

F B I

Date: 6/13/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN; RM

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO BUREAU DATED JUNE TWELVE LAST.

CANVASS OF LAUNDRIES AND DRY CLEANERS, ALTON AND VICINITY
 COMPLETED. NO IDENTIFICATION MADE JAMES EARL RAY OR ASSOCIATES.
 SI ONESEX ONE FOUR - C AND SI ONE FIVE FIVE TWO - C RECONTACTED
 STATED NO INFORMATION DEVELOPED INDICATING RAY OBSERVED ALTON
 OR VICINITY BETWEEN APRIL AND JULY, NINETEEN SIXTY SEVEN.

COPIES MAILED CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS.

- 1 - Springfield (44-561)
- 1 - Chicago (44-1114) (RM) (AM)
- 1 - Memphis (44-1987) (RM) (AM)
- 1 - St. Louis (44-775) (RM) (AM)

RCH/tlp
 (4)

44-775-917

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| FBI - ST. LOUIS | |
| 2 | |

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

6/14/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS

FROM: SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775) (P)

MURKIN.

Re Memphis teletype, 4/25/68.

Mr. T. EDWARD UMPHRES (confidential), Area Security Supervisor, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, St. Louis, Missouri, advised Special Agent SPURGEON J. PETERSON, on May 15, 1968, that St. Louis telephone number 314-865-1381 is issued to Rev. G. L. WHITE, El Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, 3328 Rutger, St. Louis, Missouri.

Mrs. ELIZABETH WHITE, 3328 Rutger, St. Louis, Missouri, advised Special Agent JOHN O. TRETHEWEY, JR., on June 10, 1968, she was not acquainted with anyone of subject's appearance as depicted in the IO displayed to her and as seen in newspapers and TV publicity in regard to this case. Subject's name and aliases were likewise unfamiliar to her, except for news media publicity. She was unable to suggest the names of any friends or associates who might be acquainted with or have any information regarding subject. She knew of no friends or relatives residing in Memphis.

It should be noted Reverend and Mrs. WHITE are Negro.

2 - Memphis
① - St. Louis
HRD:klr
(3) *plc*

44-775-918

as

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6/14/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

FROM: SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775) (P)

MURKIN.

Re Los Angeles teletype, 4/26/68.

Mr. T. EDWARD UMPHRES, (confidential), Area Security Supervisor, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, St. Louis, Missouri, advised Special Agent SPURGEON J. PETERSON, on May 3, 1968, that St. Louis telephone number 361-9601 is issued to the Red Brick Restaurant, owner LARRY CHAPNICK, 101 North Euclid, St. Louis, Missouri.

Mr. LARRY CHAPNICK advised Special Agent JOHN O. TRETHEWEY, JR. on June 10, 1968, he was not acquainted with anyone of subject's name, aliases or appearance and that he had no knowledge or information concerning him other than that gained from newspaper, radio and television publicity in this case. He stated he did not know anyone in Los Angeles or elsewhere who knew subject or anything about him.

2 - Los Angeles
① - St. Louis
HRD:klr
(3)
klr

44-775-919

SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED _____
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FILED _____
[Signature]

6/14/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

FROM: SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775) (P)

MURKIN.

Re Los Angeles teletype, 4/29/68.

Mr. T. EDWARD UMPHRES (confidential), Area Security Supervisor, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, St. Louis, Missouri, advised Special Agent SPURGEON J. PETERSON on May 15, 1968, that St. Louis telephone number 781-8776 is issued to JAMES MICHELETTI, 1561 Kraft, St. Louis, Missouri.

JAMES MICHELETTI advised Special Agent JOHN O. TRETHEWEY, JR., on June 10, 1968, that he was not acquainted with anyone of subject's appearance as depicted in the IO displayed to him, or as noted in newspaper and television publicity in connection with this case. Subject's true name and aliases were likewise unknown to him, except through news media publicity. He was not acquainted with anyone who knew or had information concerning subject.

In early March, 1968, Mr. MICHELETTI received a telephone call from his daughter-in-law, LINDA MICHELETTI, in Los Angeles, to the effect that her husband (his son), DONALD JAMES MICHELETTI, was in trouble and in jail there for possessing narcotics, which necessitated his going to Los Angeles in an unsuccessful attempt to settle the difficulty. He had no reason to believe his son or daughter-in-law were in any way acquainted with subject, or had any knowledge or information concerning him.

2 - Los Angeles
① - St. Louis
HRD:klr
(3) *klr*

44-775-920

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6/14/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)

FROM: SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775)

MURKIN.

Re Houston airtel, 5/3/68.

Mr. T. EDWARD UMPHRES (confidential), Area Security Supervisor, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, St. Louis, Missouri, advised Special Agent SPURGEON J. PETERSON on June 4, 1968, the holder of St. Louis non-published telephone number 664-3747, is LEMUEL B. HESTER, 3029 Henrietta, St. Louis, Missouri. This information was obtained by subpoena.

On June 10, 1968, Mrs. KATHLEEN HESTER, 3029 Henrietta, St. Louis, Missouri, was shown a photograph of subject by Special Agent JOHN O. TRETHEWEY, JR. She stated she is not acquainted with any person of his appearance and that his true name and aliases are not familiar to her except through newspaper, radio and television publicity.

The only person she knows in the Houston area is her daughter, LOIS (Mrs. RICHARD) NESTLEHOFF, 1238 Lamont, who contacts her frequently by telephone. She has no reason to believe her daughter has any information regarding subject.

2 - Houston
① - St. Louis
HRD:klr
(3) *klr*

2

44-775-921

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F B I

Date: 6/15/68

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via _____

TELETYPE

Immediate
Urgent

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861)

FROM: ST. LOUIS (44-775)

MURKIN

RE PHONE CONVERSATION THIS DATE WITH SUPERVISOR FRANK HUDSON CONCERNING PUBLICITY THAT SUBJECT'S BROTHER, JOHN LARRY RAY, PLANNING TO VISIT HIM AT LONDON. SUBJECT'S SISTER, CAROL PEPPER, REPORTED JUNE FOURTEEN, LAST, THAT JOHN NOT GOING TO LONDON; THAT HE DOESN'T HAVE MONEY TO GO AND SHE WOULD NOT ADVANCE THE MONEY. HER OBSERVATION WAS THAT FAMILY COULD BETTER HELP HIS DEFENSE AFTER HE IS RETURNED TO THIS COUNTRY. P

① - ST. LOUIS

JJF: pdp

(1) *pp*

44-775-922

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Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

P M

Per _____

6-15-68

CODE

CABLEGRAM

URGENT

TO LEGAT LONDON

FROM DIRECTOR FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN.

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

JOHN LARRY RAY IS WHITE MALE, BORN [REDACTED]

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

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

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

44-775-923

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| JUN 19 1968 | |
| FBI - SAINT LOUIS | |

W. Osborn 12

**CABLEGRAM TO LEGAT LONDON
RE: MURKIN**

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

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

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

F B I

Date: 6/14/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (PP. 2)

MURKIN

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO BUREAU JUNE THIRTEEN, LAST.
WILLIAM MAHER, ALTON, SUBJECT'S UNCLE, REITERATED HE
 HAS NOT HAD ANY DIRECT WORD FROM SUBJECT FOR TEN YEARS; THAT
 HE DOES NOT FEEL SUBJECT CAME TO ALTON SUBSEQUENT TO ESCAPE
 FROM MSP BECAUSE HE STATES HE WOULD HAVE KNOWN SUBJECT'S
 PRESENCE IN ALTON.

DEPUTY DEMOS NICHOLAS, MADISON COUNTY SO, EDWARDSVILLE,
 ADVISED THAT SOURCES, TRICITY AREA, OF GRANITE CITY, MADISON
 AND VENICE, ILLINOIS UNABLE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION RE CONTACTS
 OF SUBJECT IN THAT AREA; THAT THERE IS NO INDICATION HE MADE
 ANY SUCH CONTACTS BETWEEN APRIL AND JULY NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN.

PHOTOS OF RAY AND ASSOCIATES SHOWN TO VICTIM BANKS IN
 VICINITY ALTON WITHOUT EFFECTING ANY IDENTIFICATION.

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

44-775-924

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| JUN 16 1968. | |
| FBI - ST. LOUIS | |

Dolan ✓

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

F B I

Date: **6/14/68**Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via **TELETYPE** **URGENT** _____
(Priority)**SI 44-561**
PAGE TWO

**SURROUNDING OFFICES BEING INSTRUCTED TO DISPLAY PHOTOS
OF RAY AND ASSOCIATES TOGETHER WITH INITIATING INQUIRY RE
LAUNDRY MARKS AT LAUNDRIES AND DRY CLEANING ESTABLISHMENTS
AND AREAS.**

*Laundries &
dry cleaning
places,
previously
circled*

AM COPIES SENT CHICAGO, MEMPHIS, ST. LOUIS, FOR INFO. P.

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

F B I

Date: 6-17-68

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

TO: DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS

FROM: ST. LOUIS (44-775)

MURKINRE JOHN LARRY RAY

ADVISED TODAY GRAPEVINE TAVERN CLOSED SINCE EARLY LAST WEEK FOR SAFETY OF PATRONS AS THREE CARLOADS OF STRANGE NEGROES REPORTED OBSERVING TAVERN. JOHN HIDING FROM REPORTERS. NEWS REPORT OF HIS RECEIPT OF CALL FROM FRIEND IN CANADA FALSE. KNOWS NO ONE IN CANADA. BELIEVES PHONE TAPPED AND THAT WE WOULD KNOW OF ANY CALL. REPORTS OF HIS INTENDED TRIP TO LONDON AND OF HIS RETAINING TEXAS LAWYER FOR RAY BOTH FALSE. HAS NOT HEARD FROM SUBJECT. HAS WRITTEN HIM TO GET IN TOUCH WITH CAROL PEPPER IF HE NEEDS ANYTHING AS SHE USUALLY HOME. BELIEVES RAY COMMITTED ROBBERIES DURING TRAVELS FOR INCOME.

RE JERRY RAY:

ARRIVED IN SL LAST NIGHT AFTER HIDING FROM REPORTERS LAST WEEK IN CHICAGO MOTEL. STAYED WITH CAROL PEPPER. WILL VISIT

HRD/rem

SEARCHED

SERIALIZED

INDEXED

FILED

Approved: TJG/rem
Special Agent in Charge

Sent ME 8:17P M Per rem
Dir 8:05P

F B I

Date:

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

PAGE TWO SL 44-775

FATHER AT CENTER, MO., TOMORROW. RETURN SL THURSDAY. USING NAME JERRY W. RYAN AND DISPLAYED RECENTLY OBTAINED ILLINOIS DRIVER'S LICENSE UNDER THAT NAME. PLANS TO LEAVE FOR MEMPHIS FRIDAY, OBTAIN EMPLOYMENT AND STAY THERE UNTIL AFTER TRIAL. HAS NOT HEARD FROM SUBJECT. BELIEVES SUBJECT WAS PAID TO ESTABLISH GALT IDENTITY AND THAT HE DID NOT KILL KING. CHICAGO ADVISED TELEPHONICALLY.

IF MEMPHIS DESIRES TO CONTINUE CONTACT, FURNISH SL NAME OF MEMPHIS SA HE SHOULD BE INSTRUCTED TO CALL ON ARRIVAL.

BOTH JOHN AND JERRY PLAN TO CONTACT SUBJECT AS SOON AFTER HIS ARRIVAL IN THIS COUNTRY AS POSSIBLE.

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

F B I

Date: 6/17/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (PP. 1)

MURKIN

RE SITEL TO BUREAU JUNE FOURTEEN, LAST.

BANKS IN GREATER ALTON AREA CONVASSED AND INFORMATION SOLICITED CONCERNING NEW ACCOUNTS OPENED SUBSEQUENT TO JULY THIRTEEN, LAST, WITH A VIEW TO DETERMINE IF RAY POSSIBLY DEPOSITED MONEYS OR FUNDS IN ANY ALTON AREA BANK SUBSEQUENT TO ROBBERY THE BANK OF ALTON. PHOTOS OF RAY AND ASSCCIATES DISPLAYED TO THOSE BANKS CONTACTED TODAY WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

INSTRUCTIONS SENT NEIGHBORING OFFICES WITH REGARD TO SURVEY OF LAUNDRY AND DRY CLEANING ESTABLISHMENTS.

AM COPIES SENT CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS. P.

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

44-775 - 926

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| JUN 19 1968 | |
| FBI - ST. LOUIS | |

Robison

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

F B I

Date: **6/18/68**Transmit the following in **PLAINTEXT**
(Type in plaintext or code)Via **TELETYPE** **URGENT**
(Priority)**TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)****FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)****MURKIN****RE SPRINGFIELD TEL JUNE SEVENTEEN LAST AND LOUISVILLE
AIRTEL TO BUREAU JUNE TWELVE LAST.****PHOTOGRAPHS OF RAY DISPLAYED TO CURRENT AND FORMER
OWNERS MEN'S STYLE SHOP, MAYFIELD, KENTUCKY, WITH NEGATIVE
RESULTS.****CANVASS OF BANKS ALTON AND VICINITY CONTINUING IN EFFORT
TO LOCATE ANY ACCOUNTS POSSIBLY UTILIZED BY RAY. RESULTS
OF THESE CONTACTS AND DISPLAY OF PHOTOGRAPHS AT AREA BANKS
UNPRODUCTIVE TO DATE.****COPIES MAILED CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS.**

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

44-775-927

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| JUN 19 1968 | |
| FBI - ST. LOUIS | |

Robert

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775)

DATE: 6-19-68

FROM : SA S. J. PETERSON

SUBJECT: M U R K I N

The following completes information furnished by MR. T. E. UMPHRES, Area Security Manager, SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE CO. This information was received 6-17-68, and was where toll call and non-published numbers were involved, obtained by subpoenas.

The toll info on TO 5-0449 for J. D. DAILEY is filed in the 1 A exhibit envelope of this file. It is for the period prior to May, 1968, and goes back to Jan. 1968. This is the only information the company has on this number while it was assigned to DAILEY.

Number 695-4793 was disconnected 6-1-68. It has been issued to HIRAM PRUDY, Holland, Mo., c/o General Delivery.

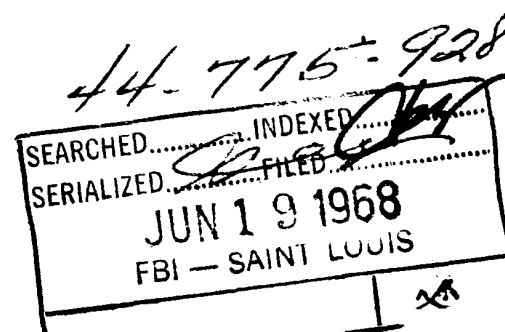
Number 423-2348, (See LA TT, 4-26-68) (Serial 333), is in the name LANELLE HENAGES, 8668 Moran, SLMO.

No further attempt was made to identify subscriber for phone number MU 3-4491, at Charleston, Mo.

SJP:wma
(1)



5010-108



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC **ST. LOUIS (137-16087)**

DATE: **6/6/68**

FROM : SA **ALBERT J. RUSHING**

☐ CI

☐ SI

☒ PCI

☐ PSI

SUBJECT: **JOHN EUGENE GAWRON**

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Dates of Contact 5/31/68 | | |
| Titles and File #s on which contacted MURKIN SL 44-775 | | |
| Purpose and results of contact <input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE INFORMATION HEREIN OBTAINED CONFIDENTIALLY INFORMANT'S NAME IS NOT TO BE DISCLOSED IN REPORT OR OTHERWISE UNLESS IT HAS BEEN DECIDED DEFINITELY THAT HE IS TO BE A WITNESS IN A TRIAL OR HEARING. | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact. | Rating Poor | Coverage 44-775 |
| Personal Data No change. | | |

1 - 137-16087
1 - 44-775 (MURKIN)
AJR:bam
(2)

44-775-929

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| JUN 6 1968 | |
| FBI — SAINT LOUIS | |

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 6, 1968

1.

A source, 1807 S. Eleventh Street, St. Louis, Missouri, was recontacted May 31, 1968.

Source advised that no further information whatever had come to his attention bearing on the possible whereabouts of JAMES EARL RAY. Source said he had not seen JOHN RAY or CAROL PEPPER during the preceding week but he thought he might see CAROL PEPPER within the following day or two since he owed her \$40 he had borrowed from her and he expected she might come by to see him in order to collect.

A photograph of JAMES H. CARPENTER, Federal Bureau of Investigation #30243, was exhibited to source. He identified this photograph as being a photograph of the person he had referred to in the previous interview who visited source in about July, 1967, and told source at that time that he and JAMES EARL RAY had robbed the bank at Alton, Illinois. He identified the photograph as being of the person previously referred to by source as JIMMY who gave source \$250 on the occasion referred to above. He further identified the photograph as being of the person he referred to as JIMMY who visited source on May 13, 1968, and May 14, 1968, with JOHNNY (last name unknown), and to whom source had provided a .38 caliber revolver.

Source was then advised that it had been determined that the person depicted in the photograph was actually in the St. Louis City Jail at the time of his alleged visits to source in 1967, and at the time of the robbery of the bank at Alton, Illinois. It was pointed out to him that the information he had provided in that regard was, therefore, false. Source then said he had realized for the past eight days that he had given the Federal Bureau of Investigation

On 5/31/68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL 44-775
 by SA PATRICK W. BRADLEY
SA ALBERT J. RUSHING AJR:bam Date dictated 6/3/68

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.

2.

SL 44-775

"a bum steer" and that the information he had previously furnished was a "bum beef" concerning JIMMY with regard to the Alton bank robbery. In referring to JIMMY at this time source referred to him as JIMMY CARPENTER saying he now recalled that CARPENTER was the last name of the JIMMY he had been referring to.

Source said that during the past eight days he had been thinking about this matter and had decided it was actually some other JIMMY who had given him the \$250 and told him he had robbed the bank with JAMES EARL RAY.

Source reiterated that JIMMY CARPENTER was the person who visited source with JOHNNY on May 13 and 14, 1968, and to whom source gave the gun. Source said he now realized he actually became acquainted with JIMMY CARPENTER for the first time in June, 1967, when they were in jail together in St. Louis. He said the other JIMMY he had referred to, the one who gave source \$250 and told source he had robbed the bank at Alton with RAY was a person with whom source had become acquainted in 1959 in St. Louis. He insisted he did not know the last name of this JIMMY and said he could not think of anyone at all who might know this JIMMY except JAMES EARL RAY. Source insisted that it was his recollection he had introduced JIMMY and RAY in 1959.

It was pointed out to source that since the information he had furnished about JIMMY CARPENTER and the bank robbery now appeared to be false, source might also be lying about the participation of RAY in the bank robbery. Source insisted that the otherwise unknown JIMMY (last name unknown) had visited him in 1967, as previously stated and told him of RAY's participation with JIMMY in the robbery.

F B I

Date: 6/17/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) - P -

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Bureau telephone call to Springfield 6/14/68.

On instruction of the Bureau, receiving offices are instructed to canvass laundry and dry cleaning establishments and display photos of JAMES EARL RAY and associates to determine if they are known in contacted establishments and establish laundry and dry cleaning marks assigned to them. Furnish results of contact to the Springfield and Memphis Divisions.

2 - Chicago (44-1114)

② - St. Louis (44-775)

2 - Indianapolis

2 - Memphis (44-1987)

2 - Springfield (44-561)

RCH:mpb

(10)

44-775-930

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| JUN 18 1968. | |
| FBI - ST. LOUIS | |
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Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date: **6/19/68****PLAINTEXT**Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via **TELETYPE** **URGENT**
(Priority)

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

**RE SI TEL TO BUREAU JUNE EIGHTEEN LAST, BOSTON AIRTEL
 TO BUREAU JUNE THIRTEEN LAST, AND ST. LOUIS AIRTEL TO SI
 JUNE THIRTEEN LAST.**

**BOSTON ADVISES CONTACT WITH SAVAGE ARMS, INC., DISCLOSED
 THERE IS NO WAY TO TRACE WEAPON SIMILAR TO ONE RECOVERED
 AFTER BANK OF ALTON ROBBERY.**

**ST. LOUIS ADVISED JOHN EUGENE GAWRON HAS REPEATEDLY
 DENIED ANY CONTACT WITH JAMES EARL RAY SUBSEQUENT TO HIS
 ESCAPE FROM MSP, BUT ST. LOUIS CONTEMPLATES REINTERVIEW OF
 GAWRON IN VIEW RAY'S APPREHENSION.**

**SI ONE SIX ONE FOUR DASH C ADVISED TODAY HE DEVELOPED
 INFORMATION RICHARD COVINGTON, SUSPECT IN BANK OF ALTON
 ROBBERY, HARBORED UNKNOWN INDIVIDUAL AT HIS RESIDENCE ON
 FOURTH STREET, ALTON, FOR APPROXIMATELY SEVEN DAYS JULY,
 SIXTYSEVEN; LATER ALLEGED TO HAVE ATTEMPTED TO BURN CLOTHING**

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

44-775-931

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| JUN 20 1968 | |
| FBI - ST. LOUIS | |

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

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via _____
(Priority)

SI 44-561

PAGE TWO

**AND DISPOSE OF UNIDENTIFIED WEAPON. INFORMANT INSTRUCTED
TO FOLLOW UP INFORMATION VIGOROUSLY AND REPORT RESULTS
PROMPTLY.**

COPIES MAILED CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS.

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

6/18/68

TELETYPE

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861)

FROM: MEMPHIS (44-1987) 2P

MURKIN.

IT IS SUGGESTED FOR THE BUREAU'S CONSIDERATION THAT LEGAT BERNE BE REQUESTED TO DETERMINE IF SUBJECT RAY HAD BANK ACCOUNT OR SAFE DEPOSIT BOX IN SWITZERLAND UNDER TRUE NAME OR ALIASES.

BUFFALO AND DETROIT ARE REQUESTED TO AGAIN CONTACT POLICE SOURCES FOR ANY INDICATION OF ROBBERIES INVOLVING MORE THAN TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS IN WHICH SUBJECT MIGHT HAVE BEEN INVOLVED DURING PERIOD APRIL TWENTY THREE NINETEEN SIXTY SEVEN TO JULY EIGHTEEN SIXTY SEVEN.

ST. LOUIS OFFICE ADVISED BY TELETYPE MAY TWELVE LAST THAT FORMER MSP INMATE JAMES H. CARPENTER SAW SUBJECT BETWEEN MAY TEN AND SEVENTEEN SIXTY SEVEN AT ST. LOUIS. MEMPHIS HAS NOT RECEIVED IRP REFLECTING FULL INTERVIEW WITH CARPENTER AND INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED TO SUBSTANTIATE HIS ALLEGATION.

1 - Buffalo (AM)
1 - Detroit (AM)
1 - Newark (AM)
① - St. Louis (AM)
1 - Memphis
JCH:LP
(5)

44-775-932

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| FBI - ST. LOUIS | |

1 2

ME 44-1987

PAGE TWO

ST. LOUIS PLEASE FURNISH SAME.

ST. LOUIS SHOULD ALSO BE ADVISED THAT MEMPHIS FEELS
INFORMATION FURNISHED THUS FAR BY JERRY RAY HAS BEEN
WORTHLESS AND MEMPHIS DOES NOT INTEND TO MAINTAIN CONTACT
WITH JERRY RAY IF HE CHANGES RESIDENCE TO MEMPHIS, TENN.
MEMPHIS BELIEVES MORE INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED THROUGH
NEWARK PCI MARJORIE FETTERS THAN BY DIRECT CONTACT WITH
JERRY RAY. P.

END.

F B I

Date: **6/21/68**Transmit the following in **PLAINTEXT**
(Type in plaintext or code)Via **TELETYPE** **URGENT**
(Priority)**TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)****FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)****MURKIN****RE SI TEL TO BUREAU JUNE TWENTY LAST.**

**SI ONE SIX ONE FOUR DASH C TO DATE UNABLE TO VERIFY
RESIDENCE HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON AT FOURTH STREET ALTON
ABOUT TIME OF BR AT BANK OF ALTON. INFORMANT CONTINUING
INQUIRY INSTANT MATTER.**

**HAZEL DREW, MOTHER OF CAROLYN WYATT, STATES CAROLYN
NOT IN ALTON AT THIS TIME. DUE TO RETURN EARLY NEXT WEEK.
WILL BE INTERVIEWED AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY.**

MAIL COPY TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS, AND ST. LOUIS.

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

AA-775-933

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| JUN 21 1968 | |
| FBI - ST. LOUIS | |

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

6/20/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO DIRECTOR FBI

FROM SAC MEMPHIS (44-1987) (2P)

MURKIN.

DAILY SUMMARY.

RE ST. LOUIS TEL TO BUREAU MAY SIXTEEN, LAST, REFLECTING INTERVIEW WITH JAMES LOAMA OWENS; KANSAS CITY TEL MAY TWENTY, LAST, REFLECTING INTERVIEW WITH JAMES WALLACE; AND MEMPHIS TEL JUNE EIGHTEEN, LAST, REQUESTING ST. LOUIS FURNISH RESULTS OF INTERVIEW WITH MSP INMATE JAMES H. CARPENTER.

ST. LOUIS SHOULD NOTE THAT JAMES H. CARPENTER and JAMES WALLACE BOTH INDICATE THEY SAW SUBJECT IN ST. LOUIS DURING SUMMER OF ONE NINE SIX SEVEN. WALLACE INDICATES SUBJECT WAS SEEN BY HIM IN COMPANY OF JAMES LOAMA OWENS. OWENS HAS DENIED TO ST. LOUIS AGENTS THAT HE SAW SUBJECT IN ST. LOUIS SUMMER OF ONE NINE SIX SEVEN.

ST. LOUIS SHOULD CHECK RECORDS AT THE JEFFERSON GRAVOIS BANK, ST. LOUIS, TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT OWENS OR SUBJECT MIGHT HAVE HAD ANY DEALINGS THAT BANK DURING ONE NINE SIX SEVEN. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT ST. LOUIS MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ESTABLISH SUBJECT'S PRESENCE IN ST. LOUIS AND TO DETERMINE

Airtel 1 - KANSAS CITY (AM)

Teletype 1 - ST. LOUIS (AM)

A.M. JCH:tjm (3)

A.M.S.D. Registered

44-775-934

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| FBI - ST. LOUIS | |

Done

ME(44-1987)

PAGE TWO

IF SUBJECT AND OWENS MAY HAVE PULLED A BANK ROBBERY OR LARGE ROBBERY WHICH WOULD EXPLAIN SUBJECT HAVING FUNDS USED LATER FOR TRAVEL AND EXPENSES.

AM COPIES ST. LOUIS AND KANSAS CITY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

P. END.

F B I

Date: 6/24/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (PP. 1)

MURKIN

RE SI TEL TO BUREAU JUNE TWENTYONE, LAST.

HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON ARRESTED DURING PAST WEEKEND IN
POSSESSION OF STOLEN CUB CADET TRACTOR. INCARCERATED MACOUPIN
COUNTY JAIL. WILL BE INTERVIEWED.

SI ONE SIX ONE FOUR - C REPORTS NO SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS
ON INQUIRIES BUT CONTINUING EFFORTS.

CAROLYN WYATT HAS NOT RETURNED ALTON TO DATE.

AM COPIES FURNISHED CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS. P.

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

44-775-935

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| SERIALIZED | FILED |
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| FBI - ST. LOUIS | |

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

6/20/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE URGENT

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

MURKIN.

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO BUREAU JUNE NINETEEN LAST.

SI ONE SIX ONE FOUR DASH C ADVISED TODAY THAT WOMAN WHO SAW UNKNOWN MAN AT APARTMENT OF HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON IS CAROLYN WYATT. WYATT HAS BEEN VICTIM OF WSTA CASE INVESTIGATED BY SI DIVISION. EFFORTS TO LOCATE WYATT TO DATE UNSUCCESSFUL.

COVINGTON DESCRIBED WMA, FIVE FEET EIGHT INCHES, ONE SIX ZERO POUNDS, BROWN HAIR AND BLUE EYES, AGE THIRTY. COVINGTON MEETS DESCRIPTION OF SHOTGUN MAN IN ROBBERY, THE BANK OF ALTON.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUING INTO THIS ASPECT AND SI ONE SIX ONE FOUR DASH C WORKING FULL TIME TO DEVELOP INFORMATION.

COPIES MAILED TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS, ST. LOUIS.

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

44-775-936

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| SERIALIZED..... | FILED..... |
| JUN 21 1968 | |
| FBI - SAINT LOUIS | |
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F B I

Date: 6/25/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
 (Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE URGENT
 (Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN

RE SI TEL TO BUREAU JUNE TWENTYFOUR LAST.

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

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

MAIL COPY SENT CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS.

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

44-775-937

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| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| JUN 27 1968 | |
| FBI - ST. LOUIS | |

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

6/25/68

A I R T E L

TO : SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

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

SUBJECT: MURKIN

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

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

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

Subsequent to the bank robbery a shotgun and items of clothing were found in a vacant lot in Alton, including a white Van Heusen Van-Guard shirt with markings "NU" or "NO", "JOH - U" or "JOH - O", inside collar; a pair of tan pleated trousers with the markings "44--" and "3107-3" on the right front pocket and "T6276" and "U7703" on the right rear pocket.

2 - Springfield
2 - Cincinnati (157-1893) (Info)
1 - Memphis (44-1987) (Info)
1 - Indianapolis (Info)
① - St. Louis (Info)
2 - Chicago
 (1 - 91-5375)
JHW:CMS
(4)

44-775-938

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| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| JUN 27 1968 | |
| FBI - ST. LOUIS | |

CG 44-1114

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

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

LEADS

SPRINGFIELD

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

CINCINNATI

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

F B I

Date: 6/25/68

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

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
 FROM: SAC, NEWARK (44-854) (P)
 SUBJECT: MURKIN
 (OO:MEMPHIS)

Re Memphis teletype to Bureau dated 6/18/68.

On 6/23/68, PCI LILLIAN DICKINSON, 2420 Arnold Street, Camden, N.J., landlady for PCI MARJORIE LOUIS FETTERS advised SA JOHN E. OTT she received a telephone call from JERRY RAY. He said he was calling from the home of his sister in St. Louis, Mo. where he said he was staying. In response to a question from DICKINSON he said the subject has not made an attempt to contact him since his arrest.

Because FETTERS was not home when he called he left telephone number 314-645-9152 with DICKINSON so FETTERS could return his call.

RAY told DICKINSON he was soon going to go to Memphis, Tenn, "to see what is going on there". He also said he might visit his son in Whitesburg, Tenn.

On 6/23/68, FETTERS telephonically contacted JERRY RAY at the indicated number. He said he was planning during the first part of this coming week on traveling to Whitesburg, Tenn., to visit his son and also on going to Memphis, Tenn. if his employer in Illinois did not require his return to work.

JERRY RAY said if he makes the described trips he might try to earn some money by selling interviews of himself to the various forms of mass media located along the route of his travels. FETTERS received the impression JERRY RAY is enjoying the attention and publicity he is receiving as a result of instant matter.

2-Memphis
 ②-St. Louis
 5-Newark
 (1-137-6826)
 (1-137-6829)

JEO/mbm

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

44-775-939

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| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| JUN 27 1968 | |
| FBI - ST. LOUIS | |

NK 44-854.

JERRY RAY told FETTERS he would like to see her again. She is of the opinion, he is still seriously interested in her. He did not try to make specific plans for a meeting during this conversation, however.

In response to a question by FETTERS, JERRY RAY said to the best of his knowledge the subject has not tried to contact him since his arrest.

Date May 23, 1968

CLEM RENGEL, Vice President, Rengel Realty Company, 3619 South Grand Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri, advised that their records reflect that the property at 1912 California Avenue, St. Louis, was rented on October 9, 1967, to JOHN RAY on a monthly basis for a monthly rental of \$70. The telephone number is reflected as PROspect 1-2477 at that location. These records also reflect he additionally paid rent on November 20, 1967, December 11, 1967, and January 16, 1968; each occasion paying the amount of \$70. These records do not reflect whether payments were made in cash or by check. Notation on the back of the card reflects "Grape Vine 1982 Arsenal, 776-9417".

Mr. RENGEL stated the only other additional information they had in their office would be an application for rent.

He made available this application for rent which is dated October 9, 1967. This application for rent of 1912 California Avenue for a monthly rental of \$70 reflects the premises are to be used as living quarters. The applicant's name is reflected as JOHN RAY, giving an address of 2100 Russell Street, indicating he has lived there for two months. His telephone number is reflected as PROspect 1-2477, and also as CAROL PEPPER, MIssion 5-2948. Additional notation indicates "1982 Arsenal, Grape Vine 776-9417".

Notation on this application reflects "We are leasing a tavern at 1982 Arsenal from Miller & Scheer, PR 6-4400."

References are reflected as (1) CLARENCE HAYNES, MA 1-3508, 1822 North 21st Street; (2) Miller & Scheer Real Estate.

Notation at bottom of this application reflects "phone no. MI 5-2948 Carol Pepper/sister 2025 Bel Voe, Maplewood, Mo."

On 5/21/68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL: 44-775 - 940
by SA PATRICK W. BRADLEY and
SA ROBERT A. NESS PWR/dih Date dictated 5/21/68

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Date May 23, 1968

NAOMI REGAZZI, nee Haynes, was interviewed at her residence, 2231 Lynch Street, St. Louis, Missouri.

She stated that she was employed from January 1, 1968, to May 16, 1968, as night barmaid at the Grape Vine Tavern, 5:00 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., six days a week. She stated that her salary was \$60 a week which she took out of the cash register once a week leaving a memorandum to that effect.

She stated that she obtained this job through an advertisement in a St. Louis newspaper and first met JOHN RAY as result of answering the above ad. She stated that JOHN RAY was the person who hired her and was the manager of the Grape Vine Tavern. She stated that CAROL PEPPER, JOHN's sister, was the owner and occasionally was in and out of the tavern but never stayed for any great length of time.

She indicated that RUBY (last name unknown) is a day barmaid and either is married to or lives with CLARENCE HAYNES (no relation), owner of a moving business. She stated that RUBY has some type of health problem and is frequently hospitalized for periods of times for some type of care.

Subsequent to being employed there and prior to April 1, 1968, specific date not recalled, she had occasion to get into a personal conversation with JOHN RAY, at which time he indicated he had a brother named JIM and a brother named JERRY in Chicago, Illinois. He never mentioned the whereabouts of JIM and never at anytime indicated he knew the whereabouts of JIM. Additionally, she pointed out he never mentioned the fact that JIM was an escapee or prisoner and, therefore, she had no knowledge of JIM's escape status.

Subsequent to that conversation, she later met JERRY from Chicago, whom she described as a man of very low intellect and who, when he has four or five beers, desires to be in the limelight.

She stated that JOHN's brother, JIM RAY, has never visited JOHN to her knowledge, nor communicated with him in any way since she has become acquainted with JOHN. Further, she is of the opinion from conversations with JOHN, details

On 5/21/68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL: 44-775 - 941
by SA PATRICK W. BRADLEY and
SA ROBERT A. HESS PWB/pjh Date dictated 5/21/68

SL: 44-775

not recalled, that JOHN has not had any contact with JIM for a number of years.

When the news was on television identifying the assassin of MARTIN LUTHER KING as JAMES EARL RAY, she immediately telephonically contacted JOHN and asked JOHN if that was his brother, JIM, that he had previously spoken of. She described his answer as saying, "No, I don't know nothing about it" and hung up.

Later on in a personal confrontation, JOHN said that was his brother but he has not seen him in a long time. She asked him why he had previously stated it was not him. He indicated to her that his reason was that he wanted no knowledge of this connection around the Grape Vine Tavern for business reasons and further for personal reasons wanted no part of it inasmuch as he had not seen his brother in a very long time.

REGAZZI described JOHN RAY as a man of low intellect, however, slightly more intelligent than JERRY, who is close-mouthed and has no close ties with anyone, specifically not having any close family ties.

She stated it was her opinion that JOHN is not close with anyone because of his personality complexes caused by family problems when he was a child and his current speech impediment. She stated that she does not believe that JOHN lied to her about not having any knowledge of JIM because JOHN is completely aware of her background noting that she is the ex-wife of BOB REGAZZI, St. Louis burglar and stick-up man and also associated with notorious St. Louis stick-up men and burglars, IKE UNDERWOOD, JAMES STANLEY, MARVIN DALE BERRY, and others of similar ilk.

NAOMI REGAZZI advised that if she developed any knowledge regarding the subject or any information or indication that JOHN RAY had any knowledge of the subject, she would immediately notify the FBI.

REGAZZI stated that she terminated her employment for multiple reasons; one of them being health, however, the real prime reason being that she felt that if the news leaks out of JOHN's relationship to the subject and the fact that

SL: 44-775

he operates the Grape Vine Tavern, that the Negro element who reside in this integrated neighborhood might take reprisals by using violence around the tavern.

She stated that JOHN had also mentioned to her that the FBI had been around talking to him and he could not understand why because he had not seen his brother in a long time. He was not specific about the time element, however, led her to believe that it had been a number of years just by his method of saying it.

REGAZZI stated that there is no prostitution around the Grape Vine Tavern, however, a certain caliber of illiterate hoosier girls hang out there and on occasion are promiscuous with the customers at the tavern, however, not for pay.

Date June 10, 1968

JOHN LARRY RAY was interviewed at his place of business, the Grape Vine Tavern, 1982 Arsenal Street, St. Louis, Missouri.

He was questioned regarding his employment that could be verified or his whereabouts that could be verified during the month of April, 1967. After some thought, he stated that to the best of his recollection, he worked for a short time as a painter and maintenance man at a hotel believed to be 902 North Kingshighway, which is managed by a woman.

He stated that he felt this was after April, however he could not recall specifically but did recall that he sometime prior to that, put an ad in the paper believed to be the St. Louis Post Dispatch, indicating that he was attempting to get work as a painter. As a result of this ad he was contacted by an interior decorator or painting contractor, whose name he could not recall, but whose name he would attempt to locate through records who he went to work for on a day to day basis on a number of occasions. He stated this individual operated from his residence which at that time was believed to be in the 5700 block of Westminster about the middle of the block on the north side of the street where there was usually a painting truck parked. He stated this individual he recalls on one or two occasions, mentioned that he had just returned from the Colorado area and usually did small house painting jobs. After delivering JOHN RAY to a given job on a given day, he would then leave supposedly to make other estimates on other jobs, therefore, JOHN LARRY RAY had little personal contact with him. JOHN LARRY RAY stated that he would attempt to locate any records that would show his employment during the year of 1967.

After considerable thought he advised that he was of the opinion that during April or May, 1967, he was probably residing on the second floor at 1822 North 21st Street, which building is owned by CLARENCE HAYNES.

On 6/3/68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL 44-775 - 942
by SA ROBERT *W. HESS*
SA PATRICK W. BRADLEY *PWB* PWB/leh Date dictated 6/7/68

Date 5-24-68

JOHN LARRY RAY, 1902a Cherokee, was interviewed at that location at which time he supplied the following information:

RAY identified a photograph of JAMES DAVID DAILEY as a person known to him only as "J.D." who at one time operated a tavern on Morrison Street in St. Louis and with whom RAY got involved in a fist fight with sometime in 1960. RAY is of the opinion that although he knows "J.D." by sight he does not believe that DAILEY knows him. RAY was unable to provide any information whether his brother, JAMES EARL RAY, and DAILEY have ever known each other.

RAY was questioned regarding his stay at the MacArthur Hotel in St. Louis at which time he readily stated that approximately two or three months ago he spent a night at the MacArthur Hotel with the night barmaid of the Grapevine Inn, NAOMI REGAZZI (phonetic). According to RAY he registered as Mr. and Mrs. JOHN RAY and provided a fictitious address. He was questioned regarding the address 1886 Wyoming at which time he stated it is entirely possible that he used that address when registering, however, it does not have any particular significance to him.

RAY stated that in the early fall of 1967, his father, JERRY RAYNES, had sold a house on Park Avenue in St. Louis and gave to RAY \$1000 to hold for him. RAY indicated that he had saved approximately \$3000 from various employments and indicated that on many occasions carried this cash on his person and stated that even to this date it is not unusual for him to carry \$500 or \$600 on him. RAY denied any of the money saved by him had been obtained in an unlawful manner. RAY supported this statement by saying that in the operation of the Grapevine Tavern it is necessary to have an abundance of cash for various bills and he also pays the employees at the tavern in cash.

RAY stated that in early August of 1967, he had decided to drive to San Francisco, California, in an attempt to invest the money he had at that time in a bar or other profitable business. He indicated that he drove alone to California, and while in San Francisco, stayed several days

On 5-18-68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL 44-775 - 943
by SA ROBERT A. HESS
SA PATRICK W. BRADLEY RAH:amb Date dictated 5-20-68

SL 44-775

at various cheap hotels in the downtown area, exact names unrecalled. He did say that he failed to find a suitable business opened and while on the return trip to St. Louis he decided to travel to Tijuana, Mexico. He related that he had heard of the numerous dishonest people and thieves in Mexico so while traveling through an unnamed town in Wyoming he purchased \$750 worth of travelers' checks. RAY stated that he then drove to Tijuana and after his arrival there stated it was extremely difficult for him to understand the language, that he did not like the place, and within two hours after his arrival departed en route to St. Louis, Missouri.

RAY stated the entire trip required approximately two weeks and he emphatically denied any knowledge of or contact with his brother, JAMES EARL RAY, during the trip or at any time following JAMES' escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary. He stated he never knew that JAMES RAY was in California, until the current publicity regarding him.

RAY added that upon his arrival in St. Louis during the last week of August, 1967, he opened bank accounts at the Manufacturers Bank and also the Jefferson-Gravois Bank. He indicated that both accounts were opened as the combined business hours of both banks were suitable to his own hours. RAY stated that deposits to open these accounts were made with the remaining cash he had on hand and the travelers' checks which he purchased in Wyoming.

RAY was questioned regarding the financial status of his brother, JAMES RAY, while he was in the Missouri State Penitentiary and RAY stated that he had no idea as to how much money JAMES had, however, he reiterated the previous recollection of statements made by JAMES during visits to the Missouri State Penitentiary that if he got out of the penitentiary he would leave the country. JOHN RAY stated that he assumed that his brother would have had sufficient money to do just that. He denied any knowledge of sources of income for his brother but he again assumed that if his brother was involved in the sale of amphetamine or in the loan business while in the penitentiary he would then presumably have made some money. RAY denied any knowledge or information that anyone outside the penitentiary owed money to his brother or was holding money for him.

Date May 23, 1968

JOHN LARRY RAY was interviewed in the vicinity of the Grapevine Tavern in a Bureau automobile.

JOHN RAY stated that, if his brother had been in St. Louis or had visited St. Louis following his escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary, he would definitely have contacted him (JOHN RAY), particularly if he needed help in the way of money or place to stay. He emphatically denied that this took place. He stated he would still help his brother if his brother asked him to or contacted him in any way, however, he feels he would tell the interviewing Agent about it after it happened.

With regard to JOHN GAWRON, he stated that his brother is acquainted with JOHN CAWRON, however, is positive that he would never contact him if in St. Louis and a fugitive because he does not trust him. JOHN RAY described CAWRON as an old crazy man, who talks about "jobs" and "cases jobs" but never pulls any. He talks all the time about the past and jobs he pulled in the past, however, tells various versions of the jobs at various times, therefore, believed to be by JOHN RAY a complete liar and "idiot."

He stated that if his brother was dealing in amphetamines in prison that he would probably have had plenty of money on him at time of escape, because dealers of amphetamines in prison are usually the top money holders.

JOHN RAY stated that he is of the opinion that his brother immediately left the country after his escape and basis this opinion on the fact that during his visits with JIM, JIM indicated that he intended to leave the country when he got out, inasmuch as he was sick of the law enforcement harassment in this country.

With regard to JAMES L. OWENS, fall partner of JIM in 1959 hold-up of the Kroger Store, he stated that he does not believe that his brother would be in contact with OWENS because he is of the opinion he would kill OWENS if he saw him again. He stated he believes this because he feels OWENS was responsible

On 5/15/68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL: 44-775 - 944
by SA PATRICK W. BRADLEY PWB:jfb 5/21/68
SA ROBERT HESS Date dictated _____

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SL: 44-775

for the arrest and conviction of JIM, however, did not gain this impression from conversations with JIM, merely surmised it because OWENS pleaded guilty and got a lighter sentence than JIM.

On viewing the Identification Order photographs, JOHN RAY stated that the photograph with the crew cut looks more like his brother, JIM, to him, however, he noted this is possibly because he does not recall ever seeing JIM with long hair, noting that he always wore a crew cut.

When questioned regarding his smiling reaction to each question, he stated that his facial reaction is a nervous reaction, which in the past on questioning by the police has caused him trouble. He stated that it is merely a nervous reaction and he is not eluding to any knowledge that he might be withholding.

JOHN RAY stated that the name JAMES DAVID DAILEY is unknown to him but, when questioned regarding a man known as "J. D.," he does recall a man who owned a bar at Twelfth and Morrison Street a number of years ago who was known as "J. D." This individual later owned the Half-Way House Restaurant on Jefferson Avenue. He stated that he does not believe that "J. D." knows him by name. He stated the reason he recalls "J. D." was that on one occasion, while in the bar at Twelfth and Morrison, "J. D." "sicked" seven men on him and later he caught "J. D." alone and beat him up because of this. He stated insofar as he knows his brother, JIM, is unknown to "J. D.", however, he has no way of knowing whether or not they are acquainted.

With regard to the money sent to the penitentiary in 1963 in the amounts of \$35.00, \$65.00 and \$50.00, he does not recall sending those amounts and again reiterated that he transferred no money from anybody to or for JIM RAY while he was in the penitentiary. He stated that he never sent

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JIM more than \$15.00 or \$20.00 at any given time, and he is of the opinion that he may have sent some money to JIM under JERRY's name, however, it would be amounts of \$15.00 or \$20.00 or less. He pointed out that he has never given anyone permission to send money to his brother under his name and no one has ever approached him in that regard.

He stated that about 1963 and possibly part of 1962, for about four to six months, he resided at his grandmother's rooming house on Hickory Street and the street which would be directly behind this was commonly called "Gallie," however, it is no longer in existence due to the routing of Interstate Highway 55.

He stated that in 1964 and 1965 he went to Florida, where he worked for a very short period of time at Flamingo City, which is about ninety miles from Miami, believed to be in the Everglades National Park. Thereafter, believed during the same period of time, he went to New York City, remained a short time and then went to work for a short period of time at the Concord Hotel in the Catskill Mountains, just outside of New York City. Thereafter, he returned to New York City for a short period of time and drew unemployment.

Sometime thereafter, he returned to the Chicago area where he worked in various country clubs and in about October, 1966, he came to St. Louis. For a short period of time he resided with his sister at 712 Shenandoah and then for a couple of months resided at JOHN GAWRON's residence on South Eleventh Street. Following this he resided for about three months at 1822 North Twenty-first Street. He then obtained a room at 2001 or 2100 Russell for a short period of time and in about October of 1967 rented an apartment at 1912 California Street. He kept that apartment for about three or four months.

He stated to the best of his recollection for a short period of time, about November or December, 1967, he resided at 2010 Shenandoah and he also recollects from about August, 1967, or September, 1967, he resided at 2012 Lafayette

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and for a short period of time in the early part of 1967 he also resided at 1806 or 1808 Lafayette.

He stated that in between all of the above-mentioned residences he would stay sometimes a week or two at a time with either his sister on Shenandoah or with JOHN GAWRON on South Eleventh Street and occasionally stayed a few days at 1819 Park, where his father, JERRY RAYNES, lived at the time.

Date 5-24-68

CHESTER SPRATT, 3809 Russell, advised that he had entered Missouri State Prison at Jefferson City, Missouri, during February, 1962, after being convicted of rape in Eminence, Missouri. SPRATT indicated that he received ten years for this sentence and was subsequently released from the Missouri State Prison on June 6, 1967.

SPRATT related that while incarcerated at the Missouri State Penitentiary he worked in the license tag section as a welder during his entire time there.

SPRATT was exhibited photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and stated that he had recently seen these photographs in the newspaper and on television in St. Louis, however, he was not familiar at all with RAY. He stated that he read the accounts in the St. Louis newspapers regarding RAY's escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary and readily acknowledged that he was an inmate when RAY escaped in the bakery truck, however, SPRATT once again emphatically denied ever having any acquaintance with RAY.

SPRATT indicated that he was unaware of knowing anyone who may be familiar with RAY, however, mentioned the possibility that CHARLES WALTERS, also known as "FIFTY", was possibly an individual who may remember him since WALTERS had a wide acquaintanceship inside the penitentiary.

SPRATT was advised of the provisions of the Harboring Statute at which time he acknowledged that he was familiar with the law in that regard and he promised complete cooperation with the FBI, however, felt he would be of little help since he was not acquainted with RAY.

On 5-15-68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL 44-775 - 945
by SA ROBERT W. HESS
SA PATRICK W. BRADLEY RAH: amb Date dictated 5-20-68

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Date May 24, 1968

WALTER E. NOLAN, 5206 Washington Avenue, apartment 2, was interviewed at the office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 1520 Market Street, St. Louis, at which time he supplied the following information:

NOLAN emphatically denied since last being interviewed by Bureau agents that he has had any contact with or knowledge of the whereabouts of JAMES EARL RAY. He reiterated what he had previously mentioned that he also has had no contact with RAY since RAY escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP). He pointed out that at the present time RAY would have no way of knowing that NOLAN was released from the MSP and, therefore, would not even be aware that NOLAN is in St. Louis, Missouri.

Regarding NOLAN's association with RAY in the MSP, NOLAN commented that it was possible that RAY may have used amphetamines on occasion, however NOLAN never knew of RAY to sell or to deal in that or any other narcotic.

NOLAN did say that he knew JAMES EARL RAY to have a four for three loan business at MSP as on several occasions RAY had asked NOLAN if he ever needed any money, RAY had sufficient to loan him. RAY once told NOLAN that he had paid off a debt of an unnamed inmate and asked NOLAN how he could receive the re-payment from the inmate since the inmate had arranged for someone outside the prison to pay off the debt to RAY. RAY desired to know how the money could get into the prison past the warden as the warden had questioned RAY on several occasions regarding money being held for him by prison authorities. NOLAN indicated that it was the warden's belief that this money was in payment for narcotics.

NOLAN was unable to recall whether he had suggested it to RAY or it was a mutual agreement between he and RAY that this outside person send the payment to RAY in the name of one of RAY's brothers. NOLAN was of the opinion this was how the re-payment was handled, however had no concrete knowledge of which brother's name was used or the amount of the payment. NOLAN estimated that RAY possibly had \$300 to \$400 at the most when he escaped from MSP but seriously doubts that RAY had any more than that.

On 5/20/68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL 44-775 - 946
by SA PATRICK W. BRADLEY
SA ROBERT HESS RAH/leh Date dictated 5/21/68

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NOLAN stated that while incarcerated in MSP, RAY worked in the bakery as a bread cutter. In addition to RAY in the bakery, there were approximately 150 additional inmates. NOLAN commented that he doubted that over six of these fellow inmates had ever held conversations with RAY totaling more than 30 minutes. He stated that RAY was a good worker, a clever and thoughtful person, a conservative thinker, very closed mouthed and an individual who does not generally do things on the spur of the moment. NOLAN added that at no time did RAY exhibit any foreign language ability nor was there any talk of travel outside of the continental United States by RAY. However, on one occasion RAY did mention to NOLAN that he had been to the West Coast. Although NOLAN stated that RAY did not have any close family ties, the place most often spoken of by RAY was Illinois where NOLAN understands RAY's family are residents.

NOLAN commented that approximately 95 percent of the content of conversations between he and JAMES EARL RAY while incarcerated in MSP was about how to get out of the penitentiary either legally or illegally. NOLAN emphatically denied that he had been engaged in any illegal activity inside the MSP and further stated that he was not the individual who was caught by prison authorities with numerous bullets in his pocket. He also stated that there was no truth to the statement that JAMES EARL RAY ever had an inmate beaten while in the penitentiary for non-payment of debt. NOLAN recalled that on either a Friday or Saturday evening, RAY had sent word to him by messenger that he wanted to meet with him for dinner. NOLAN did join RAY for supper and RAY commented that he had been granted permission to accompany his attorney to a Missouri Supreme Court hearing on the following Wednesday. RAY was desirous of learning the exact procedures in regard to security of him as a prisoner and if there was any relaxation of the security, whereby he may be afforded a chance to escape. NOLAN reportedly assured RAY that there was no opportunity for escape under those circumstances. According to NOLAN, RAY replied, "That's okay, I've got something else."

The following Sunday while walking in the yard of MSP, NOLAN stated that he overheard an inmate, name unknown, complain that someone had stolen a set of hidden civilian clothing, however at the time did not pay too much attention to the remarks

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made. Several hours later, it was rumored that someone had on that afternoon walked out the front gate of the MSP. Eventually word came to NOLAN after a head count had been taken that evening, that the escapee was JAMES EARL RAY. NOLAN conjectures that it was RAY who stole the civilian clothes and who probably changed in the confines of the bakery and then mingled with the weekend visitors and if a guard on the double gate was new, which NOLAN says was true, RAY probably just walked out in this manner.

NOLAN feels positively that RAY would never have come to St. Louis, Missouri, after his escape unless he was merely passing through. He indicated that it is common knowledge that the St. Louis Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation in St. Louis are notorious for developing a network of informants among ex-cons released from MSP. For this reason, RAY, who NOLAN reiterated never trusted an inmate while in prison, would certainly not come to St. Louis and contact anyone here after his escape. NOLAN again commented that JAMES EARL RAY has a natural ability to make himself inconspicuous and an individual who usually stays at arm's length from everyone.

NOLAN is of the belief that RAY is not guilty of the killing of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., as the crime is completely foreign to RAY's personality. He does not believe that RAY would kill except to avoid returning to prison.

Date May 17, 1968

Mrs. JAMES (MILDRED) OWENS (nee SLONE), Rural Route Number 3, Sunrise Lake, DeSoto, Missouri, (Jefferson County), who stated she is a registered nurse, currently employed as a nurse at the Bonne Terre Hospital, Bonne Terre, Missouri, was present during an interview conducted by Special Agents ALBERT J. RUSHING and ROBERT L. BENDER with her husband at the residence on May 16, 1968.

At the conclusion of the interview with Mr. OWENS, Mrs. OWENS advised that she and her husband were married on March 9, 1967, at St. Louis County, Missouri; that they have continuously resided together as man and wife since their marriage; that she has never seen JAMES EARL RAY in her life and never heard of him until there was recent publicity regarding him, at which time her husband told her of his previous knowledge of RAY.

Mrs. OWENS said she has no information in addition to that furnished by her husband which might be of assistance in locating JAMES EARL RAY.

On 5/16/68 at Jefferson County, Missouri File # SL: 44-775 - 947
by SA ALBERT J. RUSHING AJR:jfb 5/16/68
SA ROBERT L. BENDER Date dictated _____

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Date May 17, 1968

JAMES LOAMA OWENS, Rural Route Number 3, Sunrise Lake, DeSoto, Missouri, (Jefferson County), telephone number - JUstice 6-2044, who stated he is currently employed as an automobile salesman by the Arnold Chevrolet Company, Crystal City, Missouri, furnished the following information:

In 1959 OWENS, while on parole from the Illinois State Penitentiary at Menard, Illinois, on a conviction for robbery, was residing at the St. Louis Rescue Mission located at approximately 4200 Olive Street, St. Louis, Missouri, which was a sort of "half-way" house where ex-convicts and parolees resided. It was at that Mission in 1959 that OWENS first met and became acquainted with JAMES EARL RAY. OWENS recalls that "BLACKIE" AUSTIN, who was also on parole out of Menard, was also residing at the same Mission in St. Louis at that time and brought RAY around to the Mission as a friend and it was as a result of this that OWENS became acquainted with RAY.

OWENS, as one of the conditions of his parole, was employed at that time at the St. Louis Rescue Mission, as a barber.

After OWENS became acquainted with RAY, he learned that RAY's mother and grandmother were then operating a rooming house on Hickory Street near Mississippi Avenue in St. Louis and OWENS assumed that RAY was living with the mother and grandmother there, although he did not have specific information in that regard. OWENS does recall on one or two occasions he accompanied RAY to the rooming house operated by the mother and grandmother.

OWENS has always liked RAY, characterizing him as a quiet fellow, who never pried or bragged. He was a thinker and a reader. He read a wide variety of things and OWENS does not recall that he had any special interest in any particular subject or topic of reading material. RAY also liked automobiles and liked guns. The type of guns which RAY apparently liked and the only type of guns OWENS knew of him to have were pistols and handguns, not rifles or shotguns.

On 5/16/68 at Jefferson County, Missouri File # SL: 44-775 - 948
by SA ALBERT J. RUSHING AJR:jfb 5/16/68
SA ROBERT L. BENDER *rb* Date dictated _____