

WARREN E. HEARNES  
GOVERNOR

WALTER G. SARTORIUS, CHAIRMAN  
SEN B. STEWART, MEMBER  
E. B. ROBINSON, MEMBER  
J. RAYMOND BILLS, SECRETARY



CIRCUIT AND CRIMINAL COURTS  
MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY  
INTERMEDIATE REFORMATORY  
MEDIUM SECURITY PRISON  
WOMEN'S PENITENTIARY

STATE OF MISSOURI  
BOARD OF PROBATION AND PAROLE

December 20, 1966

*R 12/21*

Board of Probation and Parole  
Box 267  
Jefferson City, Missouri

Re: RAY, James Earl  
#00416-J

Gentlemen:

This 38 year old white male was seen for psychiatric evaluation on December 13, 1966. He was admitted here in March of 1960, to serve a twenty-year sentence for armed robbery. This is his first admission to this institution. In 1952, he served a year and one half in an Illinois Penal Institution for robbery and in 1955, he served two and one half years in Leavenworth for transporting stolen goods across the state line.

He is presently charged with an escape attempt in March of 1966 and has recently been returned after an evaluation at the Fulton State Hospital. He has requested an independent psychiatric evaluation following their evaluation. This examiner only recently received this request from the Cole County Circuit Court signed by Judge Riley requesting such an evaluation. However, the inmate expressed his desire to have someone conduct an independent "psychiatric evaluation who was not connected with the administration." We informed him that we would communicate his wishes to the court and possibly someone else might be found.

Ray is an interesting and rather complicated individual. He reports that within the last year, he has had considerable difficulties from a physical point of view, involving a number of somatic complaints such as pain in the "solar plexes," tachycardia and "intracranial tension." When we commented that these were rather large words, he reported that he had been reading up in the medical literature. He then stated that he thought at times that he had cancer or heart trouble but that he no longer feels this way. On certain days, he has rather severe head pains but this is only intermittent. He is now on librium and works intermittently on a construction job.

Ray was born in Alton, Illinois, where his father worked for the railroad. Both parents are now deceased. He has two younger sisters. He reached

the second year in high school, worked eighteen months at the International Shoe Company, entered the service in 1945 and remained there for three years. His highest rank was that of PFC. He has never been married although he has lived for brief periods of time with women. This man's basic problem revolves around what appears to be an increasingly severe obsessive compulsive trend. He states that at the age of ten, he awoke one night and thought he had lost his eye sight. He became quite fearful. These various fears confront him from time to time and in a typical obsessive compulsive way, he feels that he must do certain things in order to undo what he feels is going to occur and might result in harm to him. For instance, he describes a feeling of fear which can be alleviated if he takes his glass of water which he is drinking and sets it on the table and moving it back and forth several times. He also describes at length some rather marked obsessive compulsive features but is reluctant to go into them in detail. Indeed, he just started to discuss this with the people at Fulton prior to his being sent here. He appears worried and his brow is creased. It is evident that this man does have an underlying obsessive compulsive personality. He is of the opinion that his escape attempt was the result of undue anxiety and tension with the need to actually do something. He is fearful that this might lead into more serious difficulties.

At the present time, there is no evidence of delusions, hallucinations or paranoid ideas. There is evidence of a rather deep underlying obsessive compulsive personality trend which he has really never discussed at any length with anyone. This is not psychotic in nature but severely neurotic. Within the last year or so, there is evidence that he has become overly concerned about his physical health and some of his obsessive compulsive concerns have moved in this direction. We would not deny the fact that there may be some physical difficulties although he reports that this was the primary focus of his work-up at the state hospital as well as here and that very little has been found.

At the present time, it is doubtful that he is in a position to be considered for parole. His psychiatric condition must be evaluated by an independent psychiatrist and according to the court, he has the right to have this done. Where they will find this independent psychiatrist is somewhat difficult to determine in this area although they might order him to the University and have it done there. It is felt that he is in need of psychiatric help and that should any serious parole consideration be given, some type of psychiatric help should be considered, that is help, which he can receive on the outside during his parole period. He is becoming increasingly concerned about himself. We question whether or not he is beginning to be a bit depressed although he denies this. We hesitate to go into this to any greater degree at the present time until the court decides what action it will take in regards to assigning an independent psychiatrist for evaluation.

Sincerely yours,

Henry V. Guhleman, Jr., M. D.  
Psychiatric Consultant

—CHRONOLOGICAL DATA SHEET—

DATE	NAME	NO. & INST.	PAGE
	RAY, James E. (LAST NAME FIRST)	W-00416	1
4/11/60	to Cleaning Plant; Reclassification in March, 1962.		
4/12/60	B-24		
4/12/60	Cleaning plant; #2717 CC		
7/28/60	K-178		
3/13/61	K-118		
11/22/61	Attempting to escape walls; To Admn. Seg. for 6 months.		
11/22/61	E-3rd. floor, Seg. #2996 Disc. Comm.		
11/22/61	E-2244		
1/31/62	The Board has set your case for a hearing in November, 1963.		
5/24/62	to State; no plans for reclassification.		
5/25/62	State #3125 CC		
5/25/62	B-16		
6/7/62	to Vegetable Room; reclassification June, 1963.		
6/8/62	Veg. Room #3135 CC		
6/8/62	E-66		
7/23/62	Refusng to work: Yard and show priv. denied 1 month; Transfer to Bakery.		
7/23/62	K-15		
7/23/62	Bakery #3167 Disc. Comm.		
8/10/62	K-161		
8/15/62	K-168		
3/8/63	K-172		
9-6-63	Delivered to U.S. District Court, Jefferson City, Missouri.		
10-1-63	Denied parole by the Board.		

11/2/64 Monte, J. H. ... OK when settlement is ...  
125

CHRONOLOGICAL DATA SHEET

DATE	NAME RAY, James Earl (LAST NAME FIRST)	NO. & INST. W-00416-J	PAGE 1
6-3-65	Reassigned to Bakery; reclassification in June, 1967.		
6-17-65	Trying to smuggle contraband into hospital. 3 days in P.S.; 6 days loss.		
8-30-65	Parole Notice: The Board has set case for a hearing in November, 1965.		
10-21-65	to K-Hall as Cleaner; reclassification in June, 1967.		
10-22-65	K-Cleaner; #3982-Class. Comm.		
10-22-65	K-2		
11-5-65	Parole Notice: Scheduled for review in November, 1966.		
12-16-65	K-10		
3-7-66	Wants outside assignment. Not at this time. Jan.		
3-4-66	J-42		
3-14-66	Max. Security; #4076-Class. Comm.		
3-14-66	CB-6		
4-12-66	To be delivered before the Magistrate Court, Cole County, Jefferson City, Missouri on April 14, 1966 to be arraigned on escape charge.		
6-11-66	BB-9		
7-14-66	S- ADVISED WILL REMAIN IN MAX. SEC. PENDING OUTCOME OF TRIAL. P.D.R.		
8-23-66	To be delivered before Cole County Circuit Court on Sept. 6, 1966.		
9-8-66	By order of Circuit Court of Cole County this inmate has been taken to the State Hospital No. 1, Fulton, Missouri on an Out-Count.		
10-21-66 11-16-66	Went from P.S. to Inside Construction; reclassification in June, 1967.		
11-17-66	Inside Court; #4247-Class. Comm.		
11-17-66	C-17		
12-28-66	Parole Notice: Scheduled for review in November, 1967.		

## —CHRONOLOGICAL DATA SHEET—

[illegible]

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

W/34/s

TRANSCRIPT OF SERIAL RECORD

00416  
 Register Number 00416 Name James Earl Ray  
 Age 32 Height 5 ft. 11 ins. Weight 163 Length of Foot 12 Inches  
 Hair Dr Brn Eyes Blue Complexion Medium Nativity Ill.  
 Trade Baker Religion Catholic Education 10th  
 Under Same Name 45 Mos. 1955  
 Former Imprisonment Leavenworth Fed P., Kansas, Trns stolen Property across state  
 Emergency Address MOTHER: Lucille Ryan, 1913 Hickory St, St Louis, Mo. Line,

PRESENT SENTENCE

Operating a Motor Vehicle w/o the Permission of the Owner;  
 Offense XX. TC Robbery 1st Deg. b/m of D & DW: (2 chgs.)  
(20, 7, 5, Conc.)  
 County St. Louis City Sentence 20 Yrs. Feb. 19, 1960 Term of Court February 1960  
 Received 3-17-1960 Jail Time 27 days  
 Expiration Date 3-16-1980 Full Time 3-16-1975 3/4 Time 3-16-1975

Alias \_\_\_\_\_  
 True Name \_\_\_\_\_ Race White  
 Date of Birth 3-10-28 Place of Birth Alton, Ill.  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
 Build Medium Marks, Scars, Tatoos Clear

Martial Status Single Probation \_\_\_\_\_  
 Escapes \_\_\_\_\_ AWOL \_\_\_\_\_ Draft Board Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Military Service ARMY Service Serial Number [REDACTED]  
 Type Military Discharge General Social Security Number Unknown

Remarks:

## —CHRONOLOGICAL DATA SHEET—

DATE	NAME RAY, James E. (LAST NAME FIRST)	NO. & INST. W-00416	PAGE 1
4-11-60	To Cleaning Plant; reclassification in March, 1962.		
4-12-60	B-24		
4-12-60	Cleaning Plant; #2717-CC		
7-28-60	K-178		
3-13-61	K-118		
11-22-61	Attempting to escape walls; To Admn. Segr. for 6 months.		
11-22-61	E-3rd floor, Segr. #3996-Disc. Comm.		
11-22-61	E-224		
1-31-62	The Board has set your case for a hearing in November, 1963.		
5-24-62	To State; no plans for reclassification.		
5-25-62	State; #3125-CC		
5-25-62	B-16		
6-7-62	To Vegetable Room; reclassification June, 1963.		
6-8-62	Veg. Room; #3135-CC		
6-8-62	E-66		
7-23-62	Refusing to work; Yard and show privileges denied 1 month.		
	Transfer to Bakery.		
7-23-62	K-15		
7-23-62	Bakery; #3167-Disc. Comm.		
8-10-62	K-161		
8-15-62	K-168		
3-8-63	K-172		
9-6-63	Delivered to U.S. District Court, Jefferson City, Missouri.		
10-1-63	Denied parole by the Board.		
11-2-64	Wants job change. O.K. when replacement is found. SJL.		
12-22-64	Wants Moberly; Placed in file. WN.		
6-3-65	Reassigned to Bakery; reclassification in June, 1967.		
6-17-65	Trying to smuggle contraband into hospital. 3 days in P.S.; 6 days loss.		
8-30-65	Parole Notice: The Board has set case for a hearing in November, 1965.		
10-8-65	PRE-PAROLE PROGRESS REPORT		SJL:nh

Social Data: The subject states he is in fairly good health.

Institutional Adjustment: He was received March 17, 1960. He is assigned to the Bakery where he has received good to excellent ratings on his work and training reports. He received only one conduct violation in the last 3 years. In 1961 he did attempt to escape.

Family Relations: His brother, Jerry, corresponds regularly and visits occasionally. He sometimes hears from his brother, John.

## POST RELEASE PLANS

He prefers to live with his brother, Jerry Ray, Box 22, Wheeling Illinois. Another home possibility would be with his brother, John Ray, in St. Louis, Missouri. He would accept almost any type of employment. He claims three years experience in bakeries

—CHRONOLOGICAL DATA SHEET—

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ NAME RAY, James E. NO. & INST. W-00416 PAGE 2  
 (LAST NAME FIRST)

and kitchens.

SUMMARY

This is a 37 year old single white man from St. Louis, serving 20, and 5 years concurrently for operating a motor vehicle without the permission of the owner, and robbery first degree by means of a dangerous and deadly weapon (2 charges). He has now completed about 5 1/2 years of his sentence on this third incarceration. Institutionally he has done well enough to merit consideration for parole. He denies use of narcotics and claims to be a light drinker. His record of arrests dates over a 16 year period. He seems to be pretty well established in this type of anti-social behavior. He will probably continue to make a fair institutional adjustment. Prognosis for making a successful adjustment in society is considered marginal at best. He may be able to serve a short parole without too much difficulty.

*Carl White*  
 Associate Warden-Treatment



KC 44-760

MISCELLANEOUS

KC 44-760

RTW:cm

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The following investigation was conducted by SA  
RICHARD T. WINTERMAN:

On April 19, 1968, DOROTHY SHANDORF, United States Marshal's Office, Kansas City, Missouri, advised that records of that office reflect on Marcy 28, 1955, JAMES EARL RAY, Marshal's #12018, FBI #306443-A; and WALTER T. RIFE, Marshal's #12109, FBI #4558766, were fingerprinted on a charge of forgery. Miss SHANDORF stated there was no further information concerning this matter in records of the U. S. Marshal's Office.

On April 19, 1968, ELMER E. ROGERS, Assistant Business Representative; and KATHRYN CARLSTON, Secretary, American Bakery and Confectionery Workers Union Local 218, AFL-CIO, 19 West Linwood Boulevard, Kansas City, Missouri, advised that most of the bakers and apprentice bakers employed in the greater Kansas City area are employed through that office. They reviewed records of all persons who were employed through that local or who applied for work through that local during 1967 and 1968, and were unable to find any such person who might be identical with JAMES EARL RAY or WALTER TERRY RIFE on the basis of names and known aliases and physical descriptions. Both were shown a photograph of RAY and stated they could not identify this individual as anyone with whom they had had contact. They stated they would be alert to the appearance at that office of anyone who might be identical with RAY or RIFE and would immediately contact the Kansas City FBI Office.

They further stated that there is also a union known as the Bakery and Confectionery Workers Union Local 218, not affiliated with the AFL-CIO, located in the VFW Building, 34th and Broadway, seventh floor, Kansas City, Missouri. The latter union handles mostly miscellaneous bakery workers other than bakers and apprentice bakers.

KC 44-760

DAF:ak

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The following investigation was conducted by SA  
DONALD A. FLYNN:

AT KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI:

On April 19, 1968, Miss FLORENCE BONNER, Recording Secretary to CARL J. LE VAN, Bartenders Local Union #420, 216-A West 12th Street, provided records which failed to reflect any information identical with JAMES EARL RAY or any of his known aliases.

On the same date, Mr. B. M. FITZGERALD, Financial Secretary - Treasurer, and Business Agent of Miscellaneous Hotel Employees Union Local 655, AFL - CIO, 216-A West 12th Street, provided his files which also failed to reflect any information identical with JAMES EARL RAY or any of his known aliases.

KC 44-760

RH:tlw

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The following investigation was conducted by  
SA RAY HOMESLEY:

Detective KENNETH VILANDER and Captain WAYNE MILLER, Police Department, Raytown, Missouri, were advised that subject mentioned Raytown, Missouri, to a fellow inmate prior to 1966. VILANDER and MILLER advised Wanted Flyers and Identification Orders concerning RAY have been received and the men in the Police Department will be alerted for any information that RAY was ever in Raytown, Missouri, or had any associates here.

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KC 44-760  
RH:rd

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA RAY HOMESLEY on May 2, 1968:

AT KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

LEE CHAPMAN, Clerk, Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department, furnished the arrest record of DENNIS WADE FONTENNOT, Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department, #98630, which reveals he was arrested on October 14, 1961, for safekeeping and released. On October 30, 1961, FONTENNOT was arrested for burglary and stealing a box of tools. On February 23, 1962, he was sentenced to two years in Missouri State Prison, (MSP). Records show he was released from MSP on May 2, 1963, and on May 3, 1963, was arrested for being drunk in Kansas City, Missouri. He was fined \$10.00 on May 4, 1963, and released.

FONTENNOT is described as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5'4 1/2" - 5'6"
Weight	140-145 pounds
Eyes	Brown
Hair	Black
Date of Birth	July 10, 1930
Place of Birth	New Orleans, Louisiana
FBI Number	860489B
Occupation	Laborer, (unemployed)
Residence	Helping Hand, 523 Grand, Kansas City, Missouri, (October, 1961)(floater)
Relatives	None listed.

CARMELA ABATO, Clerk, Credit Bureau of Kansas City, Missouri, advised on May 2, 1968, that no record could be located concerning DENNIS WADE FONTENNOT, alias JAMES DENNIS WADE.

KC 44-760

TJC:ksw

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The following investigation was conducted by  
SA THOMAS J. CONNOLLY on May 3, 1968:

AT KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI:

Mr. RAY E. ENWRIGHT, Chief of Security, Bendix Corporation, 2200 Bannister Road, Kansas City, Missouri, advised that his files indicate that LARRY C. SIMPSON, 14505 East 37th, Independence, Missouri, was hired by Bendix on March 13, 1963, and has lived at the above address since January 9, 1964. The records further indicate that SIMPSON received his ACQ clearance May 31, 1963, and is presently employed as an apprentice tool-room machinist. ENWRIGHT stated that the payroll records for Bendix indicate that SIMPSON worked all day each day for the week April 1 through April 5, 1968, from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM. ENWRIGHT advised that due to the security precautions at Bendix, Simpson would have to clock himself in and out.

ENWRIGHT displayed a photograph of LARRY C. SIMPSON taken for the security badges at Bendix and he bore no resemblance to the photographs of JAMES EARL RAY.

KC 44-760

RH:cm

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The following investigation was conducted by SA  
RAY HOMESLEY:

Sergeant R. N. STANSBURY, Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Kansas City, Missouri, advised an inmate by the name of GLEN BUCKLEY indicated he served time with RAY at Missouri State Prison and can help locate RAY.

GLEN JEFFERSON BUCKLEY, inmate, Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Kansas City, Missouri, advised on May 3, 1968, that he served in the Missouri State Prison from the first part of 1965 until October, 1967, on a bad check charge from Liberty, Missouri, but he believes he is to be released on a bench parole by Judge BRADY. BUCKLEY said if the FBI could get him released early he believes he could locate JIMMY RAY.

BUCKLEY said LARRY RAY was the "tender" of C Hall at MSP where both he (BUCKLEY) and JIMMY RAY were assigned for a while. BUCKLEY said he got to know LARRY and JIMMY pretty well and traded radios, watches and miscellaneous items with LARRY. He said he believes LARRY was serving time on a burglary or larceny charge at Springfield, Missouri, and had a detainer filed against him at Topeka, Kansas. He said LARRY RAY was released from MSP about August, 1967, and he believes is in Topeka, Kansas. BUCKLEY said both LARRY and JIMMY RAY hated Negroes and spoke of the KKK as being a good organization. He said JIMMY RAY also talked about Jackson, Mississippi, and he believes RAY had spent some time in Jackson, Mississippi.

BUCKLEY stated JIMMY RAY was in the hospital at the time he escaped. He said RAY went out on a trash barrel on the back of a truck. He said this was a Sunday as that is the day the back gates are not locked to allow the trash truck to get out. BUCKLEY said he learned this information from (FNU) OAR or ORR (phonetic) who was on the trash detail. BUCKLEY also named inmates HOWARD NUNN (phonetic) and EDWARD MC CLELLAN (phonetic) as being assigned to C Hall at the same time as was LARRY and JIMMY RAY.

KC 44-760

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BUCKLEY said he believes, if he was out, he could go to Topeka, Kansas and through another individual find LARRY RAY, whom he believes would know JIMMY RAY's whereabouts.

BUCKLEY is described as follows:

Name	GLEN JEFFERSON BUCKLEY
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of Birth	May 19, 1921
Place of Birth	Oklahoma
Height	5' 10 1/2"
Weight	177 pounds
Hair	Black
Eyes	Brown
Wife	BOBBIE N. BUCKLEY, 725 South Cottage, Independence, Missouri

BUCKLEY stated he did not want his name given out to anyone as the person furnishing this information.

Sergeant STANBURY advised on May 5, 1968, that BUCKLEY was being released on Monday, May 6, 1968. He said BUCKLEY left a note at the jail indicating he was very sure RAY is in Mississippi. Also, BUCKLEY said he knows just about the place and is sure he can find RAY. STANBURY said BUCKLEY's telephone number after he gets out will be CL 2-3079.



KC 44-760

WYW:ssc

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The following investigation was conducted by  
SA W. YATES WEBB on April 19, 1968:

AT KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

Mrs. MARGARET A. HAYES, Night Clerk, Blackstone Hotel, 1817 Cherry, Kansas City, Missouri, advised that she has been employed in this position since May 2, 1967. She was shown photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and stated that this photograph was not familiar to her and she does not recall ever seeing this individual in the hotel. Mrs. HAYES stated she is positive that this person has not been a registered guest in the hotel since she has been there.

Mrs. HAYES made available the registration cards for the period April 24, 1967 to present date. These cards were reviewed and there was no record of anyone being registered there under the name of JAMES EARL RAY or any of his known aliases.

Miss GLADYS HANSON, Day Clerk, advised she has been employed there since 1965 and does not recall JAMES EARL RAY being registered there as a guest during the time of her employment. She looked at the photograph of RAY and said that she does not recall seeing this person in the hotel. She stated that the hotel changed hands on September 10, 1965, and that they have no registration cards for the periods prior to that date. She said that the hotel is now owned by Mr. WILLIAM HEMMELSTEIN and Associates and Mr. HEMMELSTEIN's telephone number is EM 1-1278. She explained Mr. HEMMELSTEIN did not stay at the hotel and knew nothing of the guests in the hotel. He only visits the hotel occasionally to check receipts and the books.

The following persons who have been guests at the hotel for a period of time were contacted and shown photograph of RAY with negative results.

Mrs. ELVA WILSON, Room 400, resident since 1946  
PATRICK HADLEY, Room 212, resident for 10 years  
HARRY HILL, Room 300, resident since 1958  
ATTILIO POLLI, Room 322, resident for 5 years

44-166  
KC 88-9449

WFR:ss

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The following investigation was conducted at Leavenworth, Kansas, by IC LEONARD L. AYRES:

On February 8, 1968, Mr. GEORGE E. SEUFERT, Records Control Supervisor, U.S. Penitentiary (USP), Leavenworth, Kansas, advised that the file concerning WALTER TERRY RIFE, had been sent to the GSA Federal Records Center, Kansas City, Missouri.

The following investigation was conducted at Kansas City, Missouri, by IC WILLIAM F. ROHR:

On February 20, 1968, Mr. WILLIAM CABY, Reference Supervisor, GSA Federal Records Center, Kansas City, Missouri, made available USP, Leavenworth, Kansas, file #72497-L concerning WALTER TERRY RIFE, which contained the following information:

RIFE described white male, date of birth April 19, 1924, 69 1/2", 161 pounds, brown hair, blue-gray eyes, FBI #4558766.

RIFE was sentenced in the Western District of Missouri, Kansas City, Missouri, on July 1, 1955, to a period of three years for violation of the Post Office laws, forging money orders, and was committed to the USP, Leavenworth, Kansas, on July 7, 1955.

RIFE received a conditional release on September 27, 1957, at which time he was taken into custody on a detainer lodged by the State Parole Office, Springfield, Illinois, charging parole violation. RIFE was then sent to the Illinois Penitentiary at Menard, Illinois, #22674, and was scheduled to be released from this institution approximately July 23, 1960.

During period of incarceration, the following individuals were on RIFE's correspondents list:

Mother	ROSIE S. RIFE, Age 68, 400 College Avenue, Quincy, Illinois
Sister	Mrs. VIOLA MAYFIELD, 2716 Cherry Street, Quincy, Illinois
Sister	Mrs. MONAN LEE CRAWFORD, 813 North Main Street, Harrisburg, Illinois

44-760  
KC 88-9449-

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Niece	Miss DARLENE CRAWFORD, 332 East Locust Street, Harrisburg, Illinois
Brother	FLOYD RIFE, 279 Indian Hills, Quincy, Illinois
Friend	KATHERINE DORIS BUSKIRK, 321 South 7th, Quincy, Illinois

It was noted that the friend, KATHERINE DORIS BUSKIRK, was the only frequent correspondent of RIFE while confined at the USP, Leavenworth, Kansas. and it was also noted that RIFE planned to marry BUSKIRK upon his release from the penitentiary.

RIFE had no release plans insofar as work or residence upon his release from the USP, Leavenworth, since he knew that a detainer had been filed for Parole Violation from the State of Illinois.

No other pertinent information contained in file.

KC 44-760

JAB:cm

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The following investigation was conducted by SA  
JAMES ALLEN BENBROOK:

Mr. WILLIAM R. RUDELL, Postal Inspector, Kansas City, Missouri, related that WILLIAM KENNETH KNIGHT is not known to him as a fence, that it is his belief that JAMES EARL RAY and his partner, WALTER TERRY RIFE, when apprehended in 1955 were passing postal money orders and not fencing them, and also that RAY and RIFE were probably those persons who actually burglarized the post office in Illinois from where the postal money orders were obtained although they stated they had purchased these money orders from an unknown individual.

Mr. RUDELL said he knew of no fence handling money orders in 1955 in the Kansas City area who RAY or RIFE may have contacted.

KC 44-760

WCM:jlh'

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The following investigation was conducted by  
IC WILLIAM C. MC DONALD at Jefferson City, Missouri:

On April 19, 1968, Missouri Motor Vehicle Department,  
Driver's License Section records were checked for operator's  
license issued in the name of JAMES EARL RAY and known aliases.  
There is no record on file that appears to be identical with  
RAY.

KC 44-760

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The following investigation was conducted by SA  
RAY HOMESLEY:

At Kansas City, Missouri:

Kansas City, Missouri City Directory and Telephone Directory reveals no listing for Robby's Bar, 1964 to present, and there is no Taylor Street in Kansas City, Missouri. A City Directory for Kansas City, Kansas reveals a Taylor Avenue, but the numbers begin with the 1200 block and there are no bars listed on the street.

JOHN HAMMER, Liquor Control Board, 414 East 12th Street, Kansas City, advised on April 26, 1968, that he had reviewed his files on individuals of the last name COLE, but did not locate anyone, having worked for Robby's Bar, or a bar with a similar name sounding like Robby's.

HAMMER advised one MARY L. PORTER applied for clearance on March 27, 1964, for work as a waitress. She was born October 16, 1942, and resided at 4835 Brooklyn, Kansas City, Missouri in 1964. HAMMER stated he does not have any current information regarding PORTER and that his file is in storage.

1967 Polk Directory for Independence, Missouri, shows MARY L. PORTER, waitress, Mark Go, Kansas City, Missouri and residing at 2332 Scott Avenue, Independence, Missouri. Kansas City, Missouri directory shows MARY L. PORTER, waitress at Mark-Ninety Drive-In, residing Independence, Missouri. The Mark Ninety Drive-In is located at 8950 Wornall Drive, telephone number EM 1-3902.

Contact of this drive-in revealed PORTER works evenings, coming in at about 4:30 PM.

MARY L. PORTER was contacted April 26, 1968, at Mark Ninety-Drive-In, and she stated she has never been married, and has no information regarding a MARY PORTER formerly married to ROBERT DALE PORTER.

CLARA LE VAN, Office Manager, Waitress Union Local 503, 216A West 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, advised on April 26, 1968, she has no record of a MARY PORTER currently working as a waitress. One MARY LOUISE PORTER, 5025 Michigan, Kansas City, Missouri, worked at the Wishbone and La Louisiana Restaurants in 1965, but has not paid dues since that time and therefore is not an active member.

HELEN DONLEY, Credit Bureau of Greater Kansas City, 1110 Grand, advised on April 26, 1968, that records reveal a credit report dated September 24, 1965, for ROBERT DALE PORTER and wife, MARY PORTER, 3819 Wyandotte, Kansas City, Missouri, which reveals MARY PORTER has been employed for four or five months at the Town Topic Sandwich shops, 6648 South Benton, owner, CLAUDE J. SPARKS, telephone number GR 1-5018. The record shows he is age 37 and in the U.S. Army for approximately 10 years, stationed at Amarillo, Texas. No credit established. The record shows a divorce was filed in Kansas City on May 17, 1966.

Circuit Court records, Jackson County Courthouse, Kansas City, Missouri, reveal under number 678415, that MARY MARTHA PORTER, 3315 Baltimore, Kansas City, Missouri, filed a petition for divorce May 16, 1966. She was represented by Attorney CHRIS KAHMANN, 432A Altman Building and the petition shows MARY MARTHA PORTER and ROBERT DALE PORTER of the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP), were married February 27, 1964, at Maysville, Missouri. That ROBERT PORTER has wholly disregarded his duties as a husband, being convicted of a felony at Cameron, Missouri in March 1964, and being sentenced to a seven year sentence at MSP. Also MARY MARTHA PORTER learned after marriage that PORTER had been convicted on seven or eight occasions in various states. A degree of default was granted to MARY MARTHA PORTER on June 21, 1966.

LEE CHAPMAN, Clerk, Kansas City, Missouri Police Department, furnished an arrest record regarding ROBERT DALE PORTER, number 102954, FBI No. 590 482, which shows he was arrested Kansas City, Missouri on September 3, 1963, on investigation of armed robbery and was released to the Clinton County Sheriff's Office, Missouri. Police Department records show PORTER has an arrest record dating back to 1946. No record was located for MARY MARTHA PORTER.

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A check on April 26, 1968, of the address at 3819 Wyandotte, Kansas City, Missouri, reveals that this address is now a parking lot.

The 1967 Polks Directory lists MARY M. PORTER at telephone number LO 1-6749, and one JOHN F. COATES, JE 1-3719. A telephone call was made to each of the numbers and it was determined the numbers are no longer listed to this individual.

A check was made on April 26, 1968, of the address 608 East 9th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, and it was determined that the Emery Hotel has been demolished and a new building housing the Langley Optical Company is at that address.



KC 44-760

RH:per

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The following individuals were contacted by SA RAY HOMESLEY, on May 1, 1968, in an attempt to identify (FNU) SLATTERY who took Delta Flight #55 from Birmingham to Memphis and Kansas City, on April 7, 1968:

GEORGE B. SLATTERY, 8441 Flora, Kansas City, Missouri.

Mrs. HELEN SLATTERY, 1004 East 29th Street, Kansas City, Missouri.

Mrs. MARGARET H. SLATTERY, 5628 Locust, Kansas City, Missouri.

Mrs. PANSY MOSER (SLATTERY), 632 Hardesty, Kansas City, Missouri.

Mrs. MARGARET L. SLATTERY, 600 West 96th Terrace, Kansas City, Missouri.

Mrs. SUSAN BROWN, Reservations Clerk, Delta Airlines, Kansas City, Missouri, advised she has no way of identifying passenger SLATTERY on Delta Flight #55 from Birmingham to Memphis and Kansas City, on April 7, 1968. She advised Delta Airlines records are maintained at Atlanta, Georgia, including credit records of passengers.

KC 44-760

RH:ss

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The following investigation was conducted by SA RAY HOMESLEY at Kansas City, Missouri:

Mr. LYLE ROBINSON, 1017 Orchard Street, Liberty, Missouri, advised the Kansas City FBI Office by telephone on April 22, 1968, that his wife, ROSE ROBINSON, is a fifth grade teacher at the Forest Hill Elementary School, North Kansas City, Missouri, and taught a boy that made statements to the effect that MARTIN LUTHER KING should be shot. ROBINSON said also the boy's father, GERALD B. GERLT, residing in a trailer at 1910 Armour Road, North Kansas City, Missouri, made trips to Tennessee March 4-5, 1968, and March 14-15, 1968. Also the boy reported that the family was moving to California, but when school authorities contacted the mother, she denied they were moving. However, the family did move to El Cajon, California, on March 29, 1968. GERLT was reported to have a Citizens Band radio in his truck.

Mr. BILL CURNUTT, 1012 East 24th Street, North Kansas City, Missouri, also telephoned the Kansas City FBI Office and advised that his wife AUDRA CURNUTT teaches at the Forest Hill Elementary School and related substantially the same information as did Mr. LYLE ROBINSON. He stated he did not want he or his wife's name used as the person furnishing the information. He also related that the boy making the statements about MARTIN LUTHER KING is apparently emotionally disturbed. CURNUTT stated that the GERLT family operated a cafe on Armour Road in North Kansas City, Missouri, and lived in a trailer behind the cafe.

On April 22, 1968, Miss HELEN DONLEY, Clerk, Credit Bureau of Greater Kansas City, 1110 Grand, Kansas City, Missouri, furnished a report dated September 12, 1967, regarding GERALD B. GERLT, wife LOIS HELEN GERLT. This report shows the GERLTs have been on file at the credit bureau since April, 1955. He is shown as age 38 in 1967. Records show the following residence:

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1910 Armour Road, North Kansas City, Missouri  
North View Trailer Court, Falls City, Nebraska  
6020 Kansas Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas  
1800 South 55, Falls City, Nebraska  
2521 South 49, Falls City, Nebraska  
Box 733, Alpine, California  
1601 Armstrong, Kansas City, Kansas

Former Employment:

Claycomo Restaurant, North Kansas City, Missouri  
Northview Skelly Station, Falls City, Nebraska,  
January, 1967  
Jerry's Nursery, 6540 State, Kansas City, Kansas,  
February, 1967, to September, 1967

Loans:

11/30/67	Rosedale State Bank, Kansas City, Kansas, \$4177.60, secured by 1964 Great Lakes Home
7/28/67	Rosedale State Bank, Kansas City, Kansas, \$2357.79, unsecured note
10/26/67	Metropolitan National Bank, Kansas City, Missouri, \$5687.00, secured by a 1967 Cadillac DeVille, \$250.00 guaranteed by B and G Motors, Kansas City

On April 22, 1968, LEE CHAPMAN, Clerk, Kansas  
City, Missouri, Police Department, advised that no record  
for GERALD B. GERLT, 1910 Armour, North Kansas City,  
Missouri, could be located.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/17/68

Reverend BILLY MAX WUELLNER, Bethel Community Church, 21st and Military Avenue, Baxter Springs, Kansas, voluntarily appeared at the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, and furnished the following information:

On Wednesday, April 3, 1968, at approximately 2:30 PM, he attended a church board meeting at the Blue Castle Restaurant in Baxter Springs, Kansas. Around 1:45 PM, he was sitting in his church office, and LYNN RAY CLEVELAND walked into his office, unannounced, stating he wanted to rest and play the piano. He also requested a prayer session and during their brief conversation, CLEVELAND indicated he had been in a mental institution. He stated he was en route to Springfield, Missouri to contact a friend. CLEVELAND was observed to be hitchhiking and was not accompanied by anyone.

He indicated he had been on the road for approximately five days, and Reverend WUELLNER observed CLEVELAND did not have any luggage, however, was carrying a dark color tweed top-coat. He left the church office shortly before 2:30 PM, indicating he was hitchhiking to Springfield, Missouri. Reverend WUELLNER advised he could furnish no further information except to state this was the only time he had observed CLEVELAND, and further noted CLEVELAND could play the piano quite well.

Reverend WUELLNER personally confronted CLEVELAND at the City Jail in Joplin, Missouri on the night of April 9, 1968, and positively identified CLEVELAND as being the individual referred to above. He conversed with CLEVELAND, and stated there was absolutely no doubt in his mind whatever as to CLEVELAND being the individual referred to above; nor was there any doubt in his mind as to the fact he left the church shortly before 2:30 PM on April 3, 1968, as he, Reverend WUELLNER went directly from the church to his board meeting at the Blue Castle Restaurant.

Reverend WUELLNER added he could furnish no additional information and knew of no background data regarding CLEVELAND.

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On 4/9/68 at Joplin, Missouri File # KC 44-760  
by SA ROBERT E. HICKAM:ENV Date dictated 4/13/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**1**Date 4/17/68

On April 10, 1968, fingerprints and palm prints were obtained from LYNN RAY CLEVELAND at the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, and retained as possible evidence.

While being printed, it was observed that CLEVELAND was very near sighted, having to squint and move his eyes close to a sheet of paper to read any normal printing or handwriting.

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

4/17/68

Date \_\_\_\_\_

A review of the personal property in the possession of LYNN RAY CLEVELAND, when arrested by the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, revealed he had the following items on his person.

1. One five-cent piece.
2. One black billfold, containing the following items:
  - a. Receipt #2925 from One-Hour Martinizing, 1838 N. Glenstone, Springfield, Missouri, with notation "Promised Friday, 9:00 AM".
  - b. Small religious pamphlet, entitled "Is There Any Hope?"; bearing stamp "Southern Avenue Baptist Church, 3084 Southern Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee" "Dial-A-Devotion 323-2653". This pamphlet published by Faith, Prayer and Tract League, Grand Rapids, Michigan.
  - d. Library card #72 18575 in the name of LYNN R. CLEVELAND, 1870 N. Broadway, for the Public Libraries of Springfield and Greene County, Missouri.
  - e. Card bearing the printed notation Kirkwood Hotel, Kirkwood 22, Missouri, and the hand printed telephone number TH1-9791.
  - f. Identification card, First Assembly of God, 528 E. Main, Norman, Oklahoma, Reverend B. R. BRUMMETT, Pastor.
  - g. Identification card, Central Presbyterian Church, 20th and Arch Street, Little Rock, Arkansas.

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- h. Identification card, GEORGE BRITTAIN, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Grants, New Mexico.
- i. Slip of paper containing the names LARRY HAYNES, RICHARD OLIVER, Missionary Pastor, 49 E. 15th Street.
- j. Slip of paper containing the name JERRY C. MURPHY, 806 N.W. 45th Street, Des Moines, Iowa.
- k. Identification card, American National Red Cross, St. Louis, bi-State Chapter, 212 E. Lockwood Avenue, Webster Groves, Missouri. This card contains the name ROSEMARY GAEBLER, Service To Military Families, printed in the lower left corner of the face of the card. The reverse side of this card contains the handwriting, Travelers Aid, Greyhound Bus Depot, 809 N. Broadway.
- l. Identification card, Haley Motor Company, Inc., 3rd and Marquette, N.W., Albuquerque, New Mexico. The hand-printed name GLEN SKIPWORTH appears on face of card.
- m. Social Security Application card in the name LYNN RAY CLEVELAND, Social Security Number [REDACTED]. The card issued on January 2, 1968 for twenty-one days. Under the address of Social Security Office is address 907 Walnut (no city), telephone #FR4-2263.
- n. One key, bearing numbers 806 and 074233.
- o. Slip of paper containing the hand printed name BILL WILLIAMS, LA 1-5341, Dallas; and the name Rev. CLYDE BOX, Brookhollow Bapt., DeSoto, Texas.

- p. Slip of paper containing printed name and handwritten name ROBERT BECKS - Baptist.
- q. Slip of paper containing the hand printed name Reverend PAB MYERS, Box 253, Courtland, Alabama.
- r. Identification card, Mills Hotel, 442 N. Union Avenue, Ozark, Alabama, showing Mr. and Mrs. E. E. TIDWELL as managers.
- s. Weekly Gold Pass #11656, for the week of January 22 through 28, 1968, transit Bi-State System, good for free transportation service in Missouri-Illinois central fare area.
- t. Identification card, Calvary Temple Assembly of God, Springfield, Missouri, S. H. ROBINSON, Pastor.
- u. Guest card on Good Shepherd Refuge, 601 2nd Street, Albuquerque, New Mexico. This card is stamped December 18, 1967, and notes one LYNN R. CLEVELAND, St. Louis, Missouri, occupied bed #1-4 on December 4, 1967. The name Brother "EDWARDS" appears on the face of this card.
- v. Identification card Northvale Baptist Church, Durand Avenue, Harrison, Arkansas, J. A. KUHN, Pastor.
- w. Identification card, Dr. WILLIAM C. REED, Podiatrist, Suite 1405-A, The Stevens Building, 17 N. State, Chicago 2, Illinois.
- x. Guest card, Good Shepherd Refuge, 601 2nd Street, Albuquerque, New Mexico, showing LYNN R. CLEVELAND occupied bed #13, on November 21, 1967. The name Brother "GREGORY" appears on the face of this card.



A Thermofax record was made of the front and reverse sides of all above items, copies of which have been retained.

3. Three pamphlets on the Shepherd of the Hills Farm, Branson, Missouri (no dates or notations thereon).
4. One Standard Service Station map of the United States and Eastern United States (no notations, addresses or dates thereon).
5. CLEVELAND, when arrested, was wearing blue pants, short sleeved white shirt, brown loafers, black socks, one blue suit coat (did not match pants), one blue tie, one dark color tweed coat, and a belt. All clothing was old and well worn.
6. One gold color safety razor, found in pocket of coat.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

4/17/68

Date

Detective Captain WALTER FLENNER, Joplin, Missouri Police Department, furnished the following information:

One LYNN RAY CLEVELAND was arrested by officers of the Joplin Police Department on April 9, 1968, and booked in the City Jail on charge of "Hold for Investigation - Homicide Other Cities". He advised the basis for the arrest was the fact some woman had observed CLEVELAND hitchhiking and felt he resembled the artist's conception of the slayer of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., which recently appeared in the local newspaper.

Captain FLENNER advised there was no other information and no evidence linking CLEVELAND with the slaying of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/17/68

Detective Captain WALTER FLENNER, Joplin, Missouri Police Department, furnished the following information:

On April 10, 1968, LYNN RAY CLEVELAND appeared in Municipal Court, Joplin, and pled guilty to a charge of Vagrancy. On April 10, 1968, CLEVELAND was sentenced to three days in the City Jail.

On April 10, 1968, one Reverend KEN RAGSDALE, Bolivar, Missouri, telephonically contacted Captain FLENNER and stated he recalled serving dinner to CLEVELAND on April 5, 1968 at approximately 3:30 PM at Bolivar, Missouri. Reverend RAGSDALE telephonically contacted the Police Department due to news accounts pertaining to the arrest of CLEVELAND. Captain FLENNER advised he did not secure any additional information from Reverend RAGSDALE, however, it was his opinion CLEVELAND had appeared in Bolivar, Missouri without funds, and sought assistance through the local ministers at Bolivar, Missouri.

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/17/68

LYNN RAY CLEVELAND was contacted at the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, and prior to being interviewed, was advised of his rights as indicated on a duly executed warning and waiver form. He stated he had no objection to orally answering questions, and he was told he was being questioned due to the fact an individual had reported him as resembling an artist's conception of the assassin of Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., the artist's conception having recently appeared in a local newspaper.

CLEVELAND was questioned in the presence of Detective Captain WALTER FLENNER, Joplin, Missouri Police Department, and furnished the following information:

CLEVELAND stated he did not shoot the Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., nor had he been in Memphis, Tennessee or Birmingham, Alabama at any time during the past two weeks. He stated he was not aware that Reverend KING had been murdered until two or three days after the incident, when he recalled someone talking about it. He advised he could furnish no information whatsoever as to the murder.

As to his exact whereabouts on April 4, 1968, he advised he was a traveling Baptist minister and evangelistic singer, and did not maintain any permanent residence. He advised he was unemployed and knew of no way to verify his whereabouts at any time unless some minister recalled being in contact with him on a certain date. He noted that for the past two to three weeks he had been intermittently at Springfield, Missouri, and when arrested by the Joplin, Police Department, on April 9, 1968, was hitchhiking from Springfield, Missouri to Tulsa, Oklahoma. He recalled he spent the night of April 8, 1968, sleeping in a truck at the Queen City Truck Stop in Springfield, Missouri. Efforts were made to trace his whereabouts, and when he could not furnish any definite information as to times, dates and places, he admitted having formerly been an inmate at the Terrill State Hospital, Terrill, Texas, on three different occasions in 1965 and 1966. He stated he entered the hospital because of "nerves".

On 4/9/68 at Joplin, Missouri File # KC 44-760

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While he could not, in any way be exact, he vaguely recalled having left Springfield, Missouri during the latter part of March, 1968, and hitchhiked West. He noted, since he did not have any money, he normally contacted ministers at any town he was in, volunteering his services as a Baptist minister, and further noted he was an evangelistic singer and could play the piano at revival meetings. He stated this is the way he secured his food and enough money to live on.

On or about March 28, 1968, he recalled being in Kingman, Arizona, and in contact with individuals at the Assembly of God church. He believes he left Kingman, Arizona on or about March 28, 1968, hitchhiking back to Springfield, Missouri, and estimates arrival in Springfield, Missouri on or about April 4, 1968. After arriving in Springfield, he stated, to the best of his recollection, he spent the night at Hoff's Hotel on Olive Street in Springfield, Missouri. He stated the night before was spent at the Church Rectory somewhere in Oklahoma, exact location unrecalled.

When questioned as to the pamphlet in his possession, entitled "Is There Any Hope?" which bears the stamped address of The Southern Avenue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee, he advised he recalled having been in Memphis, Tennessee about one month ago and believed he stayed over-night at the bus station. He stated he was only passing through the area hitchhiking as he does continually, but believed he was in contact with a Catholic priest who bought him some breakfast at Memphis, Tennessee. He could not recall the name of the priest and knew of no one in Memphis who could verify this information. He noted he may have hitchhiked through Birmingham, Alabama a month or so ago, but did not stay overnight there and could furnish no information concerning anyone he might have contacted, or any place he might have stayed in Birmingham, Alabama.

CLEVELAND noted he had been in Springfield, Missouri more than any place else during the past several weeks, and while in Springfield, normally stayed at the YMCA, a small hotel across from the YMCA, the Midway Hotel, Calvary Mission, Hoff's Hotel, and the State Hotel. He could think of no other

locations other than the Queen City Truck Stop, where he might have stayed in Springfield, Missouri. As to individuals with whom he was acquainted in Springfield, who might be able to furnish information pertaining to him, he furnished the following:

Reverend BARCLAY,  
Northwest Baptist Church,  
Springfield, Missouri;

Reverend TOM GEARS,  
Pythian Street Baptist Church,  
Springfield, Missouri;

RICHARD RUBLE,  
1871 N. Broadway,  
Springfield, Missouri.

CLEVELAND stated he presently had no room rented in Springfield, Missouri, and reiterated since he traveled continually, he had no way to positively establish his whereabouts on any given day.

As to prior arrests, he admitted having been arrested at Springfield, Missouri two or three weeks ago on a charge of investigation, and at Creve Coeur, Missouri, approximately one year ago; this also being on an investigation charge. He stated both arrests were because he had no personal identification on his person, or in his possession. As pertains to his having no identification, he stated his identification was stolen from him several months ago. He observed he also lost his glasses several months ago, and noted he is extremely near sighted.

CLEVELAND advised he left his home in Palmer, Texas in 1956 or 1957, and had not returned to Palmer, Texas at any time during the past year. He advised during the past year he had continually been on the road and the only place he had lived more than a few days at a time was at St. Louis Missouri where he resided at 2337 Whitmore Place, and was acquainted with one JIM FISHBACK who resided at that address. He stated he had not been in St. Louis, Missouri during the past month, and therefore no one in that area could furnish any information as to his whereabouts on a given date during the past two weeks.

CLEVELAND advised he recalled leaving a suitcase at the Greyhound Bus Station in Springfield, Missouri about one month ago, and doubted if the suitcase was still there. He noted this contained personal clothing and he knew of no other clothing he had stored at any location.

The following description of CLEVELAND was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	LYNN RAY CLEVELAND
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of birth	8/5/34
Place of birth	Palmer, Texas
Height	5'11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Weight	155 pounds
Build	Slender
Hair	Brown (receding and thin)(long sideburns)
Eyes	Blue
Scars and marks	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch horizontal scar, right upper arm; 3 inch scar inside left forearm.
(permanent)	
Home Address	701 Main Street, Palmer, Texas
Parents	Mr. and Mrs. GARLAND FRANCIS CLEVELAND, 701 Main Street, Palmer, Texas.
Education	Claims lacked three months receiving BA Degree at Baylor University, Waco, Texas
Occupation	Baptist minister and evangelistic singer
Marital status	Single
Military Service	None
Miscellaneous	Claims formerly confined at Terrill State Hospital, Terrill, Texas during 1965 and 1966.

After furnishing the above information, and being unable to furnish any definite information as to his whereabouts on any given date during the past two weeks, CLEVELAND was contacted by Reverend BILLY MAX WUELLNER, Baxter, Springs, Kansas, who identified CLEVELAND as having been at his church at 2:30 PM on April 3, 1968. When Reverend WUELLNER related the incidents to CLEVELAND, he was able to recall same, and recalled that he left Baxter Springs, Kansas, hitchhiking to Springfield, Missouri. His memory refreshed, he recalled he arrived in Springfield on the night of April 3, 1968, where he obtained \$20 at the Western Union Office, this money having been there approximately four or five days. The money was sent to him at his request from his father in Palmer, Texas. He noted he apparently left Springfield, Missouri prior to the money arriving there, and further recalled after he received the \$20, he stayed the night of April 3, 1968 at the State Hotel. To the best of his recollection, he stayed in Springfield, Missouri the next day and more than likely would have been in contact with RICHARD RUBLE, 1871 N. Broadway..

To the best of his recollection, he stayed the night of April 4, 1968 at the Hoff's Hotel. As to his whereabouts on March 29, 1968 and March 30, 1968, he could only state he was probably hitchhiking from Kingman, Arizona to Springfield, Missouri.

CLEVELAND's attention was called to the One-Hour Martinizing receipt in his possession which bore the notation "Promised Friday, 9:00 AM", and he was able to recall that he had some clothing at that establishment and he felt certain he would have placed the clothing there the day before, on a Thursday, April 4, 1968.

CLEVELAND was questioned as to the key in his possession when arrested and he stated, to the best of his knowledge, this possibly was a key to a locker at the Greyhound Bus Station, Springfield, Missouri, where he placed his clothing over a month ago. He noted he attempted to obtain the clothing from the locker, but the key no longer would fit the locker. He felt this was because the locker had been sealed due to the fact he had kept the key longer than the time allowed.



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Based upon above information, CLEVELAND stated he feels certain he would have been in Springfield, Missouri on April 4, 1968. He advised he would definitely state he was not in Memphis, Tennessee on that date, and that he had not been in Memphis, Tennessee or Birmingham, Alabama for at least one month. He observed that after his memory had been refreshed as to where he was, at a given time, that he was able to recall his actions immediately after leaving Baxter Springs, Kansas.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/17/68

Mr. and Mrs. GARLAND CLEVELAND, 701 Main Street, Palmer, Texas, arrived at the Joplin, Missouri Police Department to assume custody of their son, LYNN RAY CLEVELAND.

Mr. CLEVELAND, who stated he had been manager of the Barron Brick Company, Palmer, Texas, for the past 32 years, furnished the following information:

His son, LYNN RAY CLEVELAND, was born on August 5, 1934 at Palmer, Texas. His son is an ordained Baptist minister, having been ordained at Palmer, Texas. Approximately seven or eight years ago LYNN RAY CLEVELAND suffered a nervous breakdown and lacked only three months graduating from Baylor University. After suffering the nervous break-down, his son lost his church, and began a rather unstable existence with no permanent employment. He was placed in the Terrill State Hospital, Terrill, Texas, on three different occasions, during 1965 and 1966 due to his break-down and general mental condition. During the first part of 1967, his son walked away from the hospital and for the past year had been away from home, and apparently traveling over the country with no permanent residence or employment. He noted his son had not been in Palmer, Texas for the past year, and they in no way could verify his whereabouts on any given day during the past two weeks. He stated his son had never been known to carry a gun, and was considered completely harmless.

Mr. CLEVELAND noted the last word they had from their son was on or about March 26, 1968, when they received a Western Union Telegram from him requesting \$20 be sent to him at 1871 N. Broadway, Springfield, Missouri in care of RICHARD RUBLE. They sent this \$20 on March 29, 1968, from Ennis, Texas and had not seen or heard from LYNN RAY CLEVELAND since receiving the telegram. They advised this was not unusual as this was the only time they had contact with their son, that being when he needed money, and would either send them a telegram or telephone them, requesting same.

Mr. CLEVELAND stated their son had never been married, nor had he ever been in the Military Service.

On 4/10/68 at Joplin, Missouri File # KC 44-760

by SA ROBERT E. HICKAM:ENV Date dictated 4/13/68

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Mr. CLEVELAND advised he was extremely upset, due to the publicity the arrest of his son had received. He stated he had already contacted an attorney and planned on suing the responsible persons for the news releases which had indicated that his son had been arrested as a suspect in the slaying of the Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mr. CLEVELAND was advised that his son was not in Federal custody, had not been arrested by the FBI, nor had any comment been made by the FBI at Joplin, Missouri, to any news media whatever.

Mr. CLEVELAND was interviewed in the presence of ADRIAN MEACHAM, Chief of Police, Joplin, Missouri.

On the evening of April 10, 1968, LYNN RAY CLEVELAND was released in custody of his father, GARLAND CLEVELAND for travel back to Palmer, Texas.

Mr. CLEVELAND advised that if it was necessary to contact his son in the future, contact could be made through him at Palmer, Texas.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

4/17/68

Date

Officer D. A. MC AFEE, Joplin, Missouri Police Department, furnished the following information:

At 4:24 PM, on April 9, 1968, he was instructed by the Police Dispatcher to contact one VIRGINIA UHLER, Corral Motel, 3040 E. 7th Street, for information concerning a hitchhiker. He requested the description of the hitchhiker, and en route to the Corral Motel, observed a hitchhiker at 18th and Range Line. He checked this individual for information as to his identity and ascertained he was one LYNN R. CLEVELAND. He left the individual on the highway and proceeded to the Corral Motel, and contacted VIRGINIA UHLER, Manager of the motel.

Mrs. UHLER stated LYNN R. CLEVELAND had walked into the motel office and inquired as to directions to Tulsa, Oklahoma. While he was in the motel office, she had the television on, at which time a broadcast was being made of the MARTIN LUTHER KING funeral procession. CLEVELAND inquired as to whether or not it was the MARTIN LUTHER KING funeral, and according to UHLER, CLEVELAND appeared to be very interested in the television broadcast. After CLEVELAND departed, she telephonically contacted the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, as she felt CLEVELAND resembled an artist's conception of the individual who was being sought for the killing of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. She observed this artist's conception was recently published in the Joplin Globe Newspaper.

Due to the fact MC AFEE had not observed the artist's conception in the newspaper, he requested assistance to further check out the hitchhiker, and was assisted by officer B. W. FORNEY.

Officers FORNEY and MC AFEE arrested LYNN RAY CLEVELAND while he was hitchhiking at 31st and Range Line, and at the time of arrest, all that CLEVELAND had in his possession for identification was a library card on a Springfield, Missouri library. He also had a torn Social Security application card which was barely legible, showing Social Security Number [REDACTED] CLEVELAND stated he was en route to Tulsa,

On 4/9/68 at Joplin, Missouri File # KC 44-760

by SA ROBERT E. HICKAM:ENV Date dictated 4/13/68

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Oklahoma from Springfield, Missouri, and had been traveling around in Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, and Tennessee. Found in his possession was one piece of religious material with the address, Memphis, Tennessee stamped on the back, which he stated he obtained from a bus station. At the time of arrest, CLEVELAND was carrying a top-coat, sports coat, and had a tie in his pocket.

It was observed CLEVELAND fit the description of the artist's conception which had appeared in the Joplin Globe, and he was therefore taken to the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, and booked on a charge of "Hold for Investigation - Homicide other cities".

At time of arrest, CLEVELAND had only five cents in his possession, and a billfold containing numerous cards from various churches.

When booked at the City Jail, CLEVELAND furnished the following information:

Name	LYNN RAY CLEVELAND
Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	33 years
Date of birth	8/9/34
Place of birth	Palmer, Texas
Height	5'11½"
Weight	157 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Build	Slender
Complexion	Medium
Occupation	Musician
Father,	G. T. CLEVELAND
	Box 9263,
	Palmer, Texas
Marital status	Single
Address	2387 Witmore Place,
	St. Louis, Missouri

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CLEVELAND was booked in at the City Jail at 4:50 PM, to be questioned further by Detective Captain WALTER FLENNER.

Officer MC AFEE noted that neither he nor Officer FORNEY had any information whatever linking CLEVELAND with the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., other than the fact CLEVELAND resembled the artist's conception of KING's assassin as set forth above.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/18/681

Mrs. VIRGINIA E. UHLER, Owner and Manager, Corral Motel, 3040 East 7th Street, furnished the following information:

On the evening of April 9, 1968, an unknown individual, later identified as LYNN RAY CLEVELAND, walked in to her motel office and requested directions to the Tulsa, Oklahoma Turnpike. She furnished him the directions, and he then asked a question pertaining to the program that was on the television set in the motel office. She recalled at the time there was a program concerning the funeral procession of Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and CLEVELAND inquired if the program was about KING's funeral. She then recalled CLEVELAND making some sort of comment that not only KING, but BILLY GRAHAM, should devote more of their time toward other things than their own religious purposes. She stated she could not directly quote him, but felt he meant that no one should become wrapped up in their own thoughts to the exclusion of all other matters.

She stated CLEVELAND was alone, did not ask for any handouts, and she did not observe him carrying any luggage.

Mrs. UHLER advised he stayed in the motel office less than ten minutes and when he left the motel, she telephonically contacted the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, as she felt CLEVELAND resembled the artist's conception of KING's slayer which recently appeared in the local newspaper. She advised she had absolutely no reason at all to suspect CLEVELAND other than the fact he resembled the artist's conception, and he made no comment whatever indicating he had been in Memphis, Tennessee, or any comment even remotely indicating he was connected with the murder of Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mrs. UHLER advised she did recall CLEVELAND mentioning he was hitchhiking. This was the only time she had ever observed this person who was later identified as LYNN RAY CLEVELAND.

On 4/16/68 at Joplin, Missouri File # KC 44-760  
by SA ROBERT E. HICKAM - lw Date dictated 4/17/68

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On April 23, 1968, FRANCIS MURPHY, Sheriff, Laclede County, Lebanon, Missouri, advised his records reflect DAVID L. WILSON was booked into the jail on August 5, 1967, by the Missouri State Highway Patrol, and released August 12, 1967. WILSON is described in the record as a white male, age 35 years, height 6'3", brown hair, blue eyes, medium complexion, residence - Dade City, Florida.

On April 23, 1968, records of the Magistrate Court, Laclede County, Lebanon, Missouri, revealed WILSON appeared there on August 7, 1967, and pled guilty to charge of driving intoxicated. He was fined \$100.00 and \$14.20 costs. His residence was listed as 1001 Lock St., Dade City, Florida, and he had Florida driver's license G172074 and was driving a Willis Shaw truck from Springdale, Arkansas.

On April 23, 1968, Sheriff FRANCIS MURPHY, Deputies VIRGIL DAVIS and RALPH WATKINS, along with Missouri State Highway Patrol Officers Sergeant CLAUDE ARNOLD, JIM MORELAND, GLENN WILSON, and S.I. DAVID were exhibited a photo of subject, but none could give any information concerning him or make any identification.

Sheriff MURPHY advised there are only two taverns in Lebanon, Missouri--City Tavern and Mary's Tavern.

On April 23, 1968, LOUISE MUSSELMAN, City Tavern, 120<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> W. Commercial, and MARY SPARKS, Mary's Tavern, 107 North Madison, both Lebanon, Missouri, observed photos of subject and stated they were unable to recall him as ever being a patron in their respective taverns. Both said he is not a regular or occasional customer and they were unable to give any additional information.