

ME 44-1987

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1

JOHN EUGENE GAWRON, residing at 1807 South 11th Street, St. Louis, Missouri, was born on [REDACTED] at Chicago, Illinois, and estimates that he has spent about 45 years of his life in penal institutions.

Paroled in 1954 to a Soldier's Home, Quincy, Illinois, GAWRON became acquainted at a tavern in Quincy with LUCILLE RYAN who was separated from her husband, JERRY RAYNES. LUCILLE had a daughter named CAROL, then living with her; a son named JERRY, who was also living with her; a son named JIMMY (JAMES EARL RAY), who was then serving a Federal sentence in the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas; a son named FRANKLIN DENNIS RAYNES, deceased; a daughter named MELBA, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] a daughter named SUSAN, who was in a Catholic orphanage located at Alton, Illinois; and a son named JOHN (JACK), who was serving a sentence in the Illinois State Penitentiary, Menard, Illinois.

GAWRON, allegedly involved in a burglary at Quincy, Illinois, in 1956, had his parole revoked and was returned to the Illinois State Penitentiary, but in 1959 he escaped from this institution. After a few days, he went to the home of LUCILLE RYAN (RAYNES) where her mother, MARY MAHGR, was operating a rooming house, and GAWRON resided with LUCILLE at 1913 Hickory, St. Louis, Missouri.

During a period of several months in 1959, he was closely associated with JAMES EARL RAY and taught him to be a burglar and they went together on a number of burglaries, estimated to be twelve. They were committed outside St. Louis in the northern part of Missouri, in Iowa, and in Illinois. GAWRON taught JIMMY (JAMES EARL RAY) to always wear gloves on any kind of a job, and he was surprised that he would now go on any job without wearing gloves at the risk of leaving fingerprints.

Together they spent a great deal of time, and in St. Louis they frequented a tavern known as Ruby's Bar, later known as the Haven Bar, Lafayette Street, just west of 18th.

RAY generally drank bourbon, which he mixed with sweet soda. He did not drink beer or smoke. When meeting any girl for the first time, he (RAY) had a tendency to lisp or stutter in his speech. When RAY wanted a girl, GAWRON usually found a girl for him and on such occasions, his relationship with the girl was only brief and temporary at some second or third rate hotel room.

RAY dresses extremely well when he has money, likes good food, and buys expensive clothes, but he always chooses a second or third rate hotel or a cheap rooming house in which to live.

GAWRON, RAY, and JAMES OWENS, with whom RAY was arrested and sentenced to the Missouri State Penitentiary, cased the Kroger Store in East St Louis, Illinois, for a robbery. GAWRON declined to participate because of the danger involved.

The following day RAY and OWENS were arrested and subsequently RAY was transferred to the Missouri State Penitentiary. GAWRON has not seen RAY since that time.

In 1961, GAWRON, ALBERT PEPPER, and JOHN RAY, brother-in-law and brother of JAMES EARL RAY, respectively, were arrested at Louisiana, Missouri, and while his parole was revoked, the other two persons received sentences of ten days in jail. He does not believe that JAMES EARL RAY knows ALBERT PEPPER, who is married to RAY's sister.

GAWRON is on friendly terms with JERRY RAY and CAROL RAY PEPPER. All of RAY's family referred to him as "Uncle JACK," although he has no family relationship. The PEPPERS have two young sons, the youngest being named JIMMY, reportedly named for JAMES EARL RAY. The PEPPERS operate the Grapevine Tavern, and JOHN RAY is active in the operation of this tavern at St. Louis, Missouri.

GAWRON stated that insofar as he knows, the subject has not been in St. Louis since his escape from the

ME 44-1987

3

Missouri State Penitentiary in view of the fact he is too well known. GAWRON has not seen JAMES EARL RAY since 1959.

GAWRON believes JAMES EARL RAY trafficked in drugs or barbiturates at the Missouri State Penitentiary and also had a loan shark business there. On three different occasions, he made purchases of inhalers, normally used for colds, at the request of RAY. His request, though originating from RAY in prison, was relayed to him by CAROL PEPPER. On each of these occasions, GAWRON purchased a gross of these inhalers (probably Benzedrine) and on three separate occasions, he was contacted by a guard from the prison at Jefferson City, Missouri, who would pick up the inhalers and take them to RAY at the prison. Reportedly, the guard told GAWRON that each trip was worth a "C" to the guard.

GAWRON recalls being told by JOHN RAY that JAMES EARL RAY was in Omaha, Nebraska, during well, making good money as some sort of a salesman. This was in June, 1967. Shortly thereafter, JOHN RAY told GAWRON that JAMES was now in Los Angeles, California. GAWRON had no knowledge as to how JOHN RAY and CAROL PEPPER would have come into possession of information relative to the location of JAMES EARL RAY in June, 1967.

ME 44-1987

V. IDENTIFICATION RECORD AND DESCRIPTION

ME 44-1987

The following is subject's identification record as furnished by the FBI Identification Division on April 23, 1968, under FBI # 405 942 G:

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Army	James Earl Ray #16 163 129	2/19/46		
Sheriff's Office Los Angeles, Calif.	James Earl Ray #B-119908	10/11/49	suspicion of burglary	
PD, Los Angeles Calif	James Earl Ray #139648	10/11/49	suspicion 459 Penal (burglary)	8 months County Jail suspended; 2 years probation served; first 90 days County Jail; 146 12/30/49 Cs129438
SO Cedar Rapids, Iowa	James E. Ray #5937	4/18/50	vagrancy	
PD Alton, Ill.	James Earl Ray #7514	7/23/51	no operator's license - no City License	released to pay later
PD Chicago Ill	James Ray #D90696	5/6/52	robbery (Gun)	Grand Jury \$3000
Cook County Jail Chicago Ill	James Ray #131165	5/9/52	robbery	6/13/52 sentenced to penitentiary 1 to 2 years
State Penitentiary, Joliet, Ill.	James E. Ray #32419	6/13/52	robbery	1 to 2 years

ME 44-1987

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
State Penitentiary Pontiac, Ill.	James E. Ray #19121	7/7/52 1952 in transfer from Joliet	robbery	1 to 2 years 3/12/54 discharged
SO Edwards- ville, Ill.	James Earl Ray #2640	8/30/54	burglary & larceny	
PD Hannibal Missouri	James E. Ray #40714	3/23/55	investigation of breaking & entering Post Office	
State High- way Patrol Macon, Mo.	James Earl Ray #B-3376	3/23/55	cashing stolen pos- tal money orders	released to Postal Inspec- tor Kansas City Mo., 3/24/55
USM Kansas City, Mo.	James Earl Ray #12018	3/28/55	forgery U.S. Postal Money Order	sentenced to 15 months custody Attorney General
SO Kansas City Mo.	James Earl Ray #29637	3/28/55	forgery - Government	3/7/55, 3 years and 9 months
U. S. Peni- tentiary Leavenworth, Kan.	James Earl Ray #72498-L	7/7/55	Post Office Laws Forge Money Orders	3 years and 9 months 5/20/58, conditional re- lease 3/31/59, maximum 4/5/58, conditional re- lease on charge of Post Office forgery Post Office Money Orders
PD St. Louis, Mo.	James Earl Ray #81071	10/10/59	suspicion of robbery	

ME 44-1987

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
PD St. Louis Mo.	James Earl Ray #81071	10/16/59	suspicion of robbery stealing & fugitive other authorities	
State Penitentiary Jefferson City, Mo.	James Earl Ray #00416	3/17/60	"TC" operating motor vehicle without permission of owner robbery first "b/m DDW" (2 charges)	20 years (20, 7, 5, concurrent)

ME 44-1987

The following is a description of the subject,  
obtained from sources set out elsewhere in this report:

Name:	JAMES EARL RAY, aka
Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Date of Birth:	<input type="text"/>
Place of Birth:	Alton, Illinois
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	163 - 174 pounds
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Blue
Social Security No.:	<input type="text"/>
Army Serial Number:	16 163 129
FBI Number:	405 942 G



ME 44-1987

INDEX

ACORD, JOHN	20
ADAMS, JOSEPH	48
AEBY, BILLY BROWN	47
AEBY, NEIL	57, 68, 69, 70
AEROMARINE SUPPLY COMPANY	30
ALABAMA DRIVERS LICENSE	12
ALONZO, CLOVINA	84
AMERICAN - SOUTHERN AFRICA COUNCIL	20
ANDERSON, PATRICIA	25, 26
ASHE, BOBBY FRED	69
ATLANTA, GEORGIA ADDRESSES	29, 30, 31
AUSTIN, BLACKY	61
AUSTIN, JOSEPH ELMER	69
AUTOMOBILE PURCHASE	11
AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATION	13
AVALON CLEANERS & LAUNDRY, INC.	18, 19, 37
BANK OF AMERICA MONEY ORDERS	20, 23, 24, 26, 27
BANK, SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX	11
BARNETT, LEO	48
BARTENDING, INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF	21, 28

ME 44-1987

BEDSPREAD	35, 37
BEER, SCHLITZ CAN	35
BEMAN, RICHARD	47
BINOCULARS, BANNER BY BUSHNELL	33, 34
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA ADDRESS	11, 19
BLOCK, JULIUS	47
BOND, JAMES	49
BOOKMAN, CHARLES CALVIN	76
BRADLEY, JAMES H.	49
BRADLEY, JIMMY Z.	49
BRITTON, THOMAS	50
BROWN, JAMES W.	51
BURNS, BOBBY	74, 75
CALLAWAY, LORRAINE	80
CANADIAN POSTAL MONEY ORDERS	8, 9, 10
CANADIAN RESIDENCE	8, 11
CAPITOL HOMES	36
CARPENTER, JEROME	50
CARPENTER, JIMMY	55, 57
CARPENTER, RUBY	40, 44
CONTINENTAL DANCE CLUB STUDIO	12
CORT FOX FORD COMPANY	25
COX, EVERETT WAYNE	52

ME 44-1987

CREWS, THOMAS B.	53
CURTIS, RAY LOUIS	53, 54, 66
DAY, GINGER	79
DANCING LESSONS	12, 17, 18
DeGRASSE, MARIAN	29
DENNINO, MARIE	79
DENNIS, DYRELL	78, 86
DONIAN, MICHAEL	44
DONIAN, SUSAN	44
DOWDA, LEWIE	54, 55, 69, 70
DRAKE, CARL BENTON	50, 60, 71
DYKEMA, DALE LEROY	22
EDMONDSON, GEORGE	54
FLETCHER, JAMES C.	70
FORMULA, E. Z.	10
FREEMAN, DR. MARK O.	16
FRIENDSHIP CLUB	12
FULLER, MABLE	45
FUTURA BOOKS, INC.	8, 26
GALT, ERIC	8, 10, 12, 22, 23, 24, 33, 37
GALT, ERIC S.	8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 38

ME 44-1987

GANN, ORVILLE EARNEST	71
GARCIA, MATEO LOPEZ	56
GARNER, JIMMY DELTON	29, 32
GAWRON, JOHN EUGENE	61, 87, 89
GOODIN, BEN	54
GRIDLEY, MELVIN O.	54
GUINAN, FRANK JOSEPH	57
H. BECKMAN CHEVRON SERVICE STATION	24
HARRIS, SUE	79, 83
HEDGPETH, C. M.	23, 24
HILL, FLOYD EVANS	58
HILL, STERLING JUNIOR	57
HOME SERVICE LAUNDRY & DRY CLEANING COMPANY	21, 36
HOTEL, REBEL MOTOR	33, 34
HURTT, JOHN K.	72
JAPANESE HANDCUFFS	28
JOHNSON, DONALD	64, 72
JOHNSON, JOHN E.	59
KATZWINKEL, ANITA LOUISE	79, 83
KELLER, JOHN R.	77
KING, DR. MARTIN LUTHER, JR. - SHOOTING	22, 34
KLEMP, HAROLD DEAN	66
LAIL, PAUL ALVIN	55


ME 44-1987

LAMPHERE, JACK	55
LARSON, ERIC	52
LAUNDRY & CLEANERS	18, 21, 33, 36
LAUNDRY MARKS	18, 21, 22, 35, 36, 37
LEE, MARIE	85
LEEHY, JIM	83
LILLIBRIDGE, CECIL	56
LOCAL SWINGER	25, 26
LOCKSMITH LEDGER	27
LOCKSMITHING INSTITUTE	9, 10, 20, 24, 26, 28, 30, 31
LOMAX, LOUIS	84, 86
LOPEZ, MATEO GARCIA	56
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, ADDRESSES	15, 22
LOWMEYER, HARVEY	30, 31, 38
MAHER, MILDRED	45
MAHER, WILLIAM E.	45
MAIL FORWARDING SERVICE	23
MAP OF MEXICO	32
MARTIN, MARIE	29, 79, 80, 81, 84
MARTIN, RUSSELL LEE	57
MARTINELLO, MARIE	79

ME 44-1987

MAYBERRY, FRANK	66
McBRIDE, WILLIARD J.	77
MEDRANO, MANUELA AGUIRRE	15
MENNEN AFTA SHAVING LOTION BOTTLE	35
MEXICAN ADDRESSES	14, 15
MILES, BILLY EDWARD	48, 60
MODERN PHOTO BOOK STORE	12
MORALES, IRMA	15
MOTEL, PROVINCIAL	19
NANCE, GINGER	79, 83
NATIONAL DANCE STUDIO	17
NEW ORLEANS TRIP	19
NEWSPAPER, COMMERCIAL APPEAL	34
NEWSPAPER, FREE PRESS	23, 26
NOLAN, WALTER E.	60
NUNN, HOWARD	61
O'CONNOR, JIM	61
OWENS, JAMES COAMA	61, 66, 67, 68, 68
PEPPER, ALBERT BENNY	43, 88
PEPPER, CAROL RAY	40, 43, 89
PIEDMONT LAUNDRY	33, 37
PORTER, ROBERT DALE	56

ME 44-1987

POWELL, ROBERT LYNN	63, 65
PRUETT, RAY	63, 74, 75
PSYCHOLOGIST	16
RADIO, CHANNEL MASTER	35
RAY, EARL E.	45
RAY, JAMES EARL	8, 13, 29, 30, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38
RAY, JERRY	42, 50, 88
RAY, JOHN LARRY	40
RAY, LUCILLE MARY	40, 87
RAYNES, JERRY	40
RENFRO, RALPH	67
RHODESIA	20
RICHARDSON, JAMES EDWARD	64, 71
RIFE, VERNON ELMO	77
RIFE, WALTER TERRY	77
RIFLE, REMINGTON GAME MASTER	30, 34, 36
RIGGER, DONALD DEAN	64
ROSE, ORLAN EUGENE	65
RUSSELL, GEORGE WILLIAM	65
RUSSELL, JAMES R.	65
RYAN, FRANK DELANO	43
	43

ME 44-1987

RYAN, MELBA MARIE	44
SARTAIN, CAROL	42
SARTAIN, MICHAEL	42
SARTAIN, WILLARD	42
SCHUBERT, PATRICIA	25, 26
SERO, HARRY	66
SERVICE STATIONS	24, 25
SHURNICK, GLEN	74, 75
STEIN, CHARLES J.	19, 29, 79, 81, 83, 86
STEIN, RITA	19, 79, 81, 84, 85
STONE, THERESA	29
STREET, GJERDIS	42
SUPERIOR BULK FILM COMPANY	13, 14, 15, 16
T-SHIRT	35
TIFFANY ENTERPRISES	27, 28
TOMASO, MYRIAL	79
UNDERSHORTS	35
UNDERWOOD, IVAN DALE	67
U. S. POSTAL MONEY ORDERS	23, 29, 30
VALENTI, JOHN	51, 52, 74
VERNON, JEROME WALLIS	21, 81
WADE, KENNETH LEE	71, 75



ME 44-1987

WALLACE, JAMES D.	67, 68
WHITE, JERRY WAYNE	68
WILLARD, JOHN	33
YORK ARMS COMPANY	33
ZAVALOFSKI, MILTON	51, 76