and are away from home almost continuously.

Mrs. MORISSE related that although married to him since 6/16/66, she had not ever come to know much about CHARLES R. REECHER and that, except for that having to do with his employments, marriage, and description, he is the only source of the information set out below, the authenticity of which she has no way to verify.

REECHER was paroled early in 1966 from the Illinois State Penitentiary where he had been sentenced for rape. She became acquainted with him when they were both employed at International Harvester, Moline, Illinois, and J.I. Case, Bettendorf, Iowa. Either through direct association or mutual acquaintances at the penitentiary, REECHER became closely associated with Chicago hoodlums "Little Caesar" (an "Italian name" not recalled by Mrs. MORISSE), MIKE (LNU) and PETER VERDINO. REECHER "thinks the world" of "Little Caesar". The "Double R" bar or tavern in Chicago is operated by MIKE (LNU) and VERDINO.

2 - Chicago  
2 - Memphis (44-1987)  
2 - Omaha  
CR:skd (6)

Searched  
Serialized  
Indexed  
Filed

OM 44-310


On or about 3/24/68 REECHER and WEBER returned to Mead and during their conversations regarding his trip, REECHER told Mrs. MORISSE they had been in Chicago where PETER VERDINO had "offered him (REECHER) a contract to kill 'KING' for \$20,000" or, as an alternative, to "transport dope out of New York" for \$10,000. REECHER said he had not accepted either offer and sought Mrs. MORISSE's views concerning them which she expressed as "a ridiculous idea" for him even to consider.

REECHER and WEBER again departed Mead on or about Sunday March 31 and returned Sunday 4/7/68, reportedly by bus to Fremont or possibly Omaha, Nebraska, where they were picked up by WEBER's mother. They stayed only about 24 hours when they left again, taking Mrs. MORISSE's car, a black two-door Ford, about 1962 model, license or VIN not immediately available, and their present whereabouts are unknown to her. During that time REECHER mentioned that WEBER had a gun and that he had taken possession of it for safekeeping. She did not see a gun nor was it described to her. No reference was made by REECHER to their previous conversation about his offer of "a contract" nor to the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., which had occurred during the previous week and Mrs. MORISSE was prompted to advise the FBI of these circumstances only after long deliberation and her conclusion that she should not withhold it even though it may be without significance.

Mrs. MORISSE requested that her identity be protected in any investigation which may be undertaken with respect to the information furnished by her.

REECHER was described as white male, born [redacted], 6'2½, 230 pounds, light brown curly hair with blond streaks; blue eyes and always wears hornrimmed glasses; native of Coleta, Dixon or Sterling, Illinois; employed, since early 1966 when paroled from Illinois State Penitentiary, as welder and lift truck operator, at International Harvester, Moline, Illinois, J.I. Case, Bettendorf, Iowa, Independent Metals and Omaha Steel, Omaha.

OM 44-310

 JERRY ALLEN WEBER was described as white male, born or 46, 6', slender build. His (adoptive) parents are LAWRENCE and EDNA WEBER who operate the Spart Time Cafe at Mead. An adopted sister is LINDA WEBER, employed as Nurse's Aid at University Hospital, Omaha. WEBER described as lazy and dependent upon his mother for pocket money.

LEAD

CHICAGO

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. Will conduct appropriate investigation to determine the identities of "Little Caesar", MIKE LNU and PETER VERDINO and whether VERDINO in fact may have been implicated in instant conspiracy.

F B I

Date: **APRIL 19, 1968**Transmit the following in **PLAINTEXT**  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via **TELETYPE** **URGENT**  
(Priority)

TO: **DIRECTOR (44-38861)**  
**CHICAGO**  
**KANSAS CITY**  
**MEMPHIS (44-1987)**  
**LOS ANGELES**  
**SALT LAKE CITY**  
**SPRINGFIELD**

*Birmingham*

FROM: **OMAHA (44-310)**  
**MURKIN.**

RECORDS OF THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE, LINN COUNTY, CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, REVEAL JAMES EARL RAY WAS TAKEN OFF <sup>A</sup>MILWAUKEE <sup>RR</sup>FREIGHT TRAIN AT MARION, IOWA, ON APRIL EIGHTEEN, NINETEEN FIFTY, BY DEPUTY SHERIFF HARLAN SNYDER AND AN UNIDENTIFIED OFFICER OF THE MARION POLICE DEPT. SNYDER IS NOW DECEASED. RAY WAS CHARGED WITH VAGRANCY AND WAS DESCRIBED AT THE TIME OF HIS ARREST AS A WHITE MALE, BORN [REDACTED], PLACE NOT STATED, FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES, ONE THIRTYFIVE LBS., SLENDER BUILD, BROWN HAIR, BLUE EYES, DARK COMPLEXION, THREE INCH SCAR ON PALM OF RIGHT HAND. RAY GAVE HIS FATHER AS GEORGE E. RAY AND HIS MOTHER AS LUCILLE RAY, BOTH RESIDING AT ONE FOUR THREE NINE CEDAR STREET, QUINCY, ILLINOIS. HIS FATHER WAS EMPLOYED AS A SWITCHMAN ON THE BB AND Q RAILROAD. NO EMPLOYMENT

HVB:am  
 (2)

Searched

Serialized

Indexed

Filed

44-310-95

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

Sent

Per

WA: 623P  
 ST, BH, RE 6:43P  
 KC, CG 7:00P  
 LA SU 7:50P

*Carroll TC*

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

PAGE TWO

OM 44-310

LISTED FOR MOTHER. RAY LISTED TWO BROTHERS, [REDACTED], AGE SIXTEEN, AND [REDACTED], AGE FOURTEEN, BOTH RESIDING AT HOME.

RAY GAVE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF HIMSELF AT TIME HE WAS CHARGED WITH ~~UN~~GRAVANCY: ENLISTED IN U.S. ARMY IN FEBRUARY, NINETEEN FORTYSIX, AT ALTON, ILL. SERVED IN GERMANY TWO YEARS FIVE MONTHS. RECEIVED HONORABLE DISCHARGE. THEREAFTER WORKED IN CHICAGO THREE MONTHS AT DRYDEN RUBBER CO. LOCATED, ROOSEVELT ROAD AND KILDAIRE AVE., CHICAGO.

WENT TO LOS ANGELES WHERE WORKED FOR BRYNES SHEET METAL CO. LOCATED LOS ANGELES AVE. AS DRILL PRESS OPERATOR. WHILE WORKING FOR BRYNES SHEET METAL WAS ARRESTED BY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, LOS ANGELES, ON A MISDEMEANOR CHARGE, ILLEGAL ENTRY OF BUILDING. STAYED IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY JAIL FOR SEVENTYEIGHT DAYS AWAITING TRIAL AND THEN WAS SENTENCED TO NINETY DAYS IN COUNTY JAIL. ON RELEASE WAS PLACED ON PROBATION TO C. E. GLASCO, DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, TWO ZERO FIVE SOUTH BROADWAY, LOS ANGELES, WHO GAVE RAY PERMISSION TO LEAVE LOS ANGELES AND PROCEED TO HIS HOME AT QUINCY, ILL. RAY CLAIMED TO BE EN ROUTE QUINCY, ILL., AT TIME WAS REMOVED FROM FREIGHT TRAIN AT MARION, IA.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date:

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(Type in plaintext or code)Via \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)**PAGE THREE****OM 44-310**

RAY STATED HE HAD BEEN BUMMING RIDES ON TRAINS FROM LOS ANGELES TO MARION AND HAD BEEN THROUGH NEEDLES, ARIZ., AND LAS VEGAS, NEV. RAY CLAIMED HE MET MAN NAMED BILL HOLLAND AND GAMBLLED WITH BILL HOLLAND AT LAS VEGAS WHERE HE LOST MONEY, BUT DID RETAIN SEVERAL ROLLS OF SILVER WHICH HE HAD IN HIS POSSESSION AT TIME OF ARREST. FROM LAS VEGAS, STATED HE WENT BY TRAIN TO SALT LAKE CITY AND WAS EN ROUTE FROM SALT LAKE CITY TO QUINCY, ILL., AT TIME OF HIS ARREST AT MARION, IA. HE STATED BILL HOLLAND RESIDED SALT LAKE CITY BUT GAVE NO DESCRIPTIVE DATA REGARDING BILL HOLLAND.

WHILE RAY WAS BEING HELD IN LINN COUNTY JAIL, CEDAR RAPIDS, THE LINN COUNTY SO CONTACTED ALL CITIES WHERE HE WAS KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN PREVIOUSLY IN AN EFFORT TO DETERMINE IF THE SILVER HE HAD IN HIS POSSESSION COULD HAVE BEEN STOLEN. ALL REPLIES WERE NEGATIVE, AND NO INDICATION RAY WAS WANTED IN ANY OF THOSE CITIES.

RAY WAS PHOTOGRAPHED ON APRIL EIGHTEEN, NINETEEN FIFTY, BY LINN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE. A COPY OF THIS PHOTOGRAPH HAS BEEN OBTAINED. THE NOSE OF THE SUBJECT, THE EARS AND THE MOUTH BEAR

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date:

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(Priority)

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RESEMBLANCES TO WANTED FLYER NO. FOUR FOUR TWO RE GALT. RAY WAS RELEASED BY LINN COUNTY SO, MAY EIGHT, NINETEEN FIFTY, AFTER BEING GIVEN FOUR MONTHS SUSPENDED SENTENCE ON VAGRANCY CHARGE. NO INDICATION IN RECORDS OF SO, CEDAR RAPIDS, THAT RAY WAS ACQUAINTED WITH ANY PERSON IN CEDAR RAPIDS DASH MARION, IOWA, AREA, OR THAT HE HAD BEEN IN THIS AREA PRIOR TO HIS ARREST.

UNLESS PREVIOUSLY COVERED, BY RESPECTIVE OFFICES, CHICAGO, SPRINGFIELD, LOS ANGELES AND SALT LAKE CITY WILL CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION REGARDING ABOVE.

*Armed & Dangerous*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

OM 44-310

WDF:rjm

1

The following investigation was conducted by  
Special Agent WILLIAM S. FAUST, III:

AT DES MOINES, IOWA

On April 15, 1968, MARILYN BIONDI, Records and Identification, Des Moines Police Department, advised that a search of the indices of her office reveal no file identifiable with ERIC STARVO GALT.

On April 15, 1968, JOHN HACKLEY, Records, Polk County Sheriff's Office, advised that a search of the indices in his office reveal no file identifiable with ERIC STARVO GALT.

On April 15, 1968, IDA HATCHER, Drivers License Index, Iowa Department of Public Safety, advised that a search of indices of her office reveal that there is no drivers license issued in the State of Iowa for ERIC STARVO GALT.

On April 15, 1968, DOROTHY PARAS, Title Section, Iowa Department of Public Safety, advised that a search of the indices in her office indicate that there is no registration issued in the State of Iowa for a vehicle belonging to ERIC STARVO GALT.

On April 15, 1968, MYRTLE SCHWACHER, Clerk, State Headquarters, Iowa Selective Service System, advised that a search of indices of her office indicate that there is no registration in the State of Iowa for ERIC STARVO GALT.

On April 15, 1968, SHARON HACK, Des Moines Credit Bureau, advised that her office has no record for ERIC STARVO GALT.

On April 15, 1968, a search of the Des Moines telephone directory covering the city of Des Moines and surrounding area revealed that there is no listing for anyone with the last name of GALT.

SEARCHED .....	INDEXED .....
SERIALIZED .....	FILED .....
APR 19 1968	
FBI — OMAHA	

Cedar Rapids, Iowa  
April 19, 1968

TO: SAC, OMAHA (44-310)  
FROM: SA HAROLD W. BRUEGGEMAN  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 4/17/68, I contacted the following news media:

Cedar Rapids Gazette  
WMT- TV Radio and Television Station  
KCRG Radio and Television Station  
KHAK Radio  
KLWW Radio

All of the above had the news release and photos. The Cedar Rapids Gazette and the TV stations all carried the photo of Galt •

44-310-97

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 20 1968	
FBI — OMAHA	

Carroll HC

MEMO

4/19/68

TO: SAC (44-310)  
FROM: SA DALE F. MORITZ  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re phone call from SA THOMAS CARROLL 4/19/68.

On 4/19/68 the following major newspapers, radio and TV stations were contacted and advised they were in possession of the news release identifying ERIC STARVO GALT as JAMES EARL RAY, an escapee from the Missouri State Penitentiary:

WHO Radio and TV, Des Moines  
KRNT Radio and TV, Des Moines  
WCI Radio and TV, Ames, Iowa  
Des Moines Register and Tribune  
KSC Radio, Des Moines  
KIOA Radio, Des Moines  
WKY Radio, Des Moines

The above radio and TV stations stated they would give the new release item repeated broadcast coverage.

44-310-98

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 20 1968	
FBI - Des Moines	

Carroll HC

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (44-38861)

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (44-760)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/19/68

Enclosed to the Bureau are six copies and to each office one copy of the following photographs:

JAMES EARL RAY, Missouri Department of  
Correction #00416, dated 3/17/60 and  
9/8/66

WALTER TERRY RIFE, Kansas City SO #29636  
FBI #4558766

Stand up photographs of RAY on the left, Kansas City SO  
#29637 and RIFE, Kansas City SO 29236, taken 3/28/55.

2 - Bureau (Encs. 24) (AM)  
2 - Each Field Office (Encs. 4) (AM)  
2 - Kansas City  
(120)

44-310-99

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 20 1968	
FBI — OMAHA	

*Canell* *TC*



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, OMAHA

FROM : SPC MICHEAUX

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/21/68

OMAR H. ADLER, 411½ North Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, phone 385/2724, telephonically advised this office that he had seen JAMES EARL RAY at an auction which was held at Cameron and Joyce Company, Keokuk, Iowa. ADLER stated that he had observed subject about 12:30 p.m. 4/21/68.

ADLER described subject as strange acting and a loner. He added that he might have had sandy brown curly hair and a larger than normal ear.

44-310-100

SEARCHED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INDEXED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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APR 21 1968	
FBI - OMAHA	

*not Pleasant Yc*



5010-108-01

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-310)(P)

DATE: 4/20/68

FROM : Cassius Rathbun SA

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 4/20/68 3:55PM telephone call received from BEN MC CHURCH, Clinton, Iowa, 242-2164, operator of a restaurant, who advised that on Wednesday evening 4/17/68 he received a telephone order for a pizza from one "KEN" who did not give his last name because he said it was "hard to pronounce". When the customer called for the pizza, it was not ready and he drank a beer while waiting for it and during a light conversation with MC CHURCH, mentioned that he was with the FBI, had been in Memphis two days before the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING and was enroute either to or from Los Angeles. He was dressed neatly and of middle age and MC CHURCH did not question his statement until he got no response from the man when he mentioned that he was "from TERRY ANDERSON's home town" and was acquainted with him. Since the customer appeared not to be familiar with the name TERRY ANDERSON, MC CHURCH then questioned whether he was in fact with the FBI but thought no more about it until concluding, after having seen various pictures of GALT and RAY, that a resemblance existed between them and his customer of Wednesday evening whom he assumed was stopping over at a nearby motel.

LEAD at Clinton, Iowa

Will conduct appropriate investigation at MC CHURCH's restaurant and nearby motel as to possibility individual described is identical with JAMES EARL RAY.

A & D



5010-108

44-310-101

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APR 20 1968	
FBI — OMAHA	

*End to Williams*  
*Cassius Rathbun*

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

1024PM IMMEDIATE 4-19-68 LLD

TO ALL SACS EXCEPT KANSAS CITY, ANCHORAGE, HONOLULU AND SAN JUAN  
MESSAGE RELAY PLAN  
FROM DIRECTOR 5P

MURKIN. 00: MEMPHIS.

JAMES EARL RAY, AKA. EARL JAMES RAY, W. C. HERRON, EARL JAMES,  
JAMES MC BRIDE, JAMES O'CONNER, JAMES WALTON, JAMES WALYON, JIM  
- FUGITIVE; UFAC - ROBBERY FIRST, BUFILE 68-41730. 00: KANSAS  
CITY, KC FILE 68-9449; DETERMINED TODAY BY BUREAU TO BE IDENTICAL  
WITH ERIC STARVO GALT, AGAINST WHOM FEDERAL COMPLAINT FILED APRIL  
SEVENTEEN LAST IN CONNECTION WITH FATAL SHOOTING OF DR. MARTIN  
LUTHER KING, JR.

JAMES EARL RAY, INMATE, MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, JEFFERSON  
CITY, MO., ESCAPED PEN APRIL TWO THREE, SIXTY-SEVEN. INVESTIGATION  
INDICATED RAY CONCEALED HIMSELF IN A BREAD BOX AND ESCAPED FROM  
TRUCK MAKING DELIVERY TO AN AUXILIARY FARM. RAY WAS SERVING TWENTY  
YEARS ON CHARGE OF ARMED ROBBERY - FIRST DEGREE AND FOR OPERATING A  
VEHICLE WITHOUT OWNER'S CONSENT. ON JULY TWENTY, SIXTY-SEVEN,  
END PAGE ONE

*SA Currenall  
advised  
[Signature]*

44-310-102

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APR 19 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

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FEDERAL COMPLAINT AUTHORIZED BY AUSA WILLIAM A. KITCHEN, WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY, MO., FILED BEFORE USC, JEFFERSON CITY, MO., CHARGING RAY WITH VIOLATION TITLE EIGHTEEN, SECTION ONE ZERO SEVEN THREE, USC. WARRANT ISSUED.

INVESTIGATION HAS BEEN CONDUCTED BY CHICAGO, SPRINGFIELD, ST. LOUIS, AND KANSAS CITY OFFICES IN UNPRODUCTIVE EFFORT TO LOCATE THIS FUGITIVE. KANSAS CITY IS INSTITUTING A FULL AND COMPLETE REINVESTIGATION IN AN EFFORT TO DEVELOP BACKGROUND DATA, RELATIVES, AND ASSOCIATES OF SUBJECT, WHO MIGHT BE IN A POSITION TO ASSIST IN HIS LOCATION.

IN THIS CONNECTION, JAMES EARL RAY AND WALTER TERRY RIFE ON MARCH SEVEN, FIFTY-FIVE, BURGLARIZED THE U. S. POST OFFICE AT KELLERVILLE, ILL., AND STOLE SIXTY-SIX BLANK U. S. POSTAL MONEY ORDERS WHICH THEY PASSED DURING MARCH, FIFTY-FIVE, IN NUMEROUS STATES, WITH THE RESULT THAT BOTH WERE SENTENCED IN U.S.D.C., KANSAS CITY, MO., ON JULY ONE, FIFTY-FIVE, TO USP, LEAVENWORTH,  
END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

KANSAS. SUBJECT RAY HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS A LONER AND RIFE APPARENTLY IS ONE OF HIS FEW CLOSE ASSOCIATES, SUGGESTING POSSIBILITY THEY COULD HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATES IN MURDER OF DR. KING, AND INVESTIGATION ALSO INSTITUTED IN KANSAS CITY AIRTEL TO SPRINGFIELD MARCH ELEVEN LAST TO DEVELOP BACKGROUND INFO RE RIFE AND TO LOCATE HIM FOR INTERVIEW. THIS INVESTIGATION SHOULD ALSO BE RECOVERED AND EXPEDITED TODAY, IT BEING NOTED RIFE AND RAY HAVE BACKGROUND HISTORY IN THE QUINCY, ILL., AREA.

PHOTOS OF JAMES EARL RAY AND WALTER TERRY RIFE ARE BEING FORWARDED AMSD TO BUREAU AND ALL OFFICES.

FOLLOWING IS DESCRIPTION OF JAMES EARL RAY AS FURNISHED BY FBI IDENTIFICATION DIVISION UNDER FBI NO. THREE ZERO SIX FOUR FOUR THREE A: WHITE MALE, DOB [REDACTED] OR [REDACTED], AT DECATUR, QUINCY OR ALTON, ILL.; APPROXIMATELY FIVE FEET TEN; ONE SEVEN FOUR LBS., IN SEPTEMBER SIXTY-SIX; RUDDY COMPLEXION; BLUE EYES; BROWN HAIR; MEDIUM BUILD; OCCUPATIONS LABORER AND BAKER; SCARS AND MARKS--SMALL SCAR ON CENTER OF FOREHEAD AND SCAR IN PALM OF RIGHT HAND. ADDRESSES--ST. LOUIS, MO., MARCH SIXTY, TWO ZERO ONE FIVE PARK, ST. LOUIS, MO., OCTOBER FIFTY-NINE; QUINCY, ILL., JULY FIFTY-FIVE, MARCH FIFTY-FIVE, AND APRIL FIFTY; HOTEL QUINCY, QUINCY, END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

ILL., MARCH FIFTY-FIVE; VICTOR HOTEL, QUINCY, ILL., MARCH FIFTY-FIVE;  
EIGHT FIVE THREE WEST FULLERTON, CHICAGO, ILL., MAY FIFTY-TWO; EIGHT  
ZERO FIVE ALBY STREET, ALTON, ILL., JULY FIFTY-ONE. FPC--SIXTEEN,  
M OVER M, NINE OVER FOUR, U OVER W, 000 OVER IOI, TWELVE, REF NINE  
OVER TWELVE. NCIC FPC--ONE SIX ONE THREE ONE ONE ZERO ZERO ONE TWO  
ONE TWO I I ONE TWO I I ONE SEVEN. MILITARY RECORD--JAMES EARL RAY,  
SN ONE SIX ONE SIX THREE ONE TWO NINE, ENLISTED U. S. ARMY FEBRUARY  
FORTY-SIX, AT EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL., AND SERVED ON ACTIVE DUTY UNTIL  
DECEMBER TWENTY-THREE, FORTY-EIGHT, AT WHICH TIME GIVEN GENERAL  
DISCHARGE AS PRIVATE FIRST CLASS AT CAMP KILMER, N. J., BY REASON  
OF INEPTNESS AND LACK OF ADAPTABILITY FOR MILITARY SERVICE. RECORDS  
ALSO INDICATE HE RECEIVED TREATMENT FOR GONORRHEA AND SYPHILIS WHILE  
A MEMBER OF THE MILITARY.

FOLLOWING IS A DESCRIPTION OF WALTER TERRY RIFE, FBI NO.

END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

FOUR FIVE FIVE EIGHT SEVEN SIX SIX, AS OBTAINED FROM FILES OF USP,  
LEAVENWORTH: WHITE MALE, AGE FORTY-FOUR, DOB [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], FIVE FEET NINE AND ONE HALF, ONE SIX ONE LBS., BROWN  
HAIR, EYES BLUE GRAY.

KANSAS CITY IS SETTING OUT ALL PERTINENT LEADS TODAY BY  
TELETYPE AND TELEPHONE FOLLOWED UP BY TELETYPE CONFIRMATION.  
ALL LEADS MUST BE COVERED WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS WITH BUREAU,  
KANSAS CITY, AND MEMPHIS BEING KEPT ADVISED BY APPROPRIATE  
COMMUNICATION OF PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS.

SUGGEST BUREAU MAKE IMMEDIATE COMPARISON OF ANY LATENT  
FINGERPRINTS DEVELOPED DURING KING INVESTIGATION WITH THOSE  
OF WALTER TERRY RIFE TO DETERMINE IF IDENTICAL.

AIR MAIL COPIES SENT ANCHORAGE, HONOLULU AND SAN JUAN.  
LEGAT MEXICO CITY AND OTTAWA ADVISED.

SUBJECT RAY HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF ROBBERY WITH DEADLY  
WEAPON, HAS BEEN CONFINED IN STATE HOSPITAL, FULTON, MO., IN  
SIXTY-SIX, AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

-P-

END

IJS

FBI OMAHA

TU

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, 44-310

DATE: 4/19/68

FROM : SA Ben C. Nix

SUBJECT: MURKIN

The following individuals were contacted concerning the press release advising of the identity of JAMES EARL RAY as the subject in this matter. All contacted advised they had the press release.

Joe Matthes  
Telegraph Herald Newspaper  
Dubuque, Iowa

WDBQ Radio Station  
Phil Kelly  
Dubuque, Iowa

KDTH Radio Station  
Scott Harrington  
Dubuque, Iowa

1 - 44-310  
BCN/bcn

44-310-103

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 22 1968	
FBI - OMAHA	

*Conrad*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, OMAHA(44-310)

DATE: 4/19/68

FROM : SA ARNOLD J. KUTA

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Memos to All Agents 4/15/68 & 4/17/68.

On 4/17/68, the following dance studios were contacted at  
Davenport, Iowa, with negative results re ERIC STARVO GALT:

ARTHUR MURRAY Dance Studios, 221½ Brady Street;  
FRANK & LEE Dance Studio enterprises, Inc. 2202 W. 3rd;  
Judi Lange School of Dance, 830 W. 14th;  
Maryella's Dance Studio, 415 Perry Street;  
Mason Dance Studio, 403 West 3rd;  
Eleanor Pucci Miller School of Dancing, 421½ Brady;  
Rae Dance Studio, 1536 W. Locust.

On 4/17/68, the following news media were contacted re the  
press release concerning GALT and all advised they had previously  
received all the info from wire stories (AP or ~~WUP~~ UPW or network):

DICK SCOTT, News Reporter, WOC Radio-TV, Davenport;  
JEFF BLAKE, News Reporter, KSTT Radio, Davenport;  
VIRGINIA LAZIO, Times-Democrat newspaper, Davenport;  
Robert W. SCHMIDT, KWNT Radio, Davenport;  
LEE F. WHITE, Editorial Consultant, Clinton Herald, Clinton;

On 4/19/68, the following news sources were contacted re the  
additional press release re JAMES EARL RAY, aka Eric Starvo Galt,  
and all advised they already had the stories from wire sources:

TOM HECHT, Reporter, WOC Radio-TV, Davenport;  
JEFF BLAKE, KSTT Radio, Davenport;  
TOM NEWSOME, Reporter, ~~Dan~~ Times-Democrat Newspaper, Davenport;  
ROBERT W. SCHMIDT, Manager, KWNT RADIO, Davenport (MUTUAL affilia  
LEE F. WHITE, The Clinton Herald, Clinton, Iowa; 44-310-104

AJK:  
44-310;



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

SEARCHED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INDEXED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SERIALIZED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FILED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
APR 22 1968	
FBI - OMAHA	

*Carroll* *TD*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, OMAHA (44-310)

DATE: 4/20/68

FROM : SA EDWIN W. FLINT

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 4/19/68, the following persons were contacted regarding the Bureau press release dated 4/19/68, and each said that this release had been received on the AP or UPI news wires, and were being used in newscasts by each agency:

FRANCIS VEECH, Waterloo Daily Courier, Waterloo, Iowa  
DAN YATES, KCFI Radio Station, Cedar Falls, Iowa  
BUD KILMAN, KWUL - Radio and TV, Waterloo, Iowa  
JIM KERR, KXEL Radio Station, Waterloo, Iowa  
STEWART HASS, Editor, Daily Record Newspaper, Cedar Falls, Ia.

Each of the stations was using this material in newscast broadcasts or publications as of 4/19/68.

EWf  
(1)



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

44-310-105

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
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*Camell* *TC*

F B I

Date: 4/20/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND SACS PHOENIX  
MEMPHIS (44-1987)  
BIRMINGHAM

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

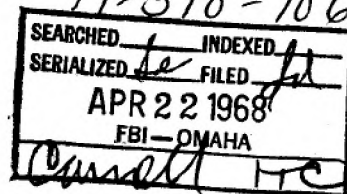
MURKIN

RE OMAHA TEL TO BUREAU, APRIL NINETEEN LAST, AND SALT  
LAKE CITY TEL TO BUREAU, APRIL TWENTY INSTANT.

ASSOCIATES OF SUBJECT: REFERENCED OMAHA TELETYPE SET  
FORTH INFORMATION GIVEN BY SUBJECT IN APRIL NINETEEN FIFTY,  
WHEN ARRESTED IN MARION, IOWA. HE CLAIMED HE GAMBLLED WITH  
ONE BILL HOLLAND IN LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, PRIOR TO ARREST IN  
APRIL NINETEEN FIFTY. REFERENCED SALT LAKE CITY TEL ADVISES  
ONE WILLIAM HENRY HOLLAND MOVED TO LOS ANGELES ABOUT NINETEEN  
FIFTY SEVEN. NO INFORMATION DEVELOPED INDICATING HOLLAND  
PRESENTLY IN LOS ANGELES AREA; HOWEVER, REPORT OF SA DANIEL

- 1 - Kansas City (AM)
- ① - Omaha (44-310) (AM)
- 1 - Salt Lake City (44-253) (AM)

JGK/cld  
(4)



Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

LA 44-1574

PAGE TWO

E. KELLY, PHOENIX, JULY TWENTY EIGHT, NINETEEN SIXTY FIVE, BUREAU FILE TWENTY SIX DASH THREE FIVE ZERO NINE ONE NINE, PHOENIX FILE TWENTY SIX DASH TWO FOUR ONE ONE TWO, STATES WILLIAM HENRY HOLLAND, FBI NUMBER SIX SIX THREE FOUR FIVE, SENTENCED IN U. S. DISTRICT COURT, PHOENIX, ON JULY TWENTY SEVEN, NINETEEN SIXTY FIVE, FOR PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS. IT IS NOTED HOLLAND WAS IN USP LEVENWORTH, SAME TIME AS SUBJECT.

PHOENIX REQUESTED TO DETERMINE THE PRESENT WHEREABOUTS OF HOLLAND AND INTERVIEW HOLLAND FOR ANY PERTINENT INFORMATION LEADING TO WHEREABOUTS OF SUBJECT.

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: SAC, ALBANY  
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN - COST DATA

ReButel to ME 4/17/68.

For information of all offices, the Bureau by retel requested of the Memphis Division as follows:

"Please furnish following information on above matter compiled or estimated through 4/30/68, and thereafter submit cumulative totals through the end of each month until further notice:

- 1) Number of man hours spent on case broken down as to regular hours, overtime hours, and total man hours by following employees (separate figures for each class of employees shown):
  - A. Special Agents
  - B. Clerical Employees
- 2) Total mileage (estimated or actual) traveled by Bucars used on case. Include mileage for cars traveling to and from other field offices on special assignment and any personally-owned cars.
- 3) Any unusual or out-of-ordinary costs, such as cost of chartering airplane, rental of special office space, leased telephone lines, etc. These should be itemized and cost of each item shown.

① - Each Office OM  
2 - Memphis  
HEG:LF  
(59)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

44-310-107

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(pls handle)

**ME 44-1987**

- 4) Peak number of Special Agents working on case during month for which report is submitted.**

**You should promptly request all Bureau offices involved in this case to furnish information requested herein to you and it should be included in your report."**

**Each office is requested to expeditiously furnish the Memphis Division with the above designated data within two work days after the close of each month. Secondly, each office is also requested to advise the Memphis Division even in the event each category is zero or no work is performed on this case during the month.**

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AM  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: SAC, ALBANY

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN

At about 6 p.m. on 4/4/68, while standing on the second floor balcony outside Room 306 of the Lorraine Motel, 406 Mulberry Street, Memphis, Tennessee, Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. was struck in the right side of the face by a single bullet fired from a 30-06 rifle. The bullet severed KING's spinal cord and death was almost instantaneous.

This investigation, predicated upon a specific request from the Attorney General of the United States, disclosed that the fatal shot had been fired from the bathroom of a cheap rooming house located at 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, which bathroom was located at the rear of the rooming house, and had a window overlooking the Lorraine Motel.

At about 3 p.m. on 4/4/68, an individual using the name JOHN WILLARD had rented Room 5-B in the rooming house at 422½ South Main Street and had paid one week's rent. After hearing the rifle shot at about 6 p.m. on that same day, other tenants in the rooming house observed a man presumably identical with WILLARD, fleeing from the rooming house carrying a large package which was subsequently abandoned by him on the sidewalk in front of the Canipe Amusement Co., 424 South Main Street, Memphis. A neighborhood investigation in the vicinity of 424 South Main Street disclosed that the subject had fled from the scene in a white Mustang.

Found abandoned in front of 424 South Main Street was a 30-06 Remington model 760 rifle which was determined to have been

2 ALBANY

2 ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES

1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN  
(111)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M

44-310-10 2

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*[Signature]* *HC*

ME 44-1987

sold to one HARVEY LOWMEYER on 3/30/68 by Aeromarine Supply Co., Birmingham, Alabama.

Investigation at Memphis disclosed that an individual had purchased a set of binoculars at the York Arms Company in Memphis on 4/4/68. These binoculars were among the material abandoned with the rifle and recovered in Memphis. Also recovered was a brown and green herringbone bedspread. The items abandoned in Memphis were all wrapped in this bedspread. The blue bag which was inside the bedspread contained numerous items, among which were the binoculars and a set of underwear consisting of a T-shirt and shorts. The T-shirt and shorts are those on which appears the laundry mark which has been a matter of interest in this case.

A search of motel records in the Memphis area disclosed that an individual using the name ERIC S. GALT had spent the night of 4/3/68 at the Rebel Motel, Memphis, Tennessee, and was driving a 1966 white Mustang bearing Alabama License 1-38993. Investigation at Birmingham disclosed that this automobile had been purchased by ERIC S. GALT on August 30, 1968, from a private person in response to a newspaper ad. He paid a total of \$1995 cash. While in Birmingham he furnished the address of 2608 South Highland Avenue, Birmingham. This is also the address which appeared on a driver's license issued to him by the State of Alabama. The driver's license identifying data listed his birth date as [redacted], his height as 5'11", his weight as 170 and his eyes blue and hair brown.

The automobile in question, the white Mustang bearing the Alabama tags mentioned above, was recovered in Atlanta on 4/11/68 and determined to have been abandoned there prior to 9 a.m. on 4/5/68.

In connection with the evidence submitted by Atlanta, Birmingham, and Memphis, identifiable latent prints were recovered. It was on the basis of these latents that identification was made of JAMES EARL RAY. In handling future leads, all offices should be particularly interested in securing an identifying number, military, police, or FBI, in connection with suspects so that the necessary check can be made through the Identification Division.

On 4/17/68, AUSA R. MACEY TAYLOR, Birmingham, authorized the filing of a complaint charging ERIC STARVO GALT with a conspiracy to violate Section 241, Title 18, U. S. Code, and

**ME 44-1987**

**recommended bond in the amount \$50,000. On that same date, SAC JOSEPH H. GAMBLE filed a complaint before USC MILDRED F. SPRAGUE, Birmingham, and warrant was issued that same date.**

**For further information re JAMES EARL RAY, all offices are directed to press release furnished them by the Bureau on 4/19/68.**

**ARMED & DANGEROUS.**

FBI OMAHA

402PM URGENT 4/22/68 GJM

TO ALL SACS RELAY MESSAGE PLAN

FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 1P

MURKIN

YOU ARE REMINDED THAT ALL LEADS IN THIS CASE MUST BE COVERED WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS, AND ALL LEADS MUST BE SET FORTH BY TELEPHONE OR TELETYPE. ALL BORDER OFFICES COVERING ENTRY INTO MEXICO AND CANADA AND EXIT THEREFROM SHOULD INSURE THAT APPROPRIATE STOPS ARE MAINTAINED RE SUBJECT AND ALL NAMES KNOWN TO BE USED BY HIM AT RESPECTIVE OFFICES OF U. S. IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PATROL. YOU SHOULD ALSO INSURE THAT PREVIOUS STOPS PLACED WITH ANY FACILITY SHOULD INCLUDE ALL NAMES USED BY THE SUBJECT.

DISTRIBUTE SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES OF WANTED FLYERS AND IO'S TO NARCOTIC INVESTIGATIVE AGENCIES IN ORDER THAT THEIR INFORMANTS MAY BE CONTACTED. YOU SHOULD CONTACT ALL CRIMINAL INFORMANTS AND APPROPRIATE RACIAL AND SECURITY INFORMANTS. LEGATS OTTAWA AND MEXICO CITY BEING ADVISED SEPARATELY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

RLB

FBI OMAHA

44-310-109

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Cedar Rapids, Iowa  
4/21/68

TO: SAC, OMAHA (44-310)  
FROM: SA HAROLD W. BRUEGGEMAN  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Reur memo of 4/19/68.

On 4/19/68, I contacted the below listed news media, and found that they all had the Bureau's press release regarding James Earl Ray, and all had available his photo:

WMT - TV and Radio

KCRG - TV and Radio

KHAK - Radio

KWWL

~~██████~~ - Radio

The Cedar Rapids Gazette.

The Gazette carried the story about Ray and his photo on page one, and the local TV stations exhibited the photo in their news casts, along with the story.

44-310-110

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*Canellite*

4/23/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114)  
FROM: SAC, OMAHA (44-310) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 4/23/68, GREG J. KIBBIE, Chief of Police, Valley, Nebraska, advised he works part time at the Two Rivers State Recreation Area, south of Venice, Nebraska, and that on 4/22/68, the Superintendent, RICHARD WOLKOW, had advised as follows:

On 4/17/68, TROY EARLS, 4240 11th Street, Rockford, Illinois, was registered as an overnight camper; he was driving a camper, make not recorded or recalled, Illinois license B 282390.

After viewing TV and newspaper photographs of him, WOLKOW concluded there was some resemblance between EARLS and JAMES EARL RAY, aka, Fugitive, and recalled that EARLS had inquired of him regarding gun laws in the State of Nebraska.

LEAD

CHICAGO

AT ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

Will conduct appropriate investigation to determine whether TROY EARLS might be identical with JAMES EARL RAY, aka, Fugitive.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

2 - Chicago  
2 - Memphis  
② - Omaha  
CR:cmk  
(6)

Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
Serialized \_\_\_\_\_  
Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed \_\_\_\_\_

44-310  
Carroll TC

~~578~~ ~~25-9086~~  
MEMO, SAC Omaha (44-310)  
from SA Pasternak

MURKIN

44-310-112

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Conell TC

Below contacted 4/18/68 & said  
their records fail to contain  
name of Galt & they don't know a Galt

- ① COP Thurston Nelson,  
Kearney, Neb PD
- ② Dale Sautter, SO, Kearney
- ③ Ida Miller, Cr Bu of "
- ④ Bonnie Applegate Co Clerk, "
- ⑤ no dance studios in Kearney.  
Aher Landstrom, PM, Astell, Neb
- ⑥ Almer Fitzke, COP Munden "
- ⑦ Al Brenhoff, SO, "
- ⑧ Not in Munden phone book
- ⑨ no dance studios in Munden.
- ⑩ County Clerk Adrian H. Mayson
- ⑪ Mel Olson, SO Geneva
- ⑫ Edgar Wiggins, SO Red Cloud
- ⑬ Joes Johnston, SO Belvoir
- ⑭ Lloyd Pontine, SO, Clay Center

OM 44-310

WBF:rjm

1

*file as memo  
per SA Carroll*

The following investigation was conducted by  
Special Agent WILLIAM B. FAUST, III:

AT DES MOINES, IOWA

On April 15, 1968, MARILYN DIONDI, Records and Identification, Des Moines Police Department, advised that a search of the indices of her office reveal no file identifiable with ERIC STARVO GALT.

On April 15, 1968, JOHN HACKLEY, Records, Polk County Sheriff's Office, advised that a search of the indices in his office reveal no file identifiable with ERIC STARVO GALT.

On April 15, 1968, IDA HATCHER, Drivers License Index, Iowa Department of Public Safety, advised that a search of indices of her office reveal that there is no drivers license issued in the State of Iowa for ERIC STARVO GALT.

On April 15, 1968, DOROTHY PARKS, Title Section, Iowa Department of Public Safety, advised that a search of the indices in her office indicate that there is no registration issued in the State of Iowa for a vehicle belonging to ERIC STARVO GALT.

On April 15, 1968, MYRTLE SCHMACHER, Clerk, State Headquarters, Iowa Selective Service System, advised that a search of indices of her office indicate that there is no registration in the State of Iowa for ERIC STARVO GALT.

On April 15, 1968, SHARON HACK, Des Moines Credit Bureau, advised that her office has no record for ERIC STARVO GALT.

On April 15, 1968, a search of the Des Moines telephone directory covering the city of Des Moines and surrounding area revealed that there is no listing for anyone with the last name of GALT.

*44-310-112*

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*N*

## DECODED COPY

☒ Radio

4-23-68

☐ Teletype

TO: ALL FIELD OFFICES

FROM: DIRECTOR

MURKIN

REMEAIRTEL TO ALL OFFICES APRIL ONE NINE LAST FURNISHING BACKGROUND DATA CONCERNING JAMES EARL RAY.

SUBJECT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED POSSIBLE SUSPECT IN ANY UNSOLVED BANK ROBBERIES, BURGLARIES OR ARMED ROBBERIES (POSSIBLE ITSP VIOLATIONS) OCCURRING AFTER APRIL TWO THREE ONE NINE SIX SEVEN. RAY SHOULD ALSO BE CONSIDERED SUSPECT IN ANY FUTURE SUCH VIOLATIONS AND BUREAU ADVISED TELEPHONICALLY OF ANY TENTATIVE IDENTIFICATION.

ANY PERTINENT LEADS DEVELOPED DURING REVIEW OF PAST VIOLATIONS SHOULD BE EXPEDITIOUSLY RUN OUT AND BUREAU ADVISED.

SUBJECT'S HANDWRITING AND HAND PRINTING NOT IDENTIFIED IN BANK ROBBERY NOTE FILE AND HIS FINGERPRINTS ARE BEING SEARCHED AGAINST LATENTS SUBMITTED IN UNSOLVED BANK ROBBERY AND BURGLARY VIOLATIONS.

SUBJECT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

TOR: 1:23 PM RTB

44-310-114

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Canell TC

*If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.*

FBI OMAHA

FBI KAN CITY

455 PM URGENT 4/23/68 LIB

TO DIRECTOR, ATTN FBI LAB, MEMPHIS, OMAHA  
FROM KANSAS CITY 44-760 2P

MURKIN.

JACK FOX LANPHERE, WARSAW, MO., FORMER INMATE, MSP, ADVISED  
A ROBERT DALE PORTER, FBI NO. FOUR FIVE NINE ZERO FOUR TWO, MAY  
HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH RAY IN KING MURDER. STATED PORTER CALLED  
HIM APRIL THIRTEEN LAST AT CITY UNION MISSION, WARSAW, MO. LANPHERE  
BELIEVES PORTER RECENTLY PAROLED MSP. PORTER TOLD HIM HE WAS IN  
SERIOUS TROUBLE, HAD TO KEEP MOVING, AND WANTED LANPHERE'S HELP.  
INDICATED WANTED MONEY FROM LANPHERE BUT TOLD PORTER HE DID NOT  
WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH HIM AND DID NOT WANT TO SEE HIM. PORTER  
SAID HE WAS STAYING AT OSAGE HOTEL IN WARSAW AND THREATENED LANPHERE  
THAT WHEN HE RETURNED TO MSP FOR SOME VIOLATION PORTER'S FRIENDS  
WOULD KILL HIM IF HE DID NOT HELP PORTER NOW. LANPHERE ADVISED  
PORTER KNOWS JAMES RAY VERY WELL. WAS AT MSP FROM NINETEEN SIXTY  
THROUGH FEBRUARY, SIXTYEIGHT. STATED PORTER WOULD DO ANYTHING FOR  
MONEY. ADVISED THAT PORTER IS A WHITE MALE, AGE FORTY, FIVE FT.  
NINE, HUNDRED SEVENTYFIVE, CREW-CUT HAIR, GREYING, PRESCRIPTION

*SA Adams advised  
@ 5:45 & will relay  
to SA Flint*

44-310-115

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*Wanted for*  
*Flint*  
*Handle immediately*

*87-12400 } Prob Ident.  
4482 } Robert Dale Porter  
16845 }*

KC 44-760

PAGE TWO

GREEN-TINTED GLASSES. RELATIVES LIVE IN IOWA. PORTER HAS DONE TIME AT FT. MADISON, IOWA, PEN.

OWNER, OSAGE HOTEL, WARSAW, MO. ADVISED HER REGISTRATION BOOKS SHOW REGISTRATION FOR ROBERT DALE PORTER, WAVERLY, IOWA, ON APRIL TWELVE LAST. TOLD HER HE HAD BEEN HITCHHIKING, HAD COME FROM TEXAS, AND WAS EN ROUTE TO IOWA. HE WAS CARRYING ONLY A SMALL DUFFLE BAG .

OMAHA, AT WAVERLY, IOWA, ATTEMPT TO LOCATE ROBERT DALE PORTER AND INTERVIEW HIM RE HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH SUBJECT.

FBI LAB, IF THERE ARE ANY UNIDENTIFIED LATENT PRINTS IN THIS MATTER, IT IS SUGGESTED THEY BE CHECKED AGAINST FINGERPRINTS OF ROBERT DALE PORTER, FBI NO. FOUR FIVE NINE ZERO FOUR EIGHT TWO.  
O O ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

CORR PAGE ONE, LINE SEVEN, WD FIVE... LANPHERE'S

PAGE TWO, LINE SIX, WD THIRTEEN DUFFLE

CAUTION STATEMENT SHLD BE ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

SCD

FBI OMAHA

FBI OMAHA

FBI WASH DC

1159PM DEFERRED 4/23/68 LCC

TO KANSAS CITY 44-760 MEMPHIS 44-1987 OMAHA  
FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 1P

MURKIN

REKCTEL APRIL TWENTYTHREE.

REMAINING UNIDENTIFIED FINGERPRINTS INSTANT CASE NOT IDENTICAL  
FINGERPRINTS ROBERT DALE PORTER, FBI NUMBER FOUR FIVE NINE ZERO  
FOUR EIGHT TWO. NO PALM PRINTS HERE FOR PORTER.

END.

GG

GJPD

FBI OMAHA

TU

44-310-116

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SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
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*Carroll*

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

Case No. 19118  
Judge Charles A. Hittner

Kansas City, Missouri  
April 26, 1958

WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

PRESENTENCE REPORT

NAME James Earl Ray

CITIZENSHIP

ADDRESS Transient

MARITAL STATUS

AGE 27 years (Born March 17, 1928)

NUMBER OF DEPENDENTS

SEX Male

OFFENSE

RACE White

United States

Single

None

Forgery of U. S. Postal Money Order

I. OFFENSE:

This defendant on April 1, 1955 entered a plea of guilty to an information in one count which charges that he on or about March 21, 1955 at Kansas City, Missouri knowingly, wilfully, unlawfully, and feloniously forged a material endorsement on a U. S. Post Office Department Money Order No. 7-12,239,597. On this same date a companion, Walter Terry Rife, entered a plea of guilty in District No. 19119 to an information in one count charging him with the forgery on March 21, 1955 of postal money order No. 7-12,239,597. Imposition of sentence as to defendant and his companion was deferred and this presentence investigation was ordered.

The facts of the case are as follows: On March 7, 1955 the U. S. Post Office at Jolietville, Illinois was burglarized and sixty-six blank U. S. Postal Money Orders, Serial Nos. 7-12,239,535 to 7-12,239,600 inclusive, and the office validating stamp were stolen. On March 8, 1955 at Alton, Illinois an unsuccessful attempt was made to cash one of these stolen money orders. On March 21, 1955 one of the stolen money orders, order No. 7-12,239,597, was presented to Askin's Clothing Company, 1276 Grand Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri, by an unknown person in payment for a suit of clothes which was never picked up after alterations had been made. This money order, which was in the amount of \$75.00, was made payable to Willard J. McBride with the purchaser being shown as Vernon McBride. On this same date an unknown person presented stolen money order No. 7-12,239,568 to the Chaffee Office Machine Company, 1410 Grand Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri, in payment for a used portable Remington typewriter. This money order, too, was in the amount of \$75.00 payable to Willard J. McBride with the purchaser being shown as Vernon McBride. The manager of this firm, being suspicious of this transaction, directed an employee to follow the customer. The employee noted the model and make of the automobile entered by the customer and the license number of the car. Later when this money order was ascertained

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Conrad

to have been stolen a description of the customer and his automobile was given to post office inspectors who alerted the Missouri State Highway Patrol. A Highway patrolman on March 23, 1955 at Hannibal, Missouri arrested in this automobile Walter Terry Rife, James Earl Ray, and a woman companion who has been released. Thirty-four of the money orders stolen from the Jellerville, Illinois Post Office were found hidden under the dash above the glove compartment in this automobile. All of them had been stamped with the validating stamp. Some were made out ready for cashing while others were not.

On March 24, 1955 Rife executed a statement for postal inspectors in which he admitted he had prepared, forged and uttered the postal money order presented to the Chaffee Office Supply Company in Kansas City. He admitted preparing the money order which was uttered on forged endorsement at Askin's Clothing Company, Kansas City, Missouri. He admitted that he had prepared the face of the money orders made ready for cashing and which were found in the automobile in which he was arrested. He admitted cashing numerous other money orders on forged endorsements in the states of Florida, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Missouri. He recalled unsuccessfully attempting to cash the money order at Alton, Illinois on March 8, 1955. In his statement he admits that he purchased in Quincy, Illinois the stolen money orders. They were sold to him by an unidentified man for \$20. On March 24, 1955 Ray, declining to execute statement for postal inspectors, did verbally state that he had participated with Rife in the cashing of the stolen money orders in the various states. He denied actually knowing that the money orders were stolen. However, he admittedly presumed that they were for he had been told by Rife that they had been purchased for \$20. He admitted that it was he who forged and uttered the money order presented at Askin's Clothing Company in Kansas City, Missouri. He stated that he purchased for \$1 in St. Louis, Missouri from a "wino" named Willard J. McBride the identification he and Rife used in uttering the money orders.

The two money orders uttered by Rife and Ray in Kansas City, Missouri and as well the money order Rife attempted to utter in Alton, Illinois have been recovered. As noted previously thirty-four of the money orders were recovered in the automobile. On April 18, 1955 when reinterviewed by postal inspectors, Rife and Ray gave particulars relating to the cashing of twenty-seven additional stolen money orders located by the Regional Accounting Office. The particulars are as set out in the following table:

Last three digits	Cashed by	Cashed at	Second Indorser	Date of earliest discernible bank stamp	Am.
538	Rife	St. Louis, Mo.	(Illegible)	Mar. 15	\$50
543	Ray	do	Dumas Men's Shop	Mar. 17	\$55
547	Ray	Hot Springs, Ark.	Backay Art Galleries	Mar. 21	\$75
548	Rife	do	Brown's Dept. Store	Mar. 21	\$75
550	Rife	St. Petersburg, Fla.	Topp's	Mar. 15	\$75

552	Rife	Memphis, Tenn.	Borg & McGargo	Mar. 11	\$65
557	Ray	New Orleans, La.	Bright Tailors	?	\$75
558	Rife	do	Schneiders	Mar. 21	\$75
559	Rife	do	Todd's Sportswear Shop	Mar. 18	\$50
560	Rife	Hot Springs, Ark.	None apparent	Mar. 21	\$50
561	Ray	do	Dinos (?) J. C. Ross	Mar. 21	\$75
562	Rife	do	Lockwood's Men's Store	Mar. 23	\$50
577	Rife	do	Pfifers of Arkansas	Mar. 21	\$75
578	Ray	do	Biles Music Co.	Mar. 21	\$75
582	Rife	Daytona Beach, Fla.	Squires, Inc.	Mar. 13	\$50
583	Ray	do	C. K. Slaughter	Mar. 15	\$50
585	Rife	St. Petersburg, Fla.	(Ivan G. Whipple I. Zucker)	Mar. 13	\$50
586	Ray	do	Arnold's Mens Wear	Mar. 14	\$75
587	Ray	do	Dunoffs Footwear	Mar. 14	\$50
589	Rife	do	Isabelle Abrams	?	\$75
591	Ray	Tampa, Fla.	Rio Liquors Inn.	Mar. 13	\$50
592	Rife	do	Knox (?) Bar & Luncheonette	Mar. 13	\$75
593	Rife	do	The Hub	Mar. 14	\$50
595	Ray	Tallahassee, Fla.	Alford Bros. Inc.	Mar. 12	\$50
596	Ray	St. Petersburg, Fla.	Kings Credit Clothing	Mar. 14	\$50
598	Ray	Daytona Beach, Fla.	(Illegible)	Mar. 15	\$75
599	Rife	Hot Springs, Ark.	Chas. Hearn(?)	Mar. 21	\$75

\*Both Rife and Ray say no money orders cashed by them in banks.

Two of the stolen money orders have not yet been recovered. They, however, are accounted for as Ray has admitted cashing one of them at a luggage store in Kansas City, Kansas and Rife admits cashing one of them at Miami Beach, Florida.

It is pertinent to note that, following the apprehension of Rife and Ray, postal inspectors obtained from the room which they occupied a quantity of merchandise they had acquired by passing the stolen money orders. Found in their room were a typewriter, several pieces of luggage, a radio, a camera, a wristwatch, a considerable quantity of new wearing apparel for men, and other items. They have authorized the postal inspectors to return this merchandise to the stores or individuals from whom it was obtained.

## II. PRIOR RECORD:

Defendant's F. B. I. Fingerprint Return No. 306 hu3 A reveals the following arrests and dispositions:

10-11-49 : Sheriff's office, Los Angeles, California - suspicion of burglary. 12-30-49 sentenced to 6 months in county jail for burglary. Served 90 days and released on probation for period of 2 years. Defendant states that he was drink-

ing in the rear of a cafe when he was seen by the cafe manager. He ran from the scene and was later apprehended. He says that after being placed on probation he went to Chicago, Illinois to reside and that he reported to a probation officer in Los Angeles, California by mail.

- 1-18-50 : Sheriff's office, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. - vagrancy. Disposition not shown, but defendant states he was released and instructed to leave town.
- 7-23-51 : Alton, Illinois Police Department - no operator's license, no state license, no city license. Released to pay later. Defendant states he was fined \$55 and required to purchase the necessary licenses.
- 5-6-52 : Chicago, Illinois police - robbery. 6-13-52 sentenced to term of 1 to 2 years in Illinois State Penitentiary, Joliet, Illinois. Defendant reluctantly admitted to the writer that while intoxicated he held up a taxicab driver. On 7-7-52 he was received at the Illinois State Prison, Pontiac, Illinois in transfer from Joliet, Illinois institution. He was released by minimum expiration on 3-12-54.
- 8-30-54 : Sheriff, Edwardsville, Illinois - burglary and larceny. Defendant states that he burglarized a cleaning shop in East Alton, Illinois but denies stealing anything. Although no disposition has been made on this charge of burglary he apparently is not wanted.
- 3-23-55 : Hannibal, Missouri police for instant offense. Released to federal authorities following day.

### III. FAMILY HISTORY:

#### Defendant

This defendant, age 27, was born [redacted] in Alton, Illinois.

He is an only child. He resided in the parental home in Alton until age 18. During that time, however, he frequently visited with his paternal grandparents in Quincy, Illinois. When about age 18 he entered the army. Following discharge from military service in 1948 he resided for a short time in Quincy, Illinois. He then moved to Chicago, Illinois where he resided for a period of about six months before moving to Los Angeles, California. As noted in the section, Prior Record, he was convicted of burglary and sentenced to jail in Los Angeles. When released on probation from that sentence he returned to residence in Chicago where he lived alone until he was committed in June of 1952 to the Illinois State Penitentiary. Since his release from the Illinois State Penitentiary in March of 1954 he has been rather transient living principally in Quincy, Illinois.

Father

George Ray reportedly died of a heart condition in 1947 at age about

49. He was an employee of the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad and reportedly had no arrest record.

Mother

Lucille (nee Baker) Ray died of a liver condition in 1949 at age 51.

Other relatives

Defendant refuses to identify his several aunts and uncles who reside

in Quincy, Illinois.

IV. HOME AND NEIGHBORHOOD:

When not incarcerated defendant has lived principally in Alton and Quincy, Illinois. Since his release from the Illinois State Penitentiary in March 1954 he has been rather transient. His last known residence for any period of time was at the Virginia Hotel in Quincy, Illinois.

V. EDUCATION:

Defendant states that he completed the 1st through the 8th grades at St. Mary's School in Alton, Illinois. He states that in 1952 while residing in Chicago, Illinois he attended the Academy of Adults and obtained the equivalent of a two-year high school education.

VI. RELIGION:

Defendant denies any affiliation. His mother was Catholic, and his father was Protestant. While in military service he infrequently attended Catholic services.

VII. INTERESTS AND ACTIVITIES:

None.

VIII. HEALTH:

Defendant is 5' 10 1/2" tall, weighs 170 lbs., has a ruddy complexion, blue eyes, and brown hair. There are no apparent marks or scars of identification. He apparently is in good health. He states that before becoming involved in the instant offense he was in the process of positioning for admittance to a Veterans Hospital in Illinois for a general physical checkup. He denies a history of surgery other than a tonsillectomy in Chicago in 1952. He denies a history of venereal disease or the use of narcotics. He states that he is a "moderate drinker."

**IX. EMPLOYMENT AND MILITARY HISTORY:**

Defendant states that at Alton, Illinois on February 19, 1946 he enlisted in the U. S. Army. He received his basic training at Camp Crowder, Missouri. He was then transferred to Camp Silner, New Jersey to await transportation to the European Theater of Operations. He states that he left the continental limits of the United States for Germany in July of 1946. Overseas he was attached to the 382nd Military Police Battalion. He admits that he was once AWOL for a period of two days which resulted in a suspended sentence to confinement for period of sixty days. He returned to the United States from Germany in December of 1948 and was, he states, on December 23, 1948 given a general discharge under honorable conditions.

Defendant states that his last employment was with an uncle whom he refuses to identify but who resides in Quincy, Illinois. He worked for this uncle as a painter for a period of time in the summer of 1954.

He claims that from August 1951 to May 1952 he was employed by the Borg Erickson Corporation, Chicago, Illinois. This employment was terminated when he was arrested for robbery, which eventually resulted in a penitentiary sentence.

He states that from July of 1950 to June 1951 he was employed by the Arday Corporation, Chicago, Illinois. He was discharged from this employment for absenteeism caused by his arrest in Alton, Illinois for vagrancy when visiting in that city.

He claims that from April 1950 to July of 1950 he was employed as a laborer at a wage of 90¢ per hour by the Hoo Produce Company, Chicago, Illinois. He claims to have left this employment to accept more lucrative employment.

From July 1949 to September 1949 defendant states he was employed as a laborer at a wage of \$1.10 per hour by the Dryden Rubber Company, Chicago, Illinois. He quit this job to move to California.

He purports that from May 1944 to December of 1945 he was employed at a wage of 65¢ per hour by the International Shoe Company, Hartford, Illinois. He indicates he was laid off by this employer in a general reduction of forces and that he then entered the army.

**X. RESOURCES AND LIABILITIES:**

None.

**XI. SUMMARY:**

This defendant, white male, age 27, no dependents, has entered a plea of guilty to an Information in one count which charges that he at Kansas City, Missouri -

on or about March 21, 1955 forged a stolen U. S. Postal Money Order. This money order was one of sixty-six such orders stolen in a burglary of the U. S. Post Office, Kellerville, Illinois on March 7, 1955. Defendant emphatically denies the burglary of the post office. He states that his companion in the instant offense, Walter T. Rife, when he met at a bar in Quincy, Illinois suggested that he accompany Rife and cash the money orders which Rife reportedly had purchased from an unknown person. Defendant states that he purchased for \$1 the identification he and Rife used in uttering these stolen orders in various states. When arrested for the instant offense defendant was in possession of thirty-four money orders which had been stolen from the Kellerville, Illinois Post Office. He admits the forgery and uttering of fourteen money orders. His companion, Rife, has admitted the forgery and uttering or attempting to utter eighteen of the stolen money orders.

Approximately one year before becoming involved in the instant offense defendant was released from service of a sentence of one to two years for armed robbery in the Illinois State Penitentiary. In August of 1954 he burglarized a cleaning establishment in East Alton, Illinois. Although he admittedly was charged with burglary he apparently has never been before the appropriate court and apparently is not presently wanted on this charge. In 1949 in Los Angeles, California he was convicted of burglary and sentenced to eight months in the county jail. After serving ninety days of this sentence he was released on probation for a period of two years.

Defendant shows absolutely no remorse at this time. He anticipates receiving a substantial sentence for the instant offense. In writer's opinion, he is a confirmed criminal and a menace to society when in the free world.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward B. Murray  
U. S. Probation Officer

EBB:lo

F B I

Date: 4/23/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS

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

MURKIN

Enclosed for each Office is one copy of a pre-sentence report prepared regarding JAMES EARL RAY for the U. S. District Court, Western District of Missouri, Kansas City, Missouri, dated April 26, 1955. This report contains background information regarding JAMES EARL RAY, including his travel through numerous states in connection with the theft and passing of stolen money orders in March, 1955. RIFE located and interviewed Quincy, Illinois.

**LEADS**

All Offices are requested to review the enclosure thoroughly for the purpose of covering all pertinent leads suggested in the enclosure. This coverage should include, if not already done, a check of all places where the subject is listed as having been incarcerated, all places at which he is believed to have visited in the passing of stolen money orders, and any other investigation, including contact of law enforcement agencies, credit bureaus, public sources, informants and any other logical investigation suggested by the enclosed material which might assist in developing information helpful in locating JAMES EARL RAY at this time.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

3 - Memphis (Enc. 1)  
 2 - Chicago (Enc. 1)  
 2 - Jacksonville (Enc. 1)  
 2 - Little Rock (Enc. 1)  
 2 - Los Angeles (Enc. 1)  
 JLK:ak  
 (25)

2 - Miami (Enc. 1)  
 2 - New Orleans (Enc. 1)  
 2 - Omaha (Enc. 1)  
 2 - St. Louis (Enc. 1)  
 2 - Springfield (Enc. 1)  
 2 - Tampa (Enc. 1)  
 2 - Kansas City

44-310-118

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1968	
FBI - OMAHA	

*Canell*  
*(Review this for leads)*  
*n*

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

Sent \_\_\_\_\_  
 Per \_\_\_\_\_

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537**

4-23-68 307 HJC

The following FBI record, NUMBER **405 942 G**, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY. Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. WHERE FINAL DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE IS DESIRED, COMMUNICATE WITH AGENCY CONTRIBUTING THOSE FINGERPRINTS.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Army	James Earl Ray #16 163 129	February 19, 1946		
Sheriff's Office Los Angeles, California	James Earl Ray #B-119908	October 11, 1949	suspicion of burglary	
Police Department Los Angeles, California	James Earl Ray #139648	October 11, 1949	suspicion 459 Penal Code (burglary)	8 months County Jail suspended; 2 years probation served; first 90 days County Jail; 146 December 30, 1949 Cs129438
Sheriff's Office Cedar Rapids, Iowa	James E. Ray #5937	April 18, 1950	vagrancy	
Police Department Alton, Illinois	James Earl Ray #7514	July 23, 1951	no operator's license - no State License - no City License	released to pay later
Police Department Chicago, Illinois	James Ray #D90696	May 6, 1952	robbery (Gun)	Grand Jury \$3000
Cook County Jail Chicago, Illinois	James Ray #131165	May 9, 1952	robbery	June 13, 1952 sentenced to penitentiary 1 to 2 years
State Penitentiary Joliet, Illinois	James E. Ray #32419	June 13, 1952	robbery	1 to 2 years
State Penitentiary Pontiac, Illinois	James E. Ray #19121	July 7, 1952 in transfer from Joliet	robbery	1 to 2 years March 12, 1954 discharged

44-310-119

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1968	
FBI - OMAHA	

Notations indicated by \* are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed on investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537**

4-23-68 307 HJC

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CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Sheriff's Office Edwardsville, Illinois	James Earl Ray #2640	August 30, 1954	burglary and larceny	
Police Department Hannibal, Missouri	James E. Ray #40714	March 23, 1955	investigation of breaking and entering Post Office	
State Highway Patrol Macon, Missouri	James Earl Ray #B-3376	March 23, 1955	cashing stolen postal money orders	released to Postal Inspector Kansas City, Missouri March 24, 1955
United States Marshal Kansas City, Missouri	James Earl Ray #12018	March 28, 1955	forgery United States Postal Money Order	sentenced to 15 months custody of Attorney General
Sheriff's Office Kansas City, Missouri	James Earl Ray #29637	March 28, 1955	Forgery - Government	July 7, 1955 3 years and 9 months
United States Penitentiary Leavenworth, Kansas	James Earl Ray #72498-L	July 7, 1955	Post Office Laws Forge Money Orders	3 years and 9 months May 20, 1958 conditional release March 31 1959 maximum April 5, 1958 conditional release on charge of Post Office forgery Post Office Money Orders
Police Department Saint Louis, Missouri	James Earl Ray #81071	October 10, 1959	suspicion of robbery	

Notations indicated by \* are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover  
Director