

2.

SL 44-775

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount of Deposit</u>
April 9, 1968	\$314.83
April 12, 1968	311.22

There were no withdrawals noted in this account in the period from August 30, 1967, through January 16, 1968, however, commencing January 17, 1968, there were frequent withdrawals, checks or other charges disclosed by the account; these withdrawals, checks or charges ranged between \$2.00 and \$325.00. These items of \$100.00 or more were as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount of Check or Withdrawal</u>
December 29, 1967	\$320.00
January 3, 1968	325.00
January 9, 1968	200.00
April 5, 1968	100.00
April 11, 1968	300.00

Examination of paid checks drawn on this account still on hand at Jefferson - Gravois Bank disclosed the following information concerning these check items:

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>ENDORSEMENTS</u>
April 18, 1968	Cash	\$100.00	Cashed at Bank, April 19, 1968
April 19, 1968	PETER HAUPTMANN COMPANY	\$ 92.92	Endorsed by payee and McKesson & Robbins, Inc., to Boatmen's National Bank, St. Louis
April 23, 1968	LOHR DISTRIBUTING COMPANY	49.49	Endorsed by payee to bank identified as Southern Commercial and Savings Bank, St. Louis
April 26, 1968	Cash	300.00	Cashed at Bank, April 26, 1968
April 24, 1968	MANHATTAN DISTRIBUTING COMPANY	36.09	Endorsed by payee to Mercantile Trust Company, St. Louis
April 28, 1968	Cash	100.00	Cashed at bank, April 29, 1968
April 25, 1968	PETER HAUPTMANN COMPANY	36.74	Endorsed by payee to Boatmen's National Bank, St. Louis
May 3, 1968	Cash	300.00	Cashed at bank, May 3, 1968
May 2, 1968	PETER HAUPTMANN COMPANY	121.27	Endorsed by payee to Boatmen's National Bank, St. Louis
May 3, 1968	MILLER and SCHEER REALTY & INSURANCE COMPANY	80.00	Endorsed by payee to Tower Grove Bank, St. Louis
May 6, 1968	FALSTAFF BREWING COMPANY	78.30	Endorsed by payee to Boatmen's National Bank, St. Louis. Check also bears handwritten notations.....

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>ENDORSEMENTS</u>
May 6, 1968 continued.....		"1982 Arsenal" and "Randazzo 166"
May 10, 1968	Cash	\$300.00	Cashed at bank, May 10, 1968
April 30, 1968	CAROL PEPPER	320.00	Endorsed by payee and check also bears stamped endorsement "for deposit only - E. L. R. Investments, 3638 Olive St., St. Louis 8, Mo." The check also bears a bank stamp impression of the Mercantile Commerce Bank, St. Louis, Missouri.

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These bank records may be produced on issuance of a subpoena duces tecum, which should be directed to Mr. A. G. ARB, Vice-President, Jefferson - Gravois Bank, St. Louis, Missouri.

1Date May 16, 1968

Mr. A. G. ARB, Vice-President, Jefferson - Gravois Bank, 2604 South Jefferson, St. Louis, Missouri, telephone PR 1-8833, who was contacted at the bank, furnished the following information:

After examining a deposit ticket of this bank pertaining to a \$1,350 deposit on August 30, 1967, to an account of JOHN RAY, 1807 South 11th Street, regular checking account number [REDACTED], he advised that with regard to a portion of the deposit amounting to \$750 consisting of travelers checks, no further record of these travelers checks can be located at Jefferson - Gravois Bank. None of these travelers checks would have been photographed by this bank but they would have been sent intact in a batch of work for further proof detailed work to the Bank of St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri. This particular deposit transaction is identified in the proof work of Jefferson - Gravois Bank as Transaction #HH 9291, of August 30, 1967.

Mr. ARB advised that Mr. WILLIAM GASSER at the Bank of St. Louis should be familiar with this transaction, insofar as proof work of the Bank of St. Louis is concerned. Mr. ARB further explained that following the completion of proof work by the Bank of St. Louis, the travelers checks should have been sent by that bank to First National Bank in St. Louis which would have in turn forwarded the checks on to New York City, New York, if in fact, the travelers checks involved were American Express Travelers Checks.

It was Mr. ARB's opinion that the travelers checks in question probably were American Express items.

On 5/15/68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL: 44-775

by SAA HOWARD C. KENNEDY : pjh Date dictated 5/15/68

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Date May 16, 19681

Mrs. MELBA KOEHLER, Secretary, Jefferson - Gravois Bank, 2604 South Jefferson, St. Louis, Missouri, telephone PR 1-8833, who was contacted at the bank, furnished the following information:

After examining a deposit ticket supporting a \$1,350 deposit to the account of JOHN RAY, 1807 South 11th Street, St. Louis, Missouri, on August 30, 1967, she advised that she prepared this deposit ticket for the customer and the customer would not have had an opportunity to handle the deposit ticket.

She personally noted on the deposit ticket that it consisted of \$600 in cash and \$750 in travelers checks. It is her opinion that the travelers checks in question were American Express Travelers Checks although she does not specifically recall that they were American Express items. Further, she does not recall whether there was one or more persons, if any, accompanying the individual representing himself to her to be JOHN RAY at the time this deposit was made to a new regular checking account opened in the name of JOHN RAY at the same time.

She personally handled all of this detailed work and obtained the signature card from JOHN RAY.

On 5/15/68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL: 44-775
by SAA HOWARD C. KENNEDY : pjh Date dictated 5/15/68

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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
 by SA PATRICK W. BRADLEY and
SA ROBERT A. HESS PWB/pjh Date dictated 5/21/68

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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

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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.

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PWB:jfb

RE: BROTHER - JOHN LARRY RAY

The following investigation was conducted by
Special Agent PATRICK W. BRADLEY:

On May 8, 1968, FRANK J. LESYNA, Miller-Scheer Realty and Insurance Company, 2846 California, St. Louis, Missouri, furnished by mail a Xerox copy of a check drawn on the Jefferson-Gravois Bank, St. Louis, Missouri, Account Number [REDACTED]. This check is imprinted with the name JOHN RAY and is dated May 3, 1968. This check is payable to Miller and Scheer Real Estate Company in the amount of \$80.00 and is signed JOHN RAY.

The above is being retained in file.

1Date 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
 by SA PATRICK W. BRADLEY and
SA ROBERT A. HESS PWB/pjh Date dictated 5/21/68

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PWB/pjh

RAY RELATIVE - JOHN RAY

The following investigation was conducted by SA's PATRICK W. BRADLEY and ROBERT A. HESS on May 21, 1968:

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI:

Mrs. ELSIE JULIAN, 1910 California Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri, advised that the residents of 1912 California Street are currently in the process of moving in, noting that it has been vacant since early part of February 1968. She stated that a white male, black hair, thinning on top, and whose additional description meets that of JOHN LARRY RAY, moved into 1912 California about September or October 1967, and resided there until February 1968. She stated that he was quiet, having no visitors, and working every day, to the best of her knowledge, because he always left the house regularly and returned regularly. She viewed the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and stated that this is not the individual and that the photograph was unfamiliar to her.

She stated that this entire building complex including 1912 through 1906 is rented and possibly owned by RENGEL REALTY COMPANY in the 3500 or 3600 block of South Grand, St. Louis, Missouri.

LEONARD SMYTH, 1906 California, and LILLY BENNETT, 1910 California, advised the former tenant at 1912 was unknown to them personally, however, they may have occasionally observed him around the area. They viewed the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and stated it was completely unfamiliar to them.

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PWB/leh

RE: BROTHER JOHN LARRY RAY

The following investigation was conducted by SA ROBERT A. HESS and PATRICK W. BRADLEY on June 5, 1968:

Miss MARIE WHITE, Assistant Manager, Kingsway Apartments, 902 North Kingshighway, advised that their records reflect that one JOHN RAY was employed by them on May 22, 1967, as a painter and maintenance man at the rate of \$16 per day. His residence at this time is reflected as 1822a North 21st Street. His date of birth is reflected as and social security number as

The payroll records reflect that he received two checks, one on May 26, 1968, number 3208 in the amount of \$80 and one on June 2, 1967, number 3220, in the amount of \$64. Notation on the payroll record book indicates that he failed to show up for any further work.

Prior employment with no date shown is reflected as Indian Lake Country Club, Migdale, Illinois (partially illegible).

Reference reflected as CLARENCE HAYNES, mover, employed Apex Moving.

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HRD:wma

RE: JOHN LARRY RAY

MR. WAYNE HARRY, Passport Clerk, Office of the U. S. District Court Clerk, 12th and Market Streets, St. Louis, Missouri, advised SA HAROLD R. DOBSON, June 17, 1968, the files of his office failed to disclose any application for passport made by JOHN LARRY RAY, as of that date.

MR. HARRY noted it is possible for a resident of St. Louis to apply for a passport at numerous other locations in this country.

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1Date May 13, 1968

JERRY RAY telephonically contacted Special Agent SPURGEON J. PETERSON at 1:40 p.m. on May 9, 1968. He stated he was leaving for Chicago in approximately fifteen minutes. He indicated his intention to return to his former employment at the Country Club but stated that he would not know until he arrives there where he will live, as telephonic inquiry with his inquiry with his employer indicated the employer has obtained a residence for him as a protection against the press.

He stated that he would contact the Chicago Division on the following day.

He advised further that in his visits to and from conversations with his father, JERRY RAYNES, his brother, JOHN RAY, and his sister, CAROL PEPPER, he had received no information that any of them had been in contact with subject following subject's escape or had any knowledge or information concerning subject's present whereabouts.

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On 5/9/68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL: 44-775
 by SA SPURGEON J. PETERSON :jfb Date dictated 5/9/68

1Date 6/25/68

JERRY RAY was interviewed outside the Grapevine Tavern, Illinois and Arsenal Avenue, at which time he stated he had arrived in St. Louis the previous day and spent the night with his sister, CAROL PEPPER. He indicated that during the previous week he was in Chicago, Illinois, where he had been hiding in a Chicago hotel, which he had left un-named, in an effort to avoid reporters and newscasters. He indicated that while in St. Louis he will either stay with his sister, CAROL PEPPER, or at the St. Regis Hotel under the name of JERRY W. RYAN. He exhibited to the interviewing agent a recently obtained Illinois driver's license under that name. RAY stated that he intended to visit his father at Center, Missouri, tomorrow and then intended to return to St. Louis on Thursday, June 20, 1968. He then plans to leave for Memphis, Tennessee, on Friday, June 21, 1968, where he intends to obtain employment until after the trial of his brother, JAMES EARL RAY.

RAY stated that he has not heard from his brother in London, however, did make the comment that he still does not believe that his brother killed MARTIN LUTHER KING and that he was paid to establish the ERIC STARVO GALT identity.

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On 6/17/68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL 44-775

by SA ROBERT A. HESS:hcv Date dictated 6/21/68

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RAH: amb

RE: CORRESPONDENTS OF JERRY RAY

The following investigation was conducted by SA ROBERT A. HESS at St. Louis, Missouri, on May 17, 1968:

KURT NAESER, 2731 Miami, advised that for a period of 18 years he had owned the rooming house at 3969-71 Westminster. NAESER stated that this property was sold by him during August of 1967.

NAESER indicated the rooms at that location were rented primarily to married couples and he does not recall ever having anyone residing therein named either WITT or DOBYNS. NAESER stated that only on one occasion did he rent a room to a single female and he described her as being approximately 50 to 55 years of age and not being named WITT or DOBYNS although he was unable to recall her exact name.

NAESER concluded by saying that the area in the vicinity of 3969-71 Westminster is now entirely Negro populated and for the last three years that he owned the dwelling at that location he rented solely to Negro occupants.

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VII. MISCELLANEOUS

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1.
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ADP/pjh

RE: MISCELLANEOUS - MILFORD JAMES ROEHRS

The following investigation was conducted by SA
AUBREY D. PARK:

WILLIAM NETHINGTON, Post Office Box 99, Sullivan, Missouri, was interviewed at his home on May 10, 1968. He stated he is employed as a private investigator for DAVIS, a private investigating agency in Chicago, Illinois, although at the moment he is on leave of absence.

In 1962, he married his wife, NORA, who is a niece of MILFORD ROEHRS, a Sullivan police officer. He has never been closely associated with ROEHRS, however, talked to him frequently. About two days after MARTIN LUTHER KING was murdered, ROEHRS made the statement to NETHINGTON that KING's murderer was out of the United States. NETHINGTON has talked with ROEHRS on several occasions since that time and ROEHRS stated that KING's killer is probably in Argentina. NETHINGTON stated he could not recall ROEHRS making any statement about JAMES EARL RAY's escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary and does not know whether or not RAY was known by ROEHRS previous to his escape.

NETHINGTON stated that he has concluded, based upon conversation with ROEHRS, that ROEHRS is a member of the Ku Klux Klan. In view of NETHINGTON's connection with the private investigative agency in Chicago, he reported the above information to his boss, Lieutenant EARL HENDERSHOT of Chicago, Illinois, who stated that ROEHRS might be a member of the Klan and considered it a possibility that ROEHRS might be able to assist in furnishing information regarding the murder or furnishing information regarding the whereabouts of the murderer; and in view of that possibility, felt that there could be a considerable amount of money collected if this information could be uncovered. He, therefore, proceeded to Sullivan, Missouri, where he was introduced by NETHINGTON to ROEHRS as a friend from Chicago, Illinois. His interest in the solution of the murder was not made known to ROEHRS. HENDERSHOT talked with ROEHRS in private for about 30 minutes and after concluding the interview, he reached the conclusion that ROEHRS probably was a member of the Klan. However, HENDERSHOT obtained no information

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from ROEHRS which would assist in the investigation or the location of JAMES EARL RAY.

MILFORD JAMES ROEHRS, 305 East Street, Sullivan, Missouri, a member of the Sullivan Police Department, was interviewed at his home on May 10, 1968. He readily admitted that he is a member of the Ku Klux Klan, but stated he knows nothing about the escape of JAMES EARL RAY from the Missouri State Penitentiary or the whereabouts of RAY. He stated he had never heard of RAY until after he had been identified in this case. He stated he has discussed this case with several people, however, he has received no information concerning this case through the Klan organization. Any information which he has given, or statement he has made, concerning this case would be his own personal opinion.

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HRD: pdp

Re: 1968 Dodge Dart, bearing Georgia
License 1D48283, Recovered at
St. Louis Airport May 16, 1968

On May 16, 1968, Trooper ROBERT SHURE, Missouri State Highway Patrol, advised SA MELVIN E. DE GRAW a 1968 Dodge Dart automobile, Vehicle Identification Number LH41D8B323249, bearing 1968 Georgia license number 1D48283, had on that date been recovered at Lambert-St. Louis Airport; that same had been abandoned at least since May 5, 1968; and that it had been rented from National Car Rental Company, Atlanta, Georgia, on April 2, 1968, by an unknown individual utilizing the stolen credit cards of one SAMUEL SCHNEIDERMAN, 6535 Noad Street, Richmond, Illinois.

The vehicle was processed by SA DE GRAW with the result that eleven fingerprint lifts and other items were forwarded to the Bureau.

The Bureau advised on May 24, 1968, that latent prints of value found were not identical to the fingerprints of subject.

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VIII. LOOK ALIKES
(OTHER OFFICES INVOLVED)

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MJW:CSD:jab RE: LOOK ALIKE - JOHN FLAVEY

The following investigation was conducted by SAs CHARLES S. DUKE and MARTIN JOHN WEBER at St. Louis County, Missouri, on May 13, 1968:

ANN MENKE, Switchboard Operator, Holiday Inn North, advised that she was on duty at approximately 3:00 p.m., May 12, 1968, when ROBERT HULL, Busman for Holiday Inn North, mentioned a suspicious individual whom he had waited on in Room 213 who did not want to go out of his room. Shortly thereafter a girl called into Room 213. MENKE stated that this was a local call, and she heard a portion of it including the fact the individual in Room 213 would be in his room all evening, and that this girl would call back if she would be able to come over and see him. She mentioned Las Vegas and asked him how long it took him to get there. She stated that her girl friend made it in two days.

MENKE advised that the occupant of Room 213 also made several long distance telephone calls, and she believed that they were all to Louisville, Kentucky, however, no record of these calls were made and no calls were recorded because this individual used a telephone credit card and went directly through the telephone operator. MENKE advised that she never observed the occupant in Room 213 and observed Wanted Flyer 442-A stating she does not know this individual and has not seen anyone resembling him.

The following employees of the Holiday Inn North were contacted, shown photographs of JAMES RAY and could provide no positive information:

HARRY POLK, Busman

JOYCE KETTENHOFEN, 36C Parc-Twaine, St. Louis

STEVEN R. NAUMANN, 2500 Green Briar Drive, Florissant

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GORDON JOHNSON, Assistant Manager, Holiday Inn North, provided Guest Registration #13333, dated May 11, 1968, and provided the following information:

JOHN FLAVEY, 7917 Columbine Drive, Louisville, Kentucky, for Room 213, having party of one, notes Gulf Credit Card # [REDACTED] used for identification.

He also furnished a copy of the Innkeeper's Form used for Gulf Credit Card purchases. The form #0781149 indicated that service was sold to CONSTANCE Y. JOHNSON on May 12, 1968, for the amount of \$9.78. The credit card number appearing on the form was [REDACTED].

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SL: 44-775 RE: LOOK ALIKE - JOHN FLAVEY
MJW:jmb

The following investigation was conducted by SAs CHARLES S. DUKE and MARTIN JOHN WEBER at St. Louis County, Missouri, on May 13, 1968:

MILLIE RIDDLE, 11930 Missouri Bottom Road, St. Louis, Missouri, advised that she is presently employed as a maid for Holiday Inn North, St. Louis County, Missouri, and has been so employed for approximately ten years. RIDDLE stated that on May 12, 1968, she and ROBERT HULL were in Room 217 of the Holiday Inn North, and that HULL was discussing with her the peculiar activities of a guest in Room 213 when they heard the occupant of Room 213 out in front of his room and she looked up and saw this individual and jumped back in surprise immediately thinking that this was the same person she had seen a number of times as MARTIN LUTHER KING's killer.

RIDDLE advised that thereafter she discussed this person's possible likeness to JAMES RAY with employees at Holiday Inn North and after carefully considering what she saw in viewing Wanted Flyer 442-A and St. Louis Police Department photograph of RAY, October 10, 1959, she feels that the individual she saw closely resembles the above photographs.

RIDDLE stated that the person she saw and that occupied Room 213 was a white male; five feet, ten inches to six feet; medium, stocky build; 170; middle 30s.

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MJW:jmb RE: LOOK ALIKE - JOHN FLAVEY

The following investigation was conducted by SAs CHARLES S. DUKE and MARTIN JOHN WEBER at St. Louis County, Missouri, on May 13, 1968:

JANET WILLIAMS, Desk Clerk, Holiday Inn North, advised that her hours are 3:00 to 11:00 p.m., and at approximately 9:00 p.m. on May 12, 1968, two white males approached the office desk and one of these men asked her if he could check out. WILLIAMS advised that she does not check people out asked this individual to go down to JACK SEDIVY, who is the regular person who checks guests out.

WILLIAMS advised as he went down to the other end of the counter, she got a good look at the individual who she talked to and observed his profile. After the individual got finished checking out, both individuals went out of the office and got into a large car which had a Kentucky license tag. WILLIAMS could provide no further description of the car.

WILLIAMS stated that she was suspicious of this individual because of his wise-cracking and general appearance, and for this reason paid particular attention to him and watched him leave. After he left, she checked his name on the guest registration list. WILLIAMS provided the following description of the individual who checked out:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5 feet, 8 inches to 5 feet, 9 inches
Weight	170 to 180
Build	Stocky
Appearance	Good looking
Age	30s
Peculiarities	Had a "smirky grin" on face

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WILLIAMS viewed Wanted Flyer 442-A and stated this individual looked very much like the one who had checked out. WILLIAMS was then shown a photograph of subject taken by the St. Louis Police Department, dated October 10, 1959, and WILLIAMS immediately advised that "This is the man." She stated that the side view of RAY was identical to the individual who she saw the day before.

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SL: 44-775 RE: LOOK ALIKE - JOHN FLAVEY
CSD:jmb

The following investigation was conducted by SAs CHARLES S. DUKE and MARTIN JOHN WEBER at St. Louis County, Missouri on May 13, 1968:

ROBERT LEE HULL, Bus driver, (Bellman), residing at 4726 Page, St. Louis, Missouri, and employed at the Holiday Inn North, North Lindberg, St. Louis County, Missouri, advised on May 13, 1968, that approximately 3:00 p.m., Saturday afternoon, May 11, 1968, a man in Room 213 called for a Bellman requesting room service.

HULL stated that when he arrived at Room 213, the door was ajar and as he stepped into the room, a man who was laying on the bed stated, "Don't get close". He said that he had that he had just come in off the road from California, and that he intended to take a couple of hours of sleep. HULL stated that he asked for his name and said he may be needing him again. HULL replied, "What for?", and the man responded by requesting to get him a pint of Old Crow, some ice, two cokes, and some hair spray.

HULL further advised that the man said, "Look, I'll show you something" and he took him outside to where a 1966-1967 Lincoln Continental was parked and said that he had somewhere around \$1,000 worth of clothing in the trunk. The man then opened the trunk and HULL advised that he saw what he considered well over \$1,000 worth of fine clothing.

HULL described the car as a Lincoln Continental, in very good condition, light green with a black convertible top, bearing Kentucky tags. It had a numerical figure 4 in the tag number, which HULL thought to be the second digit. HULL also stated that he saw in the back seat of the car a dark leather golf bag with wheels and a lot of golf clubs.

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After the man closed the trunk, HULL then went to Walgreens, located at the Plaza Shopping Center, and made the purchases requested by the man.

HULL further advised that on Sunday, May 12, 1968, at about 3:00 p.m., he saw the man again at Room 213 when he again called for room service. HULL stated that the following conversation took place:

The man said, "Look here, I want you to get me something to eat. Is there someplace you can get me some sandwiches?" HULL answered by stating that he could go to the Steak and Shake or Mc Donald's. The man responded, "Is that something where you can get hamburgers?" To this HULL answered "Yes". The man stated "I want two cheeseburgers, one Coke and some ice." The man gave HULL \$5 at that time and HULL went to the Steak and Shake to make the purchases. Upon returning, the man in Room 213 gave him a \$1.70 tip.

HULL stated that he did not see the man again until late Sunday night, May 12, 1968. He said that he was in Room 217 talking with one of the maids by the name of MILLIE RIDDLE, about the man in Room 213. The door of that room was open at that time. They both heard a noise somewhat similiar to that of an electric motor and upon looking out of the doorway, they both saw the man in Room 213 by the Lincoln Continental. As the man turned toward Room 217, MILLIE jumped back in surprise or fright and told HULL that was the man who shot MARTIN LUTHER KING.

HULL described the man resembling RAY is a man who was medium built, who had brown hair, and who had a small or what appeared to be a small spot or white colored mark on

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the upper lip. He was wearing light colored trousers, probably white, a black turtle neck T-shirt or a sweater with short sleeves, and tan cloth-type shoes.

HULL viewed Wanted Flyer 442-A and stated that the photograph taken in 1968 of subject RAY was very similiar to the man in Room 213.

197

1

SL: 44-775 RE: LOOK ALIKE - JOHN FLAVEY
CSD:jmb

The following investigation was conducted by SAs CHARLES S. DUKE and MARTIN JOHN WEBER at St. Louis County, Missouri, on May 13, 1968:

JACK J. SEDIVY, 3328 Krem Avenue, St. Ann, Missouri, Desk Clerk for the Holiday Inn North, advised on May 13, 1968, that he saw the occupant of Room 213 come into the office with another man. He remembered JANET WILLIAMS asked the men if they were together. SEDIVY stated that he heard a remark similiar to "We're not married".

SEDIVY stated that JANET sent the occupant of Room 213 down to him and he stated that he did not pay attention to the occupant of Room 213 or the man that came in with him because he was in the process of checking the occupant out. He said as he looked up he remembered seeing the man at about eye level, which made him believe that the man was probably about five feet, seven inches. SEDIVY stated that the man had black hair which was shiny; he had dark blue eyes; little bit better than medium build; had straight teeth when he smiled; and had no visible scars or marks. He described the other man that came into the room with the occupant as being approximately six feet, one inche; about 30 years old; light brown hair; smartly styled hair; 180 to 190 pounds.

Upon viewing Wanted Flyer 442-A and police photograph dated October 10, 1959, SEDIVY advised that the occupant that checked out of Room 213 looked more like the police photograph taken October 10, 1959. He stated, "I could almost swear it was him."

SEDIVY stated that after the men left the office, he saw a car pull around to the vending machines at the side of the building and then take off. He said that was the last time he saw both men and the car.

198

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SL: 44-775 RE: LOOK ALIKE - JOHN FLAVEY
CSD:jmb

The following investigation was conducted by SAs CHARLES S. DUKE and MARTIN JOHN WEBER at St. Louis County, Missouri, on May 13, 1968:

ROBERT LEE HULL, 4726 Page, St. Louis, Missouri, the Bus driver at the Holiday Ina North, furnished six \$1 bills for fingerprint examination in that one of the bills was part of a tip received by him from the occupant in Room 213, denomination and serial numbers are as follows:

\$1	H39396048B
\$1	H57803563B
\$1	L66481462D
\$1	H08926805
\$1	H44290303B
\$1	G12997632C

199

1

SL: 44-775 RE: LOOK ALIKE - JOHN FLAVEY
CSD:jmb

The following investigation was conducted by SAs CHARLES S. DUKE and MARTIN JOHN WEBER at St. Louis County, Missouri, on May 13, 1968:

FRANK BROMMELHORST, 2445 Cheshire Drive, Florissant, Missouri, Auditor for the Holiday Inn North, advised that he is employed at the Holiday Inn North and that he had worked from 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 11, until 3:00 p.m. that same date. He stated that he checked a man in at about 1:38 p.m. on May 11, 1968, and assigned him Room 213. He stated that he did not remember what the man looked like nor did he see anyone else with him.

He advised that he questioned the man's signature on the check-in card because it was different from that on a credit card which he presented. The man replied that he was using his sister's-in-law credit card.

BROMMELHORST stated that he checked to see if the credit card was on a list of bad credit cards; he found out that it did not appear. He then rented the room to the man.

BROMMELHORST viewed Wanted Flyer 442-A and photograph taken at St. Louis Police Department October 10, 1959, and stated that he could not recall whether or not the man resembled the photographs.

200

OK
jmb

NATIONAL KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, INC.
(NKKKK)

A source advised that on May 22, 1960, the National Grand Council of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan met at Atlanta, Georgia, to discuss consolidation of the Klan's unit of effort and activities to establish a National Fund and a National Secretary and to design a new flag. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Federation of Ku Klux Klan, Alabama; Association of Arkansas Klans, Arkansas; Florida Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Florida; Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Florida; Association of Georgia Klans, Georgia; Knights of the Klans, South Carolina; Dixie Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Tennessee; and Kyksos Klan, Texas.

This source advised that at a consolidation meeting at Atlanta, Georgia, September 2-5, 1960, at which the North Carolina and Texas Klans were not represented, it was resolved and passed that their name be changed to National Ku Klux Klan.

A second source advised in March, 1964, that several meetings of Klan groups were held during the period 1960 to 1963 in an effort to unite the Klan groups under a single leadership.

The organization was granted a charter in DeKalb County, Georgia, November 1, 1963, under the name National Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc., as a "patriotic, secret, social, and benevolent order".

A third source advised in December, 1963, that the organization had issued a statement of its program which indicated the organization to be anti-Negro, anti-Jewish, anti-Catholic, and anti-foreign born.

The third source advised in August, 1964, that the organization has a headquarters in Tucker, Georgia, and the day-to-day operations are under the direction of JAMES R. VENABLE, Chairman.

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A-P-P-E-N-D-I-XNATIONAL KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN,
KLAVERN #14,
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

A source advised that on October 25, 1965, at a meeting of the National States Rights Party of Missouri, a speaker identified himself as a member of, and organizer for, the Klan and requested all persons interested in joining the Klan to see him after the meeting; that on November 30, 1965, the first organizational meeting of Klavern #14 was held at 2806 North Grand Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri; that on January 14, 1966, William Lon Lockhart announced at a meeting held at El Monti Tavern, 5201 Southwest Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri, that he had been commissioned by the Grand Dragon of the State of Missouri, and was granted a charter to institute a new klavern in St. Louis, Missouri by James R. Venable, Imperial Wizard of the National Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. On August 9, 1967, source advised that the klavern was called Klavern #14 and currently holds its initiations and meetings at rented halls in St. Louis, Missouri.

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**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

Copy to:

Report of: **SA HAROLD R. DOBSON** Office: **ST. LOUIS**
 Date: **June 25, 1968**

Field Office File No.: **SL: 44-775** Bureau File No.: **44-38861**

Title: **JAMES EARL RAY;
 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR -
 VICTIM**

Character: **CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;
 UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID CONFINEMENT - ROBBERY**

Synopsis: **RAY unknown to St. Louis Bartenders' Union, and did not seek employment as bartender at country clubs, St. Louis or St. Louis Co., Mo. MSP inmate JAMES D. WALLACE alleged he and wife observed subject and JAMES LOAMA OWENS at entrance of Jefferson-Gravois Bank, SLMO, Summer, 1967. OWENS claimed he was alone only time he met WALLACE at that location 1965. MRS. WALLACE unable to recall incident. Bank has no record of any business with RAY or OWENS, 1967. Former inmate JAMES H. CARPENTER alleged he observed subject three times between 5/10 and 17/67, in 1800 block of South 11th St., SLMO; that subject borrowed \$10 and indicated he desired gun. Neighborhood negative this area. Former inmate JOHN PAUL VELANTI alleged former inmate RUSSELL P. BRANNEN told him he had observed RAY briefly in 1800 block of Miss. Ave., SLMO, two weeks following MSP escape. BRANNEN denied. No 1800 block of Miss. Neighborhood surrounding area unproductive. SLFD Field Interrogation Reports of individuals questioned, but not arrested in above areas for 1967 negative as to persons of RAY's name and aliases. No unidentified cadavers, St. Louis - St. Louis Co., Mo., 4-4-68 to date. RAY unknown to Salvation Army and other charitable type missions. JAMES DAVID DAILEY denied acquaintance or association with RAY. Interviews with fellow prisoners set out. Relatives JERRY RAYNES, CAROL PEPPER and JOHN LARRY RAY repeatedly denied contact with RAY or knowledge of his whereabouts subsequent to MSP escape. ARMED AND DANGEROUS.**

P

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SL: 44-775

I. RAY BACKGROUND

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SL: 44-775
CBB:klr

RE: RAY BACKGROUND: EDUCATION

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent CLETIS B. BIDEWELL, at St. Louis, Missouri, on May 22, 1968:

ROBERT ODELL BROWN, 9030 Eager Road, Brentwood, Missouri, Apartment 1C, advised upon interview that he has been teaching commercial subjects in the Parkway High School District for the past eleven years. He went to grade school in Ewing, Missouri, and his picture recently appeared on the front page of Life magazine in a group photograph, along with subject JAMES EARL RAY and other members of the Ewing grade school.

A letter written by BROWN appears in the current issue of Life magazine on the page reserved for letters to the editor.

According to BROWN, this letter has been edited to the extent that it is hardly recognizable from the letter he actually sent to Life magazine. He stated his reason for writing this letter to Life magazine was to register a protest with the magazine in connection with the story they ran about subject RAY in a recent issue in which he was described as a "mean kid" and a "bully."

BROWN, after graduating from high school at Ewing, Missouri, in 1946, attended the Gym City Business College at Quincy, Illinois; the State college at Kirksville, Missouri; and the University of Wyoming. He does not recall having seen subject RAY since their grade school days at Ewing and has no information whatever as to where subject might be at the present time.

Mr. BROWN advised that in the event he receives any information in the future concerning the possible whereabouts of the subject as a result of his letter to Life magazine or any other reason, he will immediately furnish same to the St. Louis FBI Office.

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SL 44-775
JAD:pjh

RE: FORMER NEIGHBOR: LAFAYETTE DILTS

Information was received from the Springfield Division that one LAFAYETTE DILTS, former bootlegger, had formerly resided in the same neighborhood as subject's family in Quincy, Illinois, during the 1940's. It was believed DILTS currently resides at LaGrange, Missouri.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES A. DUFFEY:

The following persons, all long-time residents of the village of LaGrange, Missouri, were contacted in an effort to locate LAFAYETTE DILTS, formerly of Quincy, Illinois, and his girlfriend, MAHALA LA MARR, but none had ever heard of either:

Mrs. AZALINE MAIERS, Cashier, LaGrange State Bank,
May 29, 1968;

Mrs. JENNIE MYERS, May 29, 1968;

Mr. GEORGE RICHIE, Richie Garage, May 29, 1968;

Mr. CHARLES BROWER, Commercial Fisherman, May
29, 1968.

Mr. BERT SMITH, Commercial Fisherman, on May 29, 1968, advised that LAFAYETTE DILTS has never lived in LaGrange, Missouri. He stated that he knew DILTS as a commercial fisherman several years ago, and his last account of him was that he lived in Quincy, Illinois. He advised that DEWEY LOCK, a commercial fisherman who lives in Quincy, Illinois, will know DILTS' whereabouts. He stated LOCK can be located, and probably DILTS also, by contacting YANCEY'S FISH MARKET at the foot of Broadway in Quincy, Illinois.

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SL 44-775
JAD/ral

Re: RAY Associates

Prison records, U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, reflected that subject listed as "friend" "JERRY RYAN, Box 113, Lancaster, Missouri", while an inmate there 1955-1958.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES A. DUFFEY:

On May 7, 1968, Mr. THOMAS MITCHELL, Cashier, Bank of Lancaster, Mr. HARRY MELVIN, President, Bank of Lancaster, Judge WALTER HIGBEE, Mrs. FLORA REDMAN, County Clerk, who maintains the permanent Voters Registration for Schuyler County, Mrs. MARSHA JUDD, Clerk of Magistrate Court, and Sheriff GLEN LEFLER, Sheriff's Office, all Lancaster, Missouri, and life residents, each checked his records and advised there is no record of any JERRY RYAN, JERRY RAYN, or JERRY RAYNES. None could recall any such person as ever living here. Mrs. TOM WEBSTER stated she knew no such person.

On May 8, 1968, Mrs. GEORGIA WILSON, Manager, Adair County Credit Bureau, Kirksville, Missouri, which also covers Schuyler County, advised there is no record for any JERRY RAYN, RAYN, or RAYNES.

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CBB:amb
SL 44-775

RE: RAY EMPLOYMENT

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI:

On May 16, 1968, Mrs. NANCEE TROXEL, Office Clerk, Local #51, Bartenders Union, 3630 Grandel Square, St. Louis, Missouri, advised SA CLETIS B. BIDEWELL after checking her records that they contained no information concerning subject JAMES EARL RAY under his true name or any of his known aliases.

MRS. TROXEL advised Local # 51 is the only Bartenders Union in the St. Louis - St. Louis County area, and covers bartenders at country clubs in that area.

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SL: 44-775
HRD:wma

COUNTRY CLUB PROJECT

Due to the possibility that subject could have inquired of country clubs concerning employment as a bartender, the following country clubs in St. Louis and St. Louis County, Missouri, were contacted on dates indicates, with the result that no one person of subject's appearance was found to have sought such employment personally and no person of subject's name or aliases was found to have inquired or applied by mail:

<u>CLUB</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>AGENT</u>
BATH AND TENNIS CLUB A. BRUCE CORNELL - Manager	1600 Log Cabin Lane	5-21-68	JAMES T. DEARBORN
BELLEFONTAINE COUNTRY CLUB, C. E. FREDERICKS - Manager	900 Fry	5-21-68	" "
BELLERIVE COUNTRY CLUB MICHAEL DREAS - Manager	12925 Ladue Road	5-21-68	" "
BOGEY FOLF CLUB STANLEY COULTER - Owner	9266 Clayton Road	5-21-68	" "
CRYSTAL LAKE COUNTRY CLUB VID ESSEN - Owner	2224 Bopp Road	5-21-68	" "
DEER CREEK CLUB JACK BURROUGHS - Manager	9861 Deer Creek Hill	5-21-68	ALAN E. MCELWAIN
FOREST HILLS COUNTRY CLUB RAY KARR - Manager	Clayton and Clarkson	5-21-68	ALAN E. MCELWAIN
GLEN ECHO COUNTRY CLUB MIKEY BIERMANN - Office Manager	Lucas and Hunt Road	5-21-68	" "

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SL: 44-775

HRD:wma

GREENBRIAR HILLS COUNTRY CLUB, J. H. DIEKROEGER - Manager	12665 Big Bend	5-21-68	ALAN E. MCELWAIN
HILLCREST COUNTRY CLUB JOSEPH W. SMITH - Manager	8100 Fine	5-21-68	" "
LOG CABIN CLUB J. V. TAYLOR - Owner	9456 Clayton Road	5-21-68	JOHN O. TRETHWAY
MEADOWBROOK COUNTRY CLUB HELEN WALLERSTEIM - Secretary	CLAYTON and Kehrs Mill Road	5-21-68	" "
NORWOOD HILLS COUNTRY CLUB DORIS SCHAEFER - Secretary	5500 Lucas and Hunt	5-21-68	" "
OLD WARSON COUNTRY CLUB ELLEN CAPRA - Secretary	9841 Old Warson	5-21-68	" "
ST. LOUIS COUNTRY CLUB THOMAS HACKETT - Manager	400 Barnes Road	5-21-68	" "
SUNSET COUNTRY CLUB JAMES ELDON - Manager	9555 Geyer	5-21-68	LAWRENCE B. CURTIN
TRIPPLE A GOLD AND TENNIS CLUB ERNEST SCHWARTZ - Secretary	Forest Park	5-21-68	" "
WESTBOROUGH COUNTRY CLUB MARIE CANTONY - Secretary	631 South Berry Road	5-21-68	" "
WESTWOOD COUNTRY CLUB CARLO RADDE - Manager.	11801 Conway Road	5-21-68	" "

SL: 44-775

II. ALLEGED APPEARANCES IN ST. LOUIS,
MISSOURI, SUBSEQUENT TO MISSOURI
STATE PENITENTIARY ESCAPE.

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SL: 44-775
DRS:mjb

RE: FELLOW PRISONER: JAMES L. OWENS

The following investigation was conducted by SA DEAN R. SHUMWAY:

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

On May 14, 1968, the Kansas City Division advised that a review of Missouri State Prison records reflected OWENS was employed as a boiler maker for the Combustion Engineering Company in 1947.

On May 15, 1968, Mr. ROBERT E. SCHLOEMAN, Personnel Director, Combustion Engineering Company, 5319 Shreve Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri, advised that his company has no record of JAMES OWENS' employment, but he personally recalls OWENS was employed there approximately twenty years ago. He explained that Combustion Engineering has been subjected to a records retention evaluation, and as a result personnel records are now maintained for only ten years.

OWENS was a fair employee, a good worker, but was ultimately discharged for raffling off stolen guns on company property. SCHLOEMAN advised that OWENS had been suspected of the activity for some time before finally discharged upon being caught in the shop with a loaded rifle. SCHLOEMAN advised he has no knowledge of any associates of OWENS still working at the plant but that one GEORGE SPINK would be able to advise if any of OWENS' friends still remained.

On May 15, 1968, Mr. GEORGE SPINK, 846 Newport Street, St. Louis, Missouri, advised he knew JAMES OWENS at the Combustion Engineering plant nearly 20 years ago but has not heard of him since OWENS was fired for raffling stolen guns. SPINK advised he knows of no one who is an associate or friend of OWENS at the plant, and has no idea of who else might know OWENS or where he is at.

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SL: 55-775
dr:wma

RE: FELLOW PRISONER JAMES LOAMA OWENS

The following investigation was conducted by SA DOUGLAS ROSENBERGER; May 15, 1968:

AT ELVINS, MISSOURI

IDA OWENS stated her son is currently employed as a salesman at the Chevrolet Agency, Crystal City, Missouri. She stated she could furnish no information concerning JAMES EARL RAY or his possible current whereabouts.