

[REDACTED]

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

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

He advised that LUCILE RYAN had worked as a prostitute during most of her life and that the area around 214 Spring Street was an area infested by houses of prostitution at the time of the RYAN/RAY family lived in that area. He stated that there had been testimony that LUCILE RYAN had attempted to solicit prostitution dates for herself in a tavern [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

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

[REDACTED]

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

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

[REDACTED]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

At Quincy, Illinois

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

410 North 9th Street  
Quincy, Illinois

630 North 6th Street  
Quincy, Illinois.



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

324 York Street  
Quincy, Illinois

221 South 5th Street  
Quincy, Illinois.

323 York Street  
Quincy, Illinois

1201 South Main Street  
Jacksonville, Illinois.

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

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

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B. MELBA MARIE RYAN

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Race	White
Sex	Female
Date of Birth	<input type="text"/>
Place of Birth	Ewing, Missouri
Height	5'5½"
Weight	165 pounds
Build	Stout
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Medium
Occupation	None

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

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

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

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Place of Birth	Ewing, Missouri
Height	5'5½"
Weight	165 pounds
Build	Stout
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Medium
Occupation	On welfare subsistence
FBI #	33 271 C

A review of the records of the Quincy Police Department also showed a record for JOHNNY RAY, aka JOHN LARRY RAY and JOHN L. RAYNS and JACK RAYNS. This file showed JOHNNY RAY's date of birth to be  home address 214 Spring Street, hair brown.

The record showed he was 5'10" and weighed 160 pounds. The file contained the following arrests:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHARGE</u>	<u>DISPOSITION</u>
4-7-53	Larcent of an Automobile	Illinois State Penitentiary, 5 - 10 years
2-18-60	Fictitious license	\$10.00 and costs

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EHD:ras

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

On April 23, 1968, SAMUEL EDWARD HARPER, Desk Clerk, Virginia Hotel, Quincy, Illinois, advised that MELBA MARIE RYAN, sister of JAMES EARL RAY, is still residing at that hotel. HARPER advised that very definitely RAY has not contacted anyone at the Virginia Hotel and that complete cooperation will be given the FBI in the matter concerning RAY by individuals connected with the Virginia Hotel. HARPER advised that he is certain WALTER TERRY RIFE has not had any contact with RAY anytime during the past several years.



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EHD/jac

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On May 1, 1968 and May 3, 1968, MELBA MARIE RYAN, Virginia Hotel, 234 North Second Street, Quincy, Illinois, was re-interviewed by SA ELYON H. DAVIS. On each occasion, MELBA RYAN advised that she had no further information concerning the activities and whereabouts of her brother JAMES EARL RAY. She also advised that she had no further information of value concerning any member of the family. She stated that she had been in contact with her father residing at Center, Missouri as well as her father's ex-wife RUBY CARPENTER who lived in Quincy, Illinois. She stated she had also contacted MABEL FULLER who resides in Quincy, Illinois and all of these individuals disclaim any knowledge of the whereabouts or activities of her brother JAMES EARL RAY. She stated that she felt that all members of the family that she had contacted would cooperate in attempting to locate RAY and that she would furnish any information that came to her attention concerning any of his activities.

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EHD/jac

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

Daily surveillances were conducted on a spot basis by SA ELYON H. DAVIS and SA MACK OLIVER at the Virginia Hotel, Quincy, Illinois, where MELBA MARIE RYAN, sister of JAMES EARL RAY resides.

On May 10, 1968, Detective DONALD CAPPS, Quincy, Illinois Police Department, advised that Detectives of that Police Department daily and nightly check the Virginia Hotel. He advised that all members of the Quincy Police Department and especially the Quincy, Illinois Detective Bureau carry photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and if any information is developed concerning MELBA MARIE RYAN having visitors at the Virginia Hotel, this information will be immediately furnished to the FBI.

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C. SUSAN DONIAN

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The following investigation was conducted by SA  
WILLIAM ROBERTS, III:

On April 20, 1968, Father JAMES BRINKS, St. Aloysius Church, Springfield, Illinois, telephonically contacted the Springfield Division and advised he had known subject's sister, SUE since she was a child, and in an effort to help locate and interview her, he advised he was in possession of a newspaper article of April, 1967, in the Chicago "Tribune" regarding SUE, which showed her to be going under the name LEE RILEY and to be working as a go-go dancer in the Bourbon Street Club at 936 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois.

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

At Quincy, Illinois

On April 22, 1968, Sister CATHERINE, Principal, Notre Dame High School, advised that she had a SUSAN J. RYAN graduate from Notre Dame High School on June 6, 1965.

Sister CATHERINE stated that SUSAN J. RYAN entered Notre Dame High School on September 8, 1961, and that she came from the Children's Home at Alton, Illinois.

Sister CATHERINE stated that while SUSAN J. RYAN was a student at Notre Dame High School, she lived with Mr. and Mrs. ROMAN KLINNER of Rural Route Number 3, Quincy, Ill.

Sister CATHERINE said that a transcript of her grades were mailed to the Gem City College on June 2, 1965, and that it was her understanding that RYAN had received a scholarship from the National Secretary's Association.

Sister CATHERINE said that she understood that RYAN did not accept the scholarship and that immediately after graduation, she moved from the KLINNER's residence to Chicago, Illinois, where she was attending a modeling school. Sister CATHERINE gave the following information and description from SUSAN J. RYAN's file:

Name	SUSAN JANE RYAN
Date of birth	
Place of birth	Adams County, Illinois
Father	JERRY (no last name)
Mother	LUCILLE MAHER

Sister CATHERINE said that according to her information SUSAN RYAN had four older brothers, one younger brother, two older sisters, but that she gave the name of none of these brothers or sisters.

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Sister CATHERINE stated that her file contained a photograph of SUSAN JANE RYAN and that it would be available if needed in the future.

Sister CATHERINE stated that she could give no further information concerning SUSAN J. RYAN.

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D. FRANK RYAN

On April 22, 1968, the following investigation was conducted by SA ROBERT BLUM RASCOE at St. James Trade School in Springfield, Illinois:

Brother Aequiduis advised that he had a Franklin Ryan in attendance from June, 14, 1958, until January, 1959. He advised that he had no personal records available which might be of lead value, and that the above dates were all that indicated that FRANKLIN RYAN had ever attended this school. He advised that he had no record of any FRANKLIN DELANO (BUZZIE) RYAN. A check of the name RAY provided no information which might be of lead value.

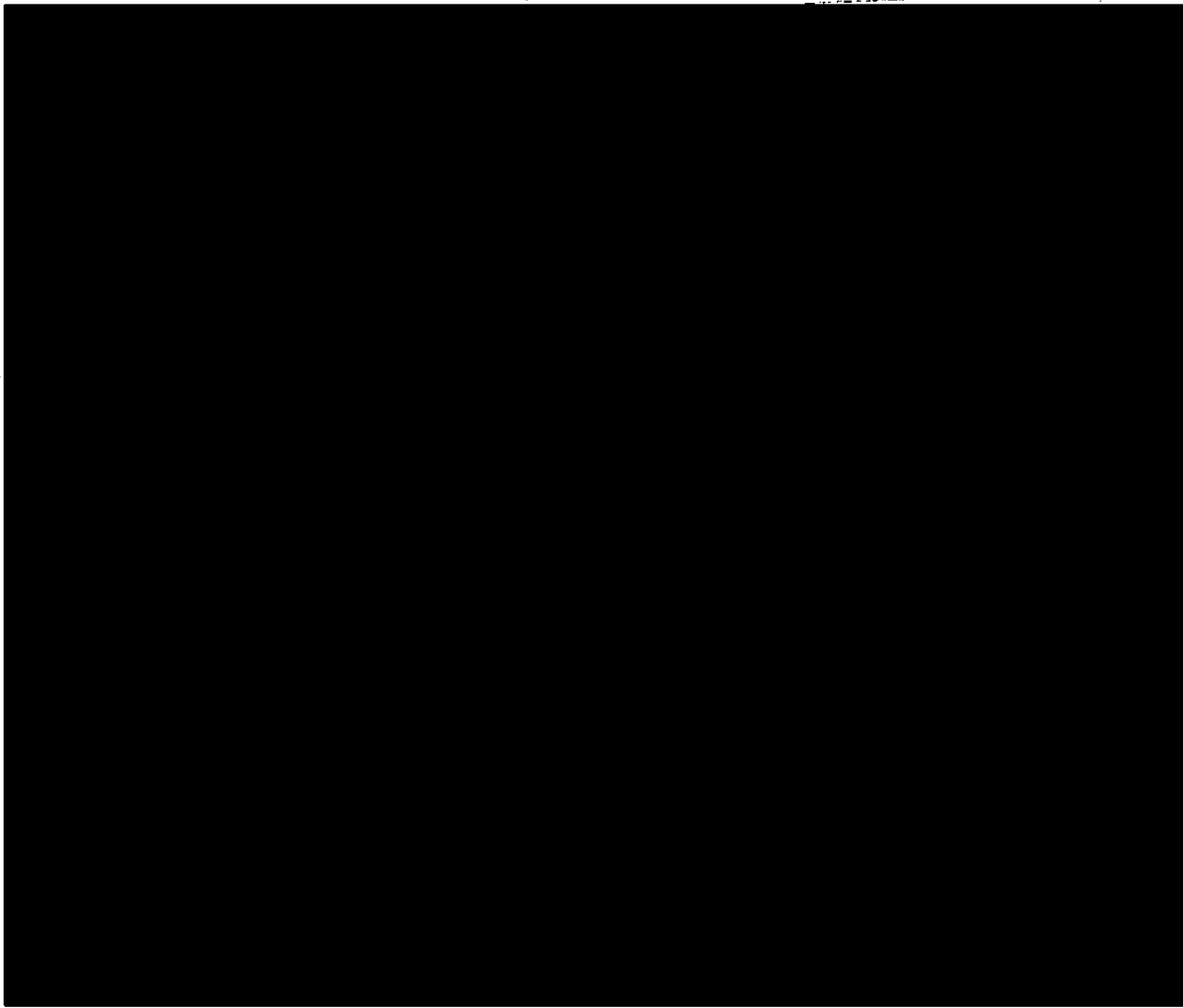
On April 20, 1968, MELBA MARIE RYAN, Sister of subject, advised that a brother, FRANKLIN DELANO RYAN had drowned in the Mississippi River in approximately 1963.



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E. [REDACTED]

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F. JOHN and JERRY RAY

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Re: JOHN LARRY RAY:

Springfield indices reflect a closed Selective Service case for subject's brother, JOHN LARRY RAYNS, also known as Jack Rayns, also known as John Larry Ray. A review of the file was made by SA WILLIAM ROBERTS, III and the only new information developed was the name of an aunt of the subject MILDRED MAHER, listed address as 1118 East- 74th Street, Alton, Illinois.

Warden MAX FRY, of the Menard State Penitentiary, Menard, Illinois, made available records at Menard Prison to SA LARRY W. GREEN for examination:

JOHN LARRY RYAN, was released from Menard State Penitentiary, 2/1/60. He was incarcerated there on a larceny of motor vehicle charge. His registration number at Menard is 23401. RYAN left Menard on a full discharge and immediately after his discharge, made application to the State of Illinois to have his civil rights restored. He wanted the results of this application sent to an address which was given in the record as 1728 North 10th Street, St. Louis, Missouri.

It was discovered during examination of the above records, that JOHN LARRY RYAN's brother, JERRY RYAN, also was incarcerated at Menard State Penitentiary. JERRY RYAN had number 23737; from December, 30, 1954, to December 12, 1955, both RYANS were in the Menard State Prison together. Also from August, 1, 1953, to February 1, 1960, both were incarcerated at Menard at the same time.

Both RYANS listed their relatives the same. Correspondence in the file of JOHN LARRY RYAN while at Menard Prison consisted generally of correspondence going out to his mother, LUCILLE RYAN, 1913 Hickory Street, St. Louis, Missouri. Other communications were those to his sister, MELBA RYAN, 1201 South Main, Jacksonville, Illinois.

Other sisters are CAROL RYAN, 1727 South 11th, St. Louis, Missouri; and CAROL ROGERS, 1701 Washington, Quincy, Illinois.

Listed as brothers in the file of RYAN are brother JERRY RYAN, the above mentioned, who was released May 6, 1960, from Menard. JERRY was charged with larceny and was from Adams County, Illinois. Also listed as a brother was JAMES RAY, Quincy, Illinois, no other address shown. It could not be determined if this JAMES E. RAY is identical with subject.

Other relatives noted in the file were MARY MAHER, Tremont Hotel, Quincy, Illinois, who is the grandmother of JOHN LARRY RYAN. Other outgoing communications were to RALPH HOWARD, Indianapolis, Indiana, no other address shown, and a communication in 1960 was directed to JAMES E. RAY, addressed to Leavenworth Prison, Kansas. Again, it is not known or is it shown by the record that this JAMES E. RAY is identical with subject.

Correspondence noted in the file of JERRY RYAN were outgoing communications going to PAT WITT, 3971 West Minister, St. Louis, Missouri. and RUBY DOBYNS, 3971 West Minister, St. Louis, Missouri. One communication was addressed to JERRY LANCASTER, 4431 North 19th Street, St. Louis, Missouri.

As above stated, the relatives shown for both JERRY RYAN and JOHN LARRY RYAN were identical in each file.

No other information helpful to this investigation was noted in these files.

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G. RUBY CARPENTER



On 4/23/68, RUBY CARPENTER, 630 North Sixth Street, Quincy, Illinois, was interviewed at her home by SA ELYON H. DAVIS and SA MACK W. OLIVER. She furnished the following information.

In 1952, she was working in Quincy, Illinois at the Lincoln-Douglas Hotel. Also working at the hotel at that time was a JAMES GERALD RAY. She and RAY started going together and left Quincy, Illinois together and went to St. Louis, Missouri to live.

She stated at the time she left Quincy with RAY, he was married to LUCILLE RAY or LUCILLE RINE. RAY and his wife LUCILLE had seven children by their marriage to her knowledge. These included JAMES EARL RAY, JOHN RAY, also known as JACK RAY or JACK RINE, JERRY RAY, CAROL RAY, FRANKLIN D. RAY, SANDRA RAY, and [REDACTED]

She stated that before the RAY family moved to Quincy, Illinois from Ewing, Missouri, the father, JAMES GERALD RAY had obtained a job with the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad and had moved from Ewing, Missouri to Galesburg, Illinois where he worked for a short time as a switchman. He obtained a Social Security card before starting to work for the railroad under the name of RAYNES and he used the name of RAYNES during the time that she lived with RAY in St. Louis. She advised that she and RAY lived together in St. Louis from 1952 until 1961 and on 8/1/61, she married JAMES GERALD RAY at Palmyra, Missouri, the marriage vows and services being performed by the Methodist minister in that town. They lived together starting on that date on farm, Rural Route 1, Clarence, Missouri and this continued until RAY left her in December of 1963. She then obtained a divorce from RAY in Palmyra, Missouri in 1964 and returned to Quincy, Illinois. She stated that after he left her, JAMES GERALD RAY moved to Center, Missouri where he has continued to reside on a farm.

. She advised that she has been in frequent contact with JAMES GERALD RAY since their separation in 1963 and that MELBA MARIE RYAN, the daughter of JAMES GERALD RAY also lives in Quincy and she occasionally is in contact with MELBA. She advised however that she has not been in contact with MELBA since Christmas, 1967 until 4/19/68 when MELBA called her to talk to her concerning JAMES EARL RAY and RAY being charged concerning the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING. She advised also on that date she had telephonically contacted JAMES GERALD RAY and at that time the father had stated that he hoped his son, JAMES EARL RAY was caught as soon as possible so that this thing would end. She advised that she is certain that JAMES GERALD RAY does not know of the whereabouts of his son JAMES EARL RAY. She stated that at the present time, JAMES GERALD RAY was using the name of GERRY RAYNES.

She advised that of the entire RAY family, she considers JACK RAY or JACK RINE to be closer to JAMES EARL RAY than any of the remainder of the family. She stated that the only time that JAMES EARL RAY ever lived with JAMES GERALD RAY and herself was sometime around 1959 when he worked as a baker in St. Louis. She stated that during this period of time, he also resided with his mother and grandmother, Mrs. MAHER at 1913 Hickory Street, St. Louis, Missouri. She advised that during this period of time, she and JAMES GERALD RAY were living on 1727 South 11th Street, St. Louis, Missouri.

She advised that JAMES EARL RAY is supposed to have learned the trade of a baker in prison and that he worked at one of the bakeries in St. Louis around 1959. She had no idea as to the name of the bakery or the exact location. She stated that he also had his own apartment while in St. Louis as well as living with both his mother and his father. She stated that she had not seen him since he went to prison around 1960 and has had no contact with JAMES EARL RAY since she and the subject's father moved to Clarence, Missouri on 8/1/61.

She advised that the subject's father JAMES GERALD RAY was an excellent car salesman and did quite well as a car salesman for a used car lot in St. Louis. Since 1961, however, he has worked on a farm, first, the one

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owned by her at Clarence, Missouri and afterwards on a farm at Center, Missouri.

She advised that he has never married and she does not know of any close girlfriends of JAMES EARL RAY. She advised that she did not know of the identity of any girlfriends..

RUBY CARPENTER stated that she is certain that JAMES EARL RAY does not know of her present whereabouts. She stated that she is presently employed babysitting and doing housework for various individuals in Quincy and that in the event she learns something concerning JAMES EARL RAY's whereabouts, she will immediately notify the FBI.

The Harboring Statute was explained by SA DAVIS to RUBY CARPENTER.

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

On May 1, 1968, GARY SHELTON, 404 Oak Street, Quincy, Illinois, age 16, advised that RUBY CARPENTER is employed at his home as a babysitter and housekeeper during the daytime for the nine SHELTON minor children. After viewing a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, SHELTON advised that this individual had never been to his house to his knowledge and he has never heard RUBY CARPENTER mention JAMES EARL RAY. He advised that he would immediately notify SA DAVIS of any information coming to his attention concerning any visitors to the home of RUBY CARPENTER and concerning JAMES EARL RAY.

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

On May 3, 1968, RUBY CARPENTER, 630 North Sixth Street, Quincy, Illinois, was re-interviewed at her home and furnished the following information:

She has had no contact with anyone who has any information concerning the whereabouts or activities of JAMES EARL RAY since last being contacted by the FBI.

She advised that definitely JAMES EARL RAY had lived with RUBY CARPENTER and her former husband, JAMES GERALD RAYNES who was commonly known as JERRY RAYNES or JERRY RAYNS in St. Louis, Missouri, sometime around 1959 or 1960. Also, during this period of time, JAMES EARL RAY had resided with his mother, LUCILE RYAN and grandmother, Mrs. MAHER, in St. Louis. This was shortly before he was sent to prison to the Missouri State Penitentiary in either 1959 or 1960.

Sometime during the period of time while JAMES EARL RAY was in St. Louis, Missouri, around 1959 or 1960 he definitely made a trip to Mexico. She had no idea as to the location of the town in Mexico that he visited; however, she remembered hearing him speak of his trip into Mexico.

She advised that on the previous day, May 2, 1968, Mrs. FRANK FULLER, 601 Chestnut Street, Quincy, Illinois, had visited in RUBY CARPENTER's home. Mrs. MABEL FULLER, at that time, had advised that she had heard nothing concerning JAMES EARL RAY's whereabouts and she stated that Mrs. FULLER did not know anything concerning the activities of RAY. She stated that Mrs. FULLER has always been very defensive concerning her relatives and that Mrs. FULLER stated that she did not believe her nephew, JAMES EARL RAY, committed any crime or was involved in any way in the death of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING.

RUBY CARPENTER advised that she had not recently talked to MELBA MARIE RYAN but that when last contacted by MELBA RYAN approximately one week before, MELBA had no information concerning the activities of JAMES EARL RAY, and had no information concerning his whereabouts. RUBY CARPENTER stated she doubted very much that JAMES EARL RAY would ever contact MELBA RYAN.

RUBY CARPENTER advised that she felt that her former husband, JERRY RAYNES, has had his phone disconnected inasmuch as she had tried several times during the past few days to call JERRY RAYNES at Center, Missouri. She stated that he has been "very jumpy" concerning JAMES EARL RAY and that she feels this is the reason that RAYNES had his phone disconnected. She stated that she is tempted to call RAYNES and was told that the phone was disconnected; however, she stated that a telephone strike was in existence and the possibility was that the calls did not go through.

Mrs. CARPENTER advised that she had no idea as to the present whereabouts of JAMES EARL RAY's brother JERRY RAY or JERRY RYAN who is supposed to have disappeared from the Chicago area. She advised that sometime around April 25, 1968, JERRY RAY had called her from Chicago, Illinois, and asked her to speak to a Life magazine reporter. At that time, JERRY RAY had indicated that he wished his brother would surrender to the FBI.

She advised that she has not been contacted by CAROL PEPPER in any way and has no idea as to CAROL's present address. She also stated she had no information concerning the present whereabouts or address of JAMES EARL RAY's sister SUSAN; however, she did think SUSAN was in Chicago, Illinois.

Mrs. CARPENTER advised that she personally has very few visitors and every Monday through Friday she leaves her home at approximately 6:30 a.m. and walks to 404 Oak Street in Quincy, Illinois, where she is employed by the Child Welfare Department of the State of Illinois, as a babysitter and housekeeper in the daytime for the HOMER SHELTON family. She advised

that HOMER SHELTON has nine minor children and that HOMER SHELTON's wife died in March, 1968, and she has been employed as a housekeeper for him since that time. She usually returns home in the afternoon sometime between 4:00 and 5:00 p.m. after HOMER SHELTON returns home from work. She stated that HOMER SHELTON is employed at Moorman's Manufacturing Company.

RUBY CARPENTER advised that she did not feel that JAMES EARL RAY would have any information as to her present location. She again expressed the desire to aid the FBI in the apprehension of JAMES EARL RAY and stated that she would furnish any information that came to her attention concerning RAY's whereabouts or activities.

RUBY CARPENTER advised that her son JEROME CARPENTER is still in the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri, for the crime of murder and she does not feel that he would have any information concerning the whereabouts of activities of JAMES EARL RAY.

On May 3, 1968, HOMER SHELTON, 404 Oak Street, Quincy, Illinois, was interviewed and advised that RUBY CARPENTER is employed on a daily basis as a babysitter and housekeeper for his children at that address while he is working. SHELTON advised that he has nine minor children and three are not in school and that his wife died in March, 1968. He stated he has no information concerning any visitors who may have visited RUBY CARPENTER during the daytime at his home. He stated that she has never mentioned JAMES EARL RAY to him and after viewing photographs of RAY, advised that RAY has never been to his home and that he has never seen JAMES EARL RAY. SHELTON advised that he would notify the FBI of any information he learns concerning anyone contacting RUBY CARPENTER or any information concerning JAMES EARL RAY.

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

On May 1, 1968, Sergeant ROLAND HANSON, Quincy, Illinois Police Department, advised that he resides at 606 North Sixth Street, Quincy, Illinois. He advised that RUBY CARPENTER who resides at 630 North Sixth Street is a neighbor of Sergeant HANSON. HANSON advised that he would notify the FBI of any visitors to or from the CARPENTER residence. Sergeant HANSON advised that Miss CARPENTER does not have many visitors and only goes to and from work each day after which time she seems to reside at her home by herself and she has very little contact with her neighbors.

On May 10, 1968 and May 13, 1968, Sergeant HANSON advised that he has not observed any visitors to the RUBY CARPENTER home since last being contacted by SA DAVIS.

Spot surveillances on a daily basis were conducted by SA ELYON H. DAVIS and SA MACK OLIVER at the residence of 630 North Sixth Street, Quincy, Illinois, for the period of May 1, 1968 through May 10, 1968. During this period of time, no visitors were observed entering or leaving the RUBY CARPENTER home at that address.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date May 23, 1968

RUBY SMITH CARPENTER was reinterviewed at her home, 630 North Sixth Street, Quincy, Illinois, after she telephonically contacted SA DAVIS and requested to be reinterviewed by him.

Mrs. CARPENTER furnished to SA DAVIS the following written statement which she stated she had written to give as exact account as possible of her knowledge of JAMES EARL RAY. The statement was on both sides of a white piece of paper and read as follows.

"Mr. Elyon Davis - Since you were here the last time I have thought of some things I would like to make clear, things I did not think of at first. First I know nothing of the whereabouts of James Earl Ray. I have seen him perhaps 6 times, the last in 1958 I believe. 2nd I know nothing about any unlawful acts of any of the Ray, Rayns, Ryan family. The only one of the family I have been closely associated with is the father, James Gerald Ray, who was my husband for about 3 years. We were divorced the 9th of December 1963. 3rd I have always lived an honest and lawabiding life. I have worked hard and supported myself entirely for 16 years and have helped others a great deal besides. Everything I have or ever had has been from honest and respectful work. No one has ever given me anything except my father, who left me some money at his death. 4th I would not accept anything obtained dishonestly if it were offered to me, which was not.

"I have seen many errors printed about the family. The headlines of the Herald Whig stating Ray's father has long local criminal record. An article in Chicago Daily News by Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson stating the children were adopted by various persons. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] They also stated James Earl Ray was the product of a broken home. How could he be when he was 24 years old when the father left the home, and had been living away from home several years prior.

On 5/20/68 at Quincy, Illinois File # SI 44-561

by SA ELYON H. DAVIS /smr Date dictated 5/22/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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"This statement is written by me and is true and sincere.

"/s/ Ruby Smith Carpenter

"May 15, 1968"

Mrs. CARPENTER advised that her former husband, JAMES GERALD RAY, is still residing in Center, Missouri, under the name of JERRY RAYNS, and that he had his phone changed to an unlisted phone in order that he would not be bothered by crank calls. She stated that she is in contact occasionally with MELBA MARIE RYAN, the sister of JAMES EARL RAY, and with Mrs. FRANK FULLER, the aunt of JAMES EARL RAY. She stated that all members of the family tell her that they have no information concerning JAMES EARL RAY's whereabouts and will cooperate in the location of RAY.

Mrs. CARPENTER advised that she could not furnish any further information other than that previously furnished to the FBI.

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H. EARL EVERETT RAY

On April 22, 1968, BILL KAUFMAN, Illinois State Board of Probation and Parole, advised of the following re captioned individual subject's uncle:

EARL RAY, also known as Earl Everett Ray, James Ryan, James Mc Carthy, James Patrick Clancy, Joe Roe, White, male, date of birth, [REDACTED], place of birth, Quincy, Illinois, and as of 1949, 5' 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ " in height, 178 pounds, dark gray hair, light blue eyes, wife - AUDREY, divorced 1950, last known address, 1439 Cherry Street, Quincy, Illinois, criminal record dateing back to 1916, Menard, Illinois State Prison Numbers 6588 and 21025. Incarcerated at Menard 1925 to 1933 (assault to kill) and 1948 to 1955 (assault to mayhem - threw acid in wife's face), no FBI number available.

On 4/22/68 Chief RAY WELSH, Quincy, Illinois Police Department, made available the records of the Quincy Police Department of EARL EVERETT RAY.

The files showed that EARL EVERETT RAY is holder of Peoria, Illinois PD #14439 and that on 8/23/43 EARL RAY, 1401 Cherry Street, was arrested for throwing acid in the face of his wife, Mrs. EARL RAY. This case was later closed and no prosecution was involved.

The file showed that EARL RAY was 43 years of age in 1943. On 8/25/47 EARL RAY was wanted by the Quincy PD on an assault to kill charge. This apparently also involved his wife. On 9/10/48 the files contain information that EARL RAY and his wife were involved in a fight and that her sister, DORIS, was a witness. At that time Mrs. RAY moved to 1403 Cherry Street and her sister was DORIS GODMAN, 645 College Street.

On 7/24/55 EARL RAY was arrested for the assault of YVONNE MC GINBERG, 415 York Street, Quincy, Illinois.

On 8/59 EARL RAY was arrested for assault and battery and the victims were AUDREY RAY, wife, and LEONA FERGUSON. This occurred at 1403 Cherry Street, Quincy, Illinois, after he had hit AUDREY RAY in the mouth and LEONA FERGUSON in the stomach. At that time EARL RAY was living at 1415 Cherry Street, Quincy, Illinois.

AT GALESBURG, ILLINOIS:

On April 26, 1968, Mr. C. D. IREY, Special Agent, C B & Q Railroad, stated that a review of the employment files listed a file on EARL EVERETT RAY, subject's uncle, 164 South Academy Street, Galesburg, Illinois. He showed a previous address of 128 North 5th Street, Quincy, Illinois and listed LOUISA RAY as his Mother. The file indicated that he worked for the railroad for the period November 4, 1944, to November 17, 1944, 13 days. He listed former employment of April, 1934 to June, 1944 with Sunset Amusement Company, Excelsior Springs, Missouri and C B & Q Railroad, Omaha, Nebraska, and W. A. COLE, a fellow employee, does not recall RAY.

Name checks at the Galesburg, Police Department, Knox County Sheriff's Office and the Credit Bureau failed to develop any information. The former residence area of 164 South Academy is now a cemetery.

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I. WILLIAM and MILDRED MAHER

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WILLIAM E. MAHER, Uncle of JAMES EARL RAY, was located at 712 Brown Street, Alton, Illinois April 22, 1968. He stated prior to RAY's entry into the Army, he worked at a shoe tannery, Hartford, Illinois, where he became associated with individual who had pro-Nazi leanings and RAY became anti-Negro and anti-Jewish as a result. In military service, RAY was in Germany where opinion crystalized.

MAHER stated he last saw RAY 10 or 12 years ago and to his knowledge, RAY has not been in Alton since 1959 when he was involved in an armed robbery. He stated he could suggest no one in the Alton area acquainted with RAY or to whom RAY might turn for help.

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

WILLIAM and MILDRED MAHER, 712 Brown Street, Alton, Illinois advised they are the uncle and aunt of JAMES EARL RAY. They have advised that RAY has not been in contact with them for 10 or 12 years; that they do not believe he will contact them since they had a falling out when they last were together and that if RAY does contact them, or they think or anything that might be pertinent regarding him, they would get in touch with the FBI promptly.

With regard to other relatives of RAY, Mr. and Mrs. MAHER advised as follows:

Mrs. MARY MAHER,  
Grandmother,  
deceased

LUCILLE RYAN,  
Mother  
Deceased.



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The following investigation was conducted by  
SA FRANK E. CORN, SR. and SA ROBERT C. HAINES:

AT ALTON, ILLINOIS:

From May 2, through May 14, 1968, physical surveillance of the residence of WILLIAM MAHER, 712 Brown Street, was instituted on a daily basis at varying times of the day and evening hours.

No unusual activity was noted during these surveillances.

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J. Mrs. FRANK (MABLE) FULLER