

PAGE FOUR

ST. LOUIS IS ALERTED TO CHECK UNKNOWN MALE UPON ARRIVAL BY  
GREYHOUND BUS THAT CITY.

CLEVELAND BE ALERTED FOR POSSIBILITY UNKNOWN MALE INVOLVED IN  
BANK ROBBERY OF OTHER CRIME, CLEVELAND TERRITORY.

LOS ANGELES AND MEMPHIS ADVISED FOR INFORMATION.

END

EAS

FBI INDPOLS

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, Indianapolis (44-563)

DATE: 4/19/68

FROM : SA RICHARD J. EISGRUBER

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka  
John Willard;  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr.-VICTIM  
CIVIL RIGHTS

OO: Memphis

CHARLIE VOWELS, Telephone Number 424-3524, Supervisor in Pigeon Township Trustee's Office, Room B-5, Vanderburgh County Court House, Evansville, Indiana, confidentially advised on 4/15/68, that he is employed in the Poor Relief Office and that on 4/9/68, a LOLA EVELYN YINGER came to his office requesting bus fare to Indianapolis.

YINGER provided a telegram received from her husband RON YINGER, addressed to herself at 1115 Highland Sport (Court), Shreveport, Louisiana, which stated in part: "It's too hot to go fishing in Shreveport, suggest you catch a bus to Indianapolis."

YINGER gave an address of 740 Spruce Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, where she would be reached. VOWELS stated that he became suspicious of YINGER, as she was obviously lying, and he would not give her the money for the bus fare. He stated the more he thought about the telegram that YINGER showed him the more suspicious he became and thought there possibly might be some link between this telegram and the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING. VOWELS stated that he did not know what the telegram meant but felt that it might be some sort of code or something. VOWELS stated he was making this information available to the FBI for whatever use they deemed appropriate.

2-Indianapolis  
RJE-ray

(2)



5010-108

44-563-82

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 22 1968	
FBI - INDIANAPOLIS	

*Helcher*

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

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE URGENT  
(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR (44-38861), SPRINGFIELD (44-561),  
MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM : INDIANAPOLIS (44-563)

MURKIN, CIVIL RIGHTS.

RE BUREAU TELETYPE TO ALL OFFICES THIS DATE AND SPRINGFIELD  
TELEPHONE CALL AND TELETYPE TO INDIANAPOLIS THIS DATE.

RE JAMES EARL RAY.

E. L. POPHANKEN, PAYROLL SUPERVISOR, AMERICAN COMMERCIAL  
BARGE LINE, DIVISION OF AMERICAN COMMERCIAL LINES, INC., WHICH  
DIVISION HAS CUSTODY OF ALL CURRENT AND PAST EMPLOYEES OF THIS  
COMPANY AND OTHER BARGE COMPANIES WHICH MERGED IN NINETEEN  
SIXTYONE, SEARCHED RAY'S NAME AND ALL ALIASES AND ADVISED NO  
RECORD LOCATED INDICATING RAY EVER EMPLOYED BY THESE COMPANIES.

FOR INFO SPRINGFIELD, ALL EMPLOYMENT RECORDS PRIOR TO  
SIXTYONE HAVE BEEN DESTROYED. HOWEVER, ALL NAMES AND SOCIAL  
SECURITY NUMBERS PLACED ON IBM CARDS AND THESE CARDS, WHICH  
ALSO CONTAIN CURRENT EMPLOYEES, WERE RUN THROUGH WITH NEGATIVE  
RESULTS.

SI 5 40/P  
ME 5 43/P  
MCPH

1 - IP

WTT:fjm  
(1)

Approved: [Signature]  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 5 38/P M Per [Signature]

44-563-80

FBI INDPOLS

FBI ST LOUIS

350 PM URGENT 4-20-68 DCJ

TO: DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, CLEVELAND, INDIANAPOLIS, LOS  
ANGELES

FROM: ST. LOUIS (44-775)

MURKIN; CR; OO:ME

RE CINCINNATI TEL TO DIRECTOR, APR. NINETEEN LAST, AND  
ST. LOUIS TELEPHONE CALLS TO INDIANAPOLIS AND LOS ANGELES  
APR. NINETEEN LAST.

SAS DISPATCHED APR. NINETEEN LAST, GREYHOUND BUS DEPOT,  
ST. LOUIS, MO., FOR CHECK OF PASSENGERS ABOARD BUS FOUR FOUR  
SEVEN TWO, ARRIVING FROM COLUMBUS, OHIO, TWO TWENTY P.M. NO  
PERSON IDENTIFIABLE AS INDIVIDUAL DESCRIBED RE TEL OBSERVED  
DEPARTING BUS. EMPTY BUS SEARCHED FOR PERONS REMAINING ON  
VEHICLE, WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. BUS TERMINAL CHECKED BEFORE  
AND AFTER DEPARTURE OF VEHICLE FOR LOS ANGELES WITHOUT SUCCESS.  
END PAGE ONE

*Tiller & Fletcher  
Advised  
EB*

44-563-85  
SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
APR 21 1968  
FBI - INDIANAPOLIS  
6

PAGE TWO

ONLY MALE PERSON ON BUS REMOTELY SUGGESTING SUBJECT'S APPEARANCE IDENTIFIED AS CHARLES WARREN HALE, DATE OF BIRTH [REDACTED] ANSON, TEXAS, EN ROUTE FROM HOLYOKE, MASS., TO A VETERANS HOSPITAL NEAR ABILENE, TEXAS. HALE DEFINITELY NOT IDENTICAL TO SUBJECT.

DRIVER WAYNE LESTER WILLIAMS, GREYHOUND BUS LINES, EIGHT ZERO ONE N. BROADWAY, RESIDENCE FOUR FIVE ZERO EIGHT NORTH-EASTERN AVE., WANAMAKER, INDIANA, ADVISED APR. NINETEEN SIXTY EIGHT, HE DROVE NUMBER FOUR FOUR SEVEN TWO FROM INDIANAPOLIS TO ST. LOUIS ARRIVING TWO TWENTY P.M., APR. NINETEEN LAST. STATED HE HAD TWELVE PASSENGERS FROM INDIANAPOLIS TO ST. LOUIS, SEVERAL OF WHOM WERE NEGROES AND FEMALES, BUT DOES NOT KNOW DESTINATION OF ANY PASSENGER, NOR WOULD HE HAVE CHECKED TICKETS. WILLIAMS VIEWED PHOTO OF SUBJECT, STATED NO ONE OF DESCRIPTION AMONG PASSENGERS. HE DID RECALL ONE INDIVIDUAL WHO SAT RIGHT FRONT SEAT, THIRTY YEARS OF AGE, FIVE FEET, EIGHT TO NINE INCHES, ONE FIVE ZERO LBS., INTOXICATED, AND EN ROUTE MASS. TO TEXAS. HE COULD RECALL NO OTHER PERSON MEETING THE DESCRIPTION IN QUESTION, AND DID NOT BELIEVE THIS PERSON WAS IDENTICAL.

P.

END

EXS

FBI INDPOLS

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, INDIANAPOLIS (44-563)

DATE: 4/20/68

FROM : SA JAMES G. WINTERS

SUBJECT: MURKIN

At approximately 11 AM this date ELMER SENG, 1133 North 6th Street, Lafayette, Indiana, telephone number 742-2395, telephonically contacted the Indianapolis office and advised the writer that he had rented an apartment to a man using the name HARRELL VOWELL at 237 South 4th Street, Apartment 4, Lafayette, Indiana yesterday. SENG advised that this was a "dead ringer" for LEE RAY.

VOWELL  
SENG advised that VOWELL is described as a white male, 5' 10", 150 pounds, 35-40, dark sandy hair, dimple in chin, sun tanned, with about a three day growth of beard. He further advised that VOWELL was driving an older model red Chevrolet pick-up truck with unknown Michigan license plates and had stated that he had just arrived in Lafayette from Coco Beach, Florida. VOWELL also told SENG that he expected his brother to arrive there within a day or two and told SENG that he was looking for a job with hours from 3 to 11 so that he could go out evenings.

Supervisor TILLAR and SA BARADELL were advised this date of above information.

JGW/

2 - 44-563

SEARCHED.....IN

12

INDIANAPOLIS

44-563-86  
SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....  
SERIALIZED.....  
MAY 1968  
INDIANAPOLIS



5010-108

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

P

FBI INDAPOLS

FBI NEWARK

5 PAGES 8:00 PM URGENT 4-20-68 JON

TO DIRECTOR, CINCINNATI, CLEVELAND, INDIANAPOLIS, LOS ANGELES,  
MEMPHIS, NEW YORK, AND ST. LOUIS PLAINTEXT  
LOS ANGELES VIA WASH,DC.  
FROM NEWARK 44-854

MURKIN,CR, OO-ME.

RE CI TEL TO DIRECTOR WITH COPY TO NEWARK.

GARY S. GOODMAN, AGE SEVENTEEN, THREE FIVE BIRKENDENE  
RD., CALDWELL, NJ, WAS INTERVIEWED TODAY. HE ADVISED  
THAT WILE AWAITING A FLIGHT FROM PORT COLUMBUS INTERNATIONAL  
AIRPORT, COLUMBUS, OHIO, AT ABOUT THREE AM ON APRIL NINETEEN  
LAST, HE ENCOUNTERED UNKNOWN MALE INDIVIDUAL WHO VERY  
CLOSELY RESEMBLED NEWSPAPER PHOTOGRAPH OF ERIC STARVO GALT.  
ALSO PRESENT IN ADDITION TO INDIVIDUALS SET FORTH  
IN REFERENCED TEL, WAS LLEONARD DRIBINSKY, ONE THIRTY PELHAM  
RD., NEW ROCHELLE, N.Y., AREA CODE NINE ONE FOUR, # SIX  
THREE SIX - EIGHT ONE SIX ONE. GOODMAN ADVISED THAT AT ABOUT  
THREE AM, A TAXI DRIVER ENTERED AIRPORT AND INQUIRED AT EAL  
COUNTER CONCERNING NEXT DEPARTING FLIGHT. THE DRIVER LEFT  
AND WITHIN MINUTES THE UNKNOWN MALE ENTERED, WALKING  
AND MADE SAME INQUIRY. GOODMAN DOES NOT KNOW HOW UNKNOWN MALE  
END PAGE ONE

*Fletcher advised*

44-563-81  
SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
APR 20 1968  
FBI - INDIANAPOLIS

PAGE TWO

NK 44-854

ARRIVED AT AIRPORT. HE GAVE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTION OF UNKNOWN MALE - WMA, FIVE FEET EIGHT, HEAVY BUILD, ONE EIGHTY LBS., AGE APPROXIMATELY THIRTY SEVEN OR THIRTY EIGHT, BLOND BROWN HAIR, WITH REDDISH APPEARANCE, COLOR APPEARED SOMEWHAT UNNATURAL AND MAY HAVE BEEN DYED HAIR WAS LONG TO TOP AT EARS, WEARING THIN MUSTACHE HAVING APPEARANCE OF TWO WEEK GROWTH, OTHERWISE CLEAN SHAVEN. WEARING SOLID BLACK SPORTS JACKET, WHITE SHIRT NO TIE, BLACK LACE TYPE SHOES IN NEED OF REPAIR, WHITE SOXES. CLOTHES APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN WORN FOR SEVERAL DAYS. NOTICIBLE ODOR OF ALCOHOL BUT DID NOT APPEAR INTOXICATED AND SPOKE COHERENTLY. GOODMAN DID NOT NOTICE AN ACCENT,, UNUSUAL MANNERISMS, HABITS, SCARS, MARKS, TATTOOS, OR JEWELRY.

GOODMAN WAS EXHIBITED PHOTOS OF ERIC STARVO GALT. HE ADVISED THAT PHOTOGRAPH SHOWING EYES DRAWN IN, BORE VERY CLOSE RESEMBLANCE TO THE UNKNOWN MALE WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS: UNKNOWN MALE WEARING THIN MUSTACHE, EYES MORE PROMINENT, HAIR LONGER OVER EARS. GOODMAN

END PAGE TWO



PAGE THREE

NK 44-854

ADVISED THE PHOTO OF JAMES EARL RAY, FURNISHED BY THE BUREAU ON FOUR NINETEEN LAST, NOT AS CLOSE RESEMBLANCE AS ABOVE DESCRIBED PHOTOGRAPH AND IN ADDITION CITED THE FOLLOWING DIFFERENCES: UNKNOWN MALE'S SLIGHTLY WIDER AND NOT AS POINTED LIPS SLIGHTLY LARGER.

UNKNOWN MALE INDICATED THAT HE COULD NOT WAIT UNTIL FIVE TEN AM TO DEPART COLUMBUS, AND THEN TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED THE RAIL AND BUS LINES INQUIRING ABOUT DEPARTURES TO LOS ANGELES. UNKNOWN MALE PURCHASED A BROWN, YELLOW AND ORANGE PLAID SHIRT FOR ONE DOLLAR FROM RONALD WEISZ, A COMPANION OF GOODMAN. UNKNOWN MALE CHANGED SHIRT AT AIRPORT AND DISCARDED HIS WHITE SHIRT IN LOCKER, WHICH GOODMAN LATER OBTAINED AND HAS FURNISHED TO NEWARK DIVISION. UNKNOWN MALE IN AIRPORT APPROXIMATELY THIRTY MINUTES TO HOUR, DURING WHICH TIME HE HAD CONVERSATIONS WITH GOODMAN AND OTHERS. UNKNOWN MALE OBSERVED IN POSSESSION OF LARGE ROLL OF CURRENCY AND THREE ROLLS OF DIMES WHICH BORE PRINTED NAME OF CINCINNATI, OHIO, ON WRAPPERS. UNKNOWN MALE INDICATED

END PAGE THRE

PAGE FOUR

NK 44-854

HE HAD BEEN IN COLUMBUS, OHIO FOR SEVERAL DAYS AND PREVIOUSLY IN CINCINNATI. ONLY REFERENCE TO PRIOR ACTIVITIES WERE THAT HE HAD BEEN DRINKING. HE MADE NO REFERENCE TO ASSOCIATES, INTERESTS, MEANS OF LIVLIHOOD OR HOME AND APPARENTLY HAD NO LUGGAGE. HE APPEARED RATHER HAPPY-GO-LUCKY BUT MAINTAINED AN APPARENT URGENCY TO LEAVE COLUMBUS. HE LEFT AIRPORT AT APPROXIMATELY FOUR TEN AM. LATER THE TAXI DRIVER, WHO SAID HE HAD DRIVEN UNKNOWN MALE TO BUS STATION, RETURNED TO AIRPORT AND REMARKED CONCERNING THE RESEMBLANCE OF UNKNOWN MALE WITH THE NEWSPAPER PHOTO OF ERIC STARVO GALT. GOODMAN AND COMPANIONS CONCURRED IN THE CLOSE RESEMBLANCE AND DETERMINED THAT IN VIEW OF HIS ACTIONS AT THE AIRPORT, THAT THIS INCIDENT SHOULD BE REPORTED TO THE FBI.

NEW YORK FURNISHED INFO RE LEONARD DRIBINSKY BY PHONE THIS DATE.

UACB, NEWARK SUBMITTING SHIRT OBTAINED FROM UNSUB TO FBI LAB, FOUR TWENTY-TWO NEXT. SUGGEST CINCINNATI CHECK  
END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

NK 44-854

LOCAL AUTHORITIES FOR B&E OR BR WHEREIN ROLLS OF COINS

TAKEN.

E N D

EXS

FBI INDPOLS

FBI WASH DC

FBI INDAPOLS

2:04 AM URGENT 4-20-68 JEC.

*Sent 2:07 AM (096) JEC*

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: INDIANAPOLIS (44-563)

MURKIN. CR. OO:MEMPHIS.

RE CINCINNATI TEL TO DIRECTOR FOUR DASH NINETEEN DASH SIXTYEIGHT.  
UNSUB - BOARDING BUS AT COLUMBUS, OHIO, FOUR FIFTY AM, FOUR DASH  
NINETEEN DASH SIXTYEIGHT.

PAUL FISHER, GREYHOUND DRIVER INDIANAPOLIS, ADVISED ONE PASSENGER  
FITTING UNSUB DISCRPTION GOT ON BUS JUST BEFORE DEPARTURE FROM COLUMBUS.  
UNSUB SAT DIRECTLY BEHIND HIM DURING TRIP. UNSUB HAD TICKET FOR LOS  
ANGELES AND ASK IF HE HAD TO CHANGE BUSES. ADVISED NO. UNSUB  
SLEPT THROUGH DAYTON STOP AND INDIANAPOLIS STOP.

UNSUB DESCRIBED W/M, FIVE FT. SEVEN INCH., TO FIVE FT. EIGHT.  
INCH., ONE FOUR ZERO TO ONE FIVE ZERO LBS., NO ACCENT, SMALL MUSTACHE,  
NO BAGGAGE. CAN'T RECALL DRESS OR OTHER FEATURES. DRIVER VIEWED GALT  
PHOTOS COULD NOT MAKE IDENTY. STATED TO BUSY WITH FOG TO NOTICE  
FURTHER.

END  
PJF/JEC

BJP

FBI WASH DC

TU

*JTN/PJT/JEC*

*Sent me 2:07 AM  
WA 2:04 AM*

*Per JEC,*

*Will case  
not release*

Searched.....  
Serialized.....  
Indexed.....  
Filed.....

*44-563-38*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC

DATE: 4-21-68

FROM : SPC JAY E. COLVIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

At approx. 6:55 am instant date this office telephonically contacted by a Mr. Anderson, 2454 N. Parker, Ph 636-4646, who advised as follows....

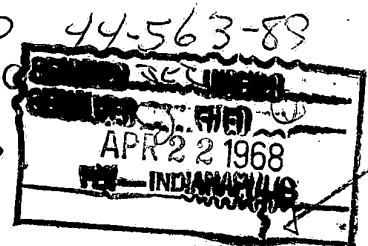
Anderson noticed an individual who looked like Earl James Ray eating at the White Castle at 38th and Keystone. This individual left there and last seen going north on Keystone in a White Chevrolet 68 Indiana license 49 G 1605.

Above information furnished to Supervisor Tiller.

*License issued to  
Harry W. Black  
6701 Carolin  
Indpls, Ind*

*63 Chevrolet 4 Door  
VIN 31859F10166*

*NO STOLEN  
JEC.*



*W LUTHER*

*67 5-21-68  
A-100-100-100-100*

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



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, INDIANAPOLIS (44-563)

FROM : SA FREDERICK L. WILT

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/20/68

At 9:20 AM, 4/20/68, Mrs. CHAUNCEY TIMMONS, 2304 North 20th Street, Lafayette, Indiana (Telephone Number 424-6784), advised SA FREDERICK L. WILT as follows:

She and her husband are owners of a cheap rooming house located at 627 North Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, where Mrs. FERN CARTER (Telephone ME 5-6628), serves as manager. An individual named LEE RAY whom Mrs. TIMMONS has never seen registered there in Room 32 on 3/2/68 and has paid his rent through 4/20/68.

Mrs. TIMMONS thought there might be a connection between the fugitive named RAY, alias GALT who has recently received newspaper publicity in connection with MURKIN. Mrs. TIMMONS advised she has no additional info of any nature concerning the above described LEE RAY.

*Sup Tillman  
Advised 10:08 AM  
4-20-68  
Wintons*



5010-108

① - Indianapolis  
FLW:slr  
(1) *slr*

44-563-90

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 22 1968	
FBI - INDIANAPOLIS	

*[Handwritten signature]*

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, Indianapolis (44-563)

DATE: 4/20/68

FROM : SA Frederick L. Wilt

SUBJECT: UNSUB; MURKIN  
CR

At 9:40 A.M., 4/20/68 the following information was received via telephone by SA Frederick L. Wilt from Mrs. Betty Kurtz, 239 Blueberry Lane, West Lafayette, Indiana (phone 743-6955).

On 4/5/68 she and her husband stopped to register at the Cascade Motel, Chattanooga, Tennessee. At that time she observed a man registering at the Cascade Motel whom she feels appears similar in appearance to ERIC STARVO GALT, whose photo she has seen in the newspapers and on TV. This man is described by Mrs. Kurtz as white, male, tall, thin, dark brown bushy hair, 30 years, dressed in tan jacket, dark pants, plaid shirt. The man told the room-clerk at the Cascade Motel that he would return the following Saturday to stay there again.

Except for the resemblance in appearance, Mrs. Kurtz knew of nothing to associate this individual with MURKIN.

In view of the assumption that there should be better leads available to locate ERIC STARVO GALT, alias RAY, no action is recommended on the basis of the above information.

FLW



5010-108

44-563-91

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 22 1968	
FBI - INDIANAPOLIS	

*[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]*

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

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Fugitive Galt Charged In King Slaying

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — The mysterious Eric Starvo Galt has been charged with conspiracy and murder in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The FBI said in a fugitive warrant issued last night in Birmingham that Galt, 36, conspired with a man "whom he alleged to be his brother" to violate King's civil rights.

The state charge of first-degree murder was filed against Galt in Memphis where King, 39, Nobel Prize-winning civil rights leader, was shot to death on a motel balcony April 4 by a sniper who fled from a rooming house.

First-degree murder in Tennessee carries the death penalty although the electric chair has not been used in the state since 1960.

The maximum penalty under the Federal charge of conspiracy to violate a person's civil rights is a \$5,000 fine and 10-year prison sentence.

There was no further mention in the FBI statement about the alleged brother and no charge was filed against him.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover announced in Washington that the conspiracy to "injure, oppress, threaten or intimidate" King began "on or about March 30" in Birmingham.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

The Indianapolis News

Indianapolis, Indiana

Page 3

Date: 4-18-68

Edition:

Author:

Editor:

Title:

Managing  
Wendell C.  
Phillippi

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

Ip

Being Investigated

44-563-92  
SEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_ INDEXED \_\_\_\_\_

SERIALIZED \_\_\_\_\_ FILED \_\_\_\_\_

APR 27 1968

FBI - INDIANAPOLIS

*Tiller*



## PUBLIC ASKED TO HELP FIND GALT

The FBI statement said a .30-06 rifle equipped with a telescopic sight, found near the rooming house shortly after King was slain, was bought March 30 in Birmingham.

The statement did not connect Galt directly with the rifle.

The FBI released a photograph of Galt and solicited public aid in finding him. Whether this appeal meant the trail had become cold was unclear, but U.S. Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark told a reporter in Washington he felt this was not the situation.

The FBI started hunting Galt a week ago. Agents even



Eric Starvo Galt—trail cooled?

contacted persons named Galt in several states in an attempt to find him.

The picture — which had to have the eyes “opened” by an artist — brought uncertain responses from witnesses who were acquainted with Galt or saw the fleeing sniper.

“Unless he was wearing a wig or had had a face-lift or something, it’s not the man I saw,” said Charles Q. Stevens, who lives at the Main Street rooming house from which the fatal shot apparently was fired.

“The hair is too full and the face is too young,” he said. But Stevens said he only got a side view of the fleeing figure.

A source in Birmingham said the photograph was taken within the past three months, although the FBI did not specify when it was made. The photo has sharp contrast, making hair and features very dark.

“It’s very near, but I’m not sure,” was the reaction of Peter Cherpes, owner of a Birmingham boarding house where an Eric Galt stayed from Aug. 26 to Oct. 7 last year.

“I don’t really know,” Cherpes said. “It’s so hard to tell. His hair seemed to be lighter.”

The FBI, relying on witnesses apparently, said the fugitive had been described as a white man, 5-8 to 5-11, weighing 160 to 175 pounds, with brown hair in a brush cut, blue eyes, straight nose.

## EAR PROTRUDES FARTHER FROM HEAD

Persons who have met Galt, the FBI reported, described him as a loner with a “rural” speech and little schooling, fond of vodka, beer and hillbilly music.

The FBI statement also said, “The fugitive is said to have a nervous habit of occasionally pulling at an ear lobe with his left hand. His left ear protrudes further from his head than his right ear.”

Galt has used the names of John Willard and Harvey Lowmeyer, the FBI said. The assassin registered at the Memphis rooming house under the name of John Willard.

Galt, the FBI said, is the owner of a 1966 white Mustang with Alabama license plates abandoned in Atlanta the day after King was shot to death. The vehicle was left in the parking lot of an apartment project near the Georgia Capitol.

FBI

Date: 4/19/68

- 1. Guy YES
- 2. Reekman YES
- 3. Jeffersonville YES
- 4. Bloomington YES
- 5. Kokomo YES
- 6. Lafayette YES
- 7. Terre Haute YES
- 8. South Bend
- 9. Fort Wayne
- 10. Evansville
- 11. Muncie YES

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES  
 FROM : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)  
 SUBJECT: MURKIN  
 CIVIL RIGHTS  
 (OO: ME)

Re Albany airtels 4/10/68 and 4/11/68, setting forth concerns who purchased Thermo-Seal marking machines, and Bureau teletype to Memphis, 4/12/68.

The FBI Laboratory advised that pillowcase and bed sheet were found in trunk of 1966 white Mustang registered to ERIC STARVO GALT, which was located at Atlanta 4/11/68. These items contain Thermo-Seal laundry tapes of approximately same size as tapes on items previously recovered, but are yellow in color and contain code, "2OR-3." In opinion of Textile Marking Machine Company, Syracuse, New York, the tapes were produced by a different machine than previous tapes since the first three characters are 15 point type and the last two characters are 18 point type,

The Textile Marking Machine Company suggests the twenty in above code would be the lot number, the R may mean that this was a return of a batch of laundry, and the three is the bundle number.

LEADS

ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES

Will recontact laundries determined to be operating Thermo-Seal Marking Machines in an effort to locate laundry using the code, "2OR-3."

2 - All Continental Offices IP  
 2 - Memphis  
 GMR:jms (118)

44-563-93  
 SEARCHED INDEXED  
 SERIALIZED FILED  
 FBI - MEMPHIS  
 APR 22 1968

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: SAC, ALBANY  
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN - COST DATA

ReButel to ME 4/17/68.

For information of all offices, the Bureau by retel requested of the Memphis Division as follows:

"Please furnish following information on above matter compiled or estimated through 4/30/68, and thereafter submit cumulative totals through the end of each month until further notice:

- 1) Number of man hours spent on case broken down as to regular hours, overtime hours, and total man hours by following employees (separate figures for each class of employees shown):
  - A. Special Agents
  - B. Clerical Employees
- 2) Total mileage (estimated or actual) traveled by Bucars used on case. Include mileage for cars traveling to and from other field offices on special assignment and any personally-owned cars.
- 3) Any unusual or out-of-ordinary costs, such as cost of chartering airplane, rental of special office space, leased telephone lines, etc. These should be itemized and cost of each item shown.

① - Each Office IP  
2 - Memphis  
HEG:LF  
(59)

44-563-94  
SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
FBI - MEMPHIS

Approved: RG Jensen  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

ME 44-1987

- 4) Peak number of Special Agents working on case during month for which report is submitted.

You should promptly request all Bureau offices involved in this case to furnish information requested herein to you and it should be included in your report."

Each office is requested to expeditiously furnish the Memphis Division with the above designated data within two work days after the close of each month. Secondly, each office is also requested to advise the Memphis Division even in the event each category is zero or no work is performed on this case during the month.

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AM \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: SAC, ALBANY  
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P  
MURKIN

At about 6 p.m. on 4/4/68, while standing on the second floor balcony outside Room 306 of the Lorraine Motel, 406 Mulberry Street, Memphis, Tennessee, Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. was struck in the right side of the face by a single bullet fired from a 30-06 rifle. The bullet severed KING's spinal cord and death was almost instantaneous.

This investigation, predicated upon a specific request from the Attorney General of the United States, disclosed that the fatal shot had been fired from the bathroom of a cheap rooming house located at 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, which bathroom was located at the rear of the rooming house, and had a window overlooking the Lorraine Motel.

At about 3 p.m. on 4/4/68, an individual using the name JOHN WILLARD had rented Room 5-B in the rooming house at 422½ South Main Street and had paid one week's rent. After hearing the rifle shot at about 6 p.m. on that same day, other tenants in the rooming house observed a man presumably identical with WILLARD, fleeing from the rooming house carrying a large package which was subsequently abandoned by him on the sidewalk in front of the Canipe Amusement Co., 424 South Main Street, Memphis. A neighborhood investigation in the vicinity of 424 South Main Street disclosed that the subject had fled from the scene in a white Mustang.

Found abandoned in front of 424 South Main Street was a 30-06 Remington model 760 rifle which was determined to have been

- 2 ALBANY
- 2 ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES
- 1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN  
(11)

Approved: RG Jensen  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

44-563-95  
SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
MAY 1 1968  
FBI - MEMPHIS

ME 44-1987

sold to one HARVEY LOWMEYER on 3/30/68 by Aeromarine Supply Co., Birmingham, Alabama.

Investigation at Memphis disclosed that an individual had purchased a set of binoculars at the York Arms Company in Memphis on 4/4/68. These binoculars were among the material abandoned with the rifle and recovered in Memphis. Also recovered was a brown and green herringbone bedspread. The items abandoned in Memphis were all wrapped in this bedspread. The blue bag which was inside the bedspread contained numerous items, among which were the binoculars and a set of underwear consisting of a T-shirt and shorts. The T-shirt and shorts are those on which appears the laundry mark which has been a matter of interest in this case.

A search of motel records in the Memphis area disclosed that an individual using the name ERIC S. GALT had spent the night of 4/3/68 at the Rebel Motel, Memphis, Tennessee, and was driving a 1966 white Mustang bearing Alabama License 1-38993. Investigation at Birmingham disclosed that this automobile had been purchased by ERIC S. GALT on August 30, 1968, from a private person in response to a newspaper ad. He paid a total of \$1995 cash. While in Birmingham he furnished the address of 2608 South Highland Avenue, Birmingham. This is also the address which appeared on a driver's license issued to him by the State of Alabama. The driver's license identifying data listed his birth date as [redacted] his height as 5'11", his weight as 170 and his eyes blue and hair brown.

The automobile in question, the white Mustang bearing the Alabama tags mentioned above, was recovered in Atlanta on 4/11/68 and determined to have been abandoned there prior to 9 a.m. on 4/5/68.

In connection with the evidence submitted by Atlanta, Birmingham, and Memphis, identifiable latent prints were recovered. It was on the basis of these latents that identification was made of JAMES EARL RAY. In handling future leads, all offices should be particularly interested in securing an identifying number, military, police, or FBI, in connection with suspects so that the necessary check can be made through the Identification Division.

On 4/17/68, AUSA R. MACEY TAYLOR, Birmingham, authorized the filing of a complaint charging ERIC STARVO GALT with a conspiracy to violate Section 241, Title 18, U. S. Code, and

ME 44-1987

recommended bond in the amount \$50,000. On that same date, SAC JOSEPH H. GAMBLE filed a complaint before USC MILDRED F. SPRAGUE, Birmingham, and warrant was issued that same date.

For further information re JAMES EARL RAY, all offices are directed to press release furnished them by the Bureau on 4/19/68.

**ARMED & DANGEROUS.**

4-18-68

airtel

air mail

To: SAC, Charlotte (44-1365)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

44-563  
88-348<sup>2</sup>  
Reurtel 4-18-68.

Unidentified latent fingerprints and latent impressions  
this case are not identical with fingerprints of ROBERT FRANKLIN  
WILLIAMS, FBI #372 433 F. No palm prints here for Williams.

- 3 - Memphis (44-1987)
- 1 - Atlanta (44-2386)
- 1 - Norfolk
- 1 - Indianapolis

44-563-96  
SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
FBI - INDIANAPOLIS



FBI INDAPOLS

FBI CHICAGO

344PM URGENT 4-22-68 EMS

TO INDIANAPOLIS

FROM CHICAGO (44-1114) 1P

MURKIN

ANONYMOUS MALE TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS ALL OF GARY, INDIANA, ARE REPORTEDLY IN POSSESSION OF INFORMATION CAPTIONED MATTER. DALE BAXTER RESIDES FORTIETH AND TYLER, SHIRLEE MACKOWIAK, RESIDES FORTIETH AND TENNESSEE AND JACK WEISSBACH RESIDES FOUR ONE SIX ZERO BROADWAY.

CALLER STATED THESE INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN BRAGGING THEY HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING KING'S MURDER AND KNOW THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE SUSPECT PRESENTLY BEING SOUGHT. STATED FBI DOES NOT HAVE ACTUAL WEAPON BUT THE WHEREABOUTS OF SUCH WEAPON IS KNOWN TO THE ABOVE TRIO. CALLER DECLINED TO FURNISH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND TERMINATED CALL.

INDIANAPOLIS AT GARY, INDIANA, INTERVIEW THE FOREGOING INDIVIDUALS FOR ANY INFORMATION OF PERTINENCE THEY MIGHT HAVE.

AM COPY MEMPHIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

CORR LN 6 WD 6 WEISSBUCH

END

OJS

FBI INDAPOLS

P

157-88-9  
 " " 45  
 " " 46  
 " " 47  
 " " 302  
 94-  
 157 1A-119  
 157 1B-102  
 etc

157-1-335  
 157-88-20  
 157-1-335

9-1915

CACAP

6-8-2  
 Under

44-563-97

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SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI - INDIANAPOLIS	
Laf	

FBI INDAPOLS

THIS IS RELAY MESSAGE FROM WASH

THIS IS FBI DETROIT CALLING

4:09 PM

356PMURGENT 4/22/68 GJM

TO ALL SACS RELAY MESSAGE PLAN

FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 1P

MURKIN

YOU ARE REMINDED THAT ALL LEADS IN THIS CASE MUST BE COVERED WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS, AND ALL LEADS MUST BE SET FORTH BY TELEPHONE OR TELETYPE. ALL BORDER OFFICES COVERING ENTRY INTO MEXICO AND CANADA AND EXIT THEREFROM SHOULD INSURE THAT APPROPRIATE STOPS ARE MAINTAINED RE SUBJECT AND ALL NAMES KNOWN TO BE USED BY HIM AT RESPECTIVE OFFICES OF U. S. IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PATROL. YOU SHOULD ALSO INSURE THAT PREVIOUS STOPS PLACED WITH ANY FACILITY SHOULD INCLUDE ALL NAMES USED BY THE SUBJECT.

DISTRIBUTE SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES OF WANTED FLYERS AND IO'S TO NARCOTIC INVESTIGATIVE AGENCIES IN ORDER THAT THEIR INFORMANTS MAY BE CONTACTED. YOU SHOULD CONTACT ALL CRIMINAL INFORMANTS AND APPROPRIATE RACIAL AND SECURITY INFORMANTS. LEGATS OTTAWA AND MEXICO CITY BEING ADVISED SEPARATELY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

SCL

FBI INDAPOLS

TUP

44-563-98

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI - INDIANAPOLIS	

*[Handwritten signature]*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, Indianapolis (44-563)

DATE: 4/22/68

FROM : SA Frederick L. Wilt

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka  
MURKIN  
CR

*File to file*

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 23 1968	
FBI - INDIANAPOLIS	

*Wilt*

On 4/20/68 Mrs. Betty Seng, 1133 North 6th St., Lafayette, Indiana (phone 742-2395) advised ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ SAs Frederick L. Wilt and Ronald A. Baradel as follows: At 10:15 PM 4-19-68 she rented Apt. 7, 237-239 S. 4th St., Lafayette, Ind. to one HARRELL VOWELL. He was driving a pickup truck bearing a Michigan license. VOWELL appears similar to JAMES EARL RAY, aka ERIC STARVO GALT.

The following interview was conducted by SAs Frederick L. Wilt and Ronald A. Baradel on 4/21/68: HARRELL GENE VOWELL, Apt. 7, 237-238 South 4th St., Lafayette, Indiana advised that he arrived in Lafayette, Ind. the night of 4/20/68, driving a 1957 Ford pickup truck bearing 1967 Michigan license 4086-EF. He is a cable-splicer by occupation, currently employed by Jackson Communication Co., 19 Wolf Creek Rd., Brookville, Ohio. He came to Lafayette, Ind. at the direction of his employer to perform contract work for General Telephone Co. of Indiana. Through observation, interrogation, and identification it was determined he is not identical with JAMES EARL RAY, aka Eric Starvo Galt.

HARRELL GENE VOWELL is described as white, male, born [redacted] at Zama, Mississippi, 5' 7", 160 lbs., brown eyes, dark brown hair, 2" horizontal scar near hairline on forehead. Served in U.S. Army July, 1955 to 4/24/58 and May, 1959 to May, 1962, ASN RA 19 542 838, permanent address c/o M wife Mrs. Jane Vowell, nee Colegrove, 2670 Hickory Ridge Rd., Lot 96, Milford, Mich., father Oliver Vowell, [redacted] 2349 Crawford St., Las Vegas, Nevada, Social Security # [redacted] Michigan driver's license # V 400 298 275 721.



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan 44-563-99

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Escaped Convict Is

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

The Indianapolis News

Indianapolis, Indiana

Page 1

# King Murder

# Suspect

Date: 4-19-68

Edition:

Author: Managing

Editor: Wendell C.

Title: Phillippi

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Ep

Being Investigated

44-513-100  
SEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_ INDEXED \_\_\_\_\_

SERIALIZED 9 FILED 9

APR 23 1968

FBI - INDIANAPOLIS

n

# Prints Matched By FBI

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The FBI today identified Eric Starvo Galt, sought in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, as James Earl Ray, an escapee from the Missouri State Penitentiary.

A warrant was issued Wednesday for a man identified as Galt in the April 4 sniper slaying of King in Memphis.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said a systematic search of latent fingerprints uncovered in the case against the prints of more than 53,000 persons led to the determination "that Galt and Ray are identical."

Hoover said Ray, 40, was reported missing from the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City April 23, 1967. He had been serving a 20-year sentence for armed robbery.

As Galt, Ray has been the object of a cross-country search which extended into Mexico. He is accused of conspiracy and murder in the assassination of King.

The FBI, in a warrant issued earlier this week, charged Galt and an "alleged brother" with conspiracy in King's slaying.

The FBI released two front and side view photos of Ray apparently taken at the Missouri prison, where he had been an inmate since 1960. It said the photograph had been taken in 1960.

The photograph was identified as that of Ray, also known as Galt, Harvey Lowmyer, John Willard, James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron and James O'Conner.

John Willard was the name used by the man who checked into a Memphis rooming house from which the shot that killed King apparently was fired.

Hoover said Ray had a known arrest record dating back to 1949. Before his 1960 conviction in St. Louis, Ray was convicted of burglary in Los Angeles, 1949; armed robbery in Chicago, 1952; and forging United States postal money orders in Missouri in 1955.

Ray claims to have been born [redacted] in Illinois—but the FBI did not say where. He is about 5-feet-10, weighs 163 to 174 pounds, has blue eyes and brown hair and two scars: A small one on the center of his forehead and another on the palm of his right hand.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Escaped Felon Sought As Galt In King Slaying



(AP Wirephoto)

**JAMES EARL RAY**  
Photo Taken In 1960

Washington (UPI) — The FBI said yesterday that the "Eric Starvo Galt" who was sought across the nation for murdering Dr. Martin Luther King was in fact James Earl Ray, who escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary 51 weeks ago.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said a systematic search of fingerprints uncovered in the case against the prints of more than 53,000 persons led to the determination "that Galt and Ray are identical."

But the announcement raised some perplexing questions. On Wednesday, when Hoover identified Galt as the man sought for conspiracy in the slaying, he said that Galt had taken dancing lessons in New Orleans in 1964 and 1965. But yesterday's FBI



(UPI Telephoto)

**ERIC STARVO GALT**  
Identified As Ray

announcement said Ray was in prison between 1960 and April 23, 1967, when he escaped.

The discrepancy, Federal sources said, arose from an error into the investigation of the background of "Galt."

Ray was sentenced to 20 years on Dec. 18, 1959, on a charge of armed robbery in St. Louis Circuit Court. He and another ex-convict, James Owens, were convicted of robbing a St. Louis supermarket of \$190.

**CONVICTED** by a jury which deliberated 20 minutes, Ray attempted to escape from the court room by jumping into an elevator. He made two unsuccessful attempts to escape from the Missouri penitentiary before he succeeded last year.

The FBI handed out two pictures of Ray taken in 1960. In several ways, they matched pictures of Galt taken in 1968.

In its announcement Wednesday the FBI said a warrant had been filed charging that Galt entered into a conspiracy with "an individual whom he alleged to be his brother." It said the conspiracy "continued until on or about April 5, 1968, to injure, oppress, threaten or intimidate Martin Luther King Jr."

**KING WAS** slain on the porch of a motel in Memphis on April 4. He was shot from ambush by a man in a run-down rooming house across the street. The man escaped in a white Mustang, later found abandoned in Atlanta.

No mention of the alleged brother was made in the new announcement. It was reported Thursday that an informer, co-operating with the FBI led to a belief that King's slayer was in California.

A reliable source told UPI that FBI agents were in communication with Galt's "alleged brother."

Police in Los Angeles said a wanted poster issued by Missouri authorities in the search for Ray as a prison escaper said he had two brothers, John Ray of St. Louis, and Jerry W. Ray of Wheeling, Ill.

Records in Madison County, Ill., said Ray was born to James and Lucy Maker in Alton, Ill.

Records of the Seafarer's International Union at Chicago listed a "J. E. Ray" as a member.

**RAY WAS** identified in the FBI announcement as having used the aliases of Eric Starvo Galt, Harvey Lowmyer, John Willard, James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron and James O'Conner.

The man who checked into the Memphis rooming house a few hours before King was shot used the name James Willard.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

The Indianapolis Star  
Indianapolis, Indiana

Page /

Date: 4-20-68

Edition:

Author:

Editor:

Title:

Managing  
Robert P. Ear

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

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Being Investigated

44-563-101  
SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
APR 23 1968  
FBI - INDIANAPOLIS

The latest development strengthened the theory that King's slayer had carefully created the personality of "Eric Starvo Galt" in the months before the murder in a careful plan to escape after the crime was committed.

Hoover said Ray's criminal record dated back to 1949 when he was convicted of burglary in Los Angeles. He was convicted of armed robbery in Chicago in 1952 and of forging U.S. postal money orders in Missouri in 1955.

He had served time in the Los Angeles County Jail in 1949; in state prisons at Joliet, Ill., and Pontiac, Ill., from 1952 to 1954; and in the Federal Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan., from 1955 to 1958.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Ray, Alias Galt, Put On 'Most Wanted' List

WASHINGTON (AP)—Escaped convict James Earl Ray, sought as the sniper slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was placed on the FBI's "most wanted" list today.

The FBI said yesterday a systematic search of its vast fingerprint files identified the 40-year-old Ray as phantom fugitive Eric Starvo Galt, charged in Tennessee with murdering King April 4.

The FBI action today added formality to what was already fact — the escapee from the Missouri State Penitentiary is the nation's most intensely hunted man in years.

Ray was described as an avid dancer, a high school dropout, an Army reject, a man who likes to drink beer and vodka and who tugs his ears when he's nervous.

In its first positive identification of the man sought by the FBI since the April 4 assassination of King in Memphis, the bureau further pictured Ray as a 40-year-old man in trouble with the law since his youth — and one who "should be considered armed and extremely dangerous."

There was no indication the FBI was any closer to catching Ray than it was Wednesday when it put the name Galt on a fugitive warrant charging him "and an individual whom he alleged to be his brother" with conspiring to deprive King of his civil right to travel

from state to state. Ray fled the Missouri Penitentiary — where he was serving the seventh year of a 20-year sentence for a 1959 market holdup and auto theft in St. Louis — on April 23, 1967.

The FBI said Eric Starvo Galt was one of a string of aliases favored by Ray in frequent brushes with the law beginning when he was 21 years old.

In addition to the aliases John Willard and Harvey Lowmyer listed on the FBI fugitive warrant, the bureau said Ray also has called himself James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron and James O'Connor.

Willard was the name used by the man who checked into a Memphis rooming house overlooking the motel where King was fatally shot.

The FBI has said Eric Starvo Galt purchased a .30-06 rifle in Birmingham five days before the assassination. That rifle, with a telescopic sight



James Earl Ray—alias Eric Starvo Galt.

intact, was recovered outside the rooming house just after the assassination.

Ray was described as 5-foot-10, and 163 to 174 pounds, with brown hair, blue eyes and small scars on his forehead and right palm. His left ear protrudes slightly further than his right ear.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

The Indianapolis News

Indianapolis, Indiana

Page 2

Date: 4-20-68

Edition:

Author:

Editor:

Title:

Managing  
Wendell C.  
Phillippi

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

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Being Investigated

44-563-102

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SERIALIZED 9 FILED 0

APR 23 1968

FBI — INDIANAPOLIS



F B I

Date: 4/22/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
(OO: MEMPHIS)

For the information of receiving offices, Subject JAMES EARL RAY, Aka. was last known to be in the Atlanta, Georgia, area on 4/5/68. Intensive investigation by the Atlanta Office to date has not established mode of transportation utilized by RAY after 4/5/68 through checks with transportation companies, car rental agencies, etc.

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 3 - Bureau       | 2 - Miami         |
| 2 - Baltimore    | 2 - Mobile        |
| 2 - Birmingham   | 2 - Newark        |
| 2 - Charlotte    | 2 - New Orleans   |
| 2 - Chicago      | 2 - New York City |
| 2 - Cincinnati   | 2 - Norfolk       |
| 2 - Cleveland    | 2 - Philadelphia  |
| 2 - Columbia     | 2 - Pittsburgh    |
| 2 - Houston      | 2 - Richmond      |
| 2 - El Paso      | 2 - St. Louis     |
| ② - Indianapolis | 2 - San Antonio   |
| 2 - Jackson      | 2 - Savannah      |
| 2 - Jacksonville | 2 - Springfield   |
| 2 - Kansas City  | 2 - Tampa         |
| 2 - Little Rock  | 2 - WFO           |
| 2 - Louisville   | 2 - Atlanta       |
| 2 - Memphis      |                   |
| 2 - Miami        |                   |

*4/23 memo to  
all agents &  
check of car rental  
files by [signature]*

JJL:rjb  
(69)

44-563-103  
SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
APR 23 1968  
FBI - INDIANAPOLIS

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date:

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

AT 44-2386

All receiving offices are requested to check car recoveries within their respective divisions of cars stolen from the State of Georgia subsequent to 4/4/68, and consider same to have been possible mode of transportation for Subject RAY. The same consideration should be given to any cars recovered in the near future that were stolen from the State of Georgia after 4/4/68. In those instances where cars were stolen from Georgia and where the transporter of same cannot otherwise be accounted for, investigation should be conducted to determine if RAY was person who may have stolen and transported same.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- 2 -

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

4/23/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM SAC, INDIANAPOLIS (44-563) (mc).

MURKIN  
OO: ME

Re CG teletype to ME, 4/22/68.

JACK WEISBUCH, 3845 Jefferson; DALE BAXTER, 4136 Tyler; and SHIRLEY MACKOWIAK, 4057 Tennessee, all of Gary, Indiana, contacted and denied having any knowledge concerning murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. nor any knowledge concerning the weapon used in this murder.

2- Memphis  
1- Chicago (Info) (44-1114)  
②- Indianapolis

DHL:dla  
(5) *dla*

*[Handwritten scribble]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten signature]*  
SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED

44-563-164

# DECODED COPY

Radio

Teletype

4/23/67

TO: ALL OFFICES

FROM: DIRECTOR WA 222114 GR 199

MURKIN

REBMEIRTEL TO ALL OFFICES APRIL ONE NINE LAST FURNISHING BACKGROUND DATA CONCERNING JAMES EARL RAY.

SUBJECT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED POSSIBLE SUSPECT IN ANY UNSOLVED BANK ROBBERIES, BURGLARIES OR ARMED ROBBERIES (POSSIBLE ITSP VIOLATIONS) OCCURRING AFTER APRIL TWO THREE ONE NINE SIX SEVEN. RAY SHOULD ALSO BE CONSIDERED SUSPECT IN ANY FUTURE SUCH VIOLATIONS AND BUREAU ADVISED TELEPHONICALLY OF ANY POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION.

ANY PERTINENT LEADS DEVELOPED DURING REVIEW OF PAST VIOLATIONS SHOULD BE EXPEDITIOUSLY RUN OUT AND BUREAU ADVISED.

SUBJECT'S HANDWRITING AND MANDPRINTING NOT IDENTIFIED IN BANK ROBBERY NOTE FILE AND HIS FINGERPRINTS ~~XXXX~~ ARE BEING SEARCHED AGAINST LATENTS SUBMITTED IN UNSOLVED BANK ROBBERY AND BURGLARY VIOLATIONS.

SUBJECT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

*Office to  
memo to  
all agents  
re above  
4/24/68*

*Tiler  
@ desk*

REC'D: JR  
DECODED: DFS

44-563-105

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 25 1968	
FBI - INDIANAPOLIS	

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

FBI INDAPOLS

FBI NEW YORK

5:40 PM URGENT 4-23-68 AWS

TO INDIANAPOLIS

FROM NEW YORK 44-1609

MURKIN; CIVIL RIGHTS; OO- ME.

RE ORVILLE D. EWING.

AN ANONYMOUS MALE TELEPHONICALLY FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO THE NEW YORK OFFICE.

DURING INCARCERATION AT TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA, HE WORKED WITH ORVILLE D. EWING IN THE PRISON LIBRARY. EWING WAS RELEASED FROM PRISON DECEMBER, NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE AFTER HAVING SERVED APPROXIMATELY TWENTY SIX MONTHS OF A THREE YEAR FEDERAL SENTENCE FOR BANKRUPTCY FRAUD. EWING IS BELIEVED TO BE CURRENTLY CONDUCTING A USED CAR OPERATION IN RICHMOND, INDIANA. JAMES EARL RAY WAS FRIENDLY WITH EWING AND AT ONE TIME DATED EWING'S DAUGHTER IN ALTON, ILLINOIS.

ANONYMOUS MALE STATED THAT AN INTERVIEW OF EWING MIGHT BE OF SOME VALUE IN LOCATING RAY.

END PAGE ONE

*Admitted*

*Removal advised  
w/ Donald [unclear]*

44-563-104

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 23 1968	
FBI - INDIANAPOLIS	

*J. [unclear]*

PAGE TWO

IP AT RICHMOND AND TERRE HAUTE CONDUCT APPROPRIATE  
INVESTIGATION TO IDENTIFY, LOCATE AND INTERVIEW ORVILLE D.  
EWING.

ME ADVISED BY AM.

RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

IP...GWK

FBI INDAPOLS

P

FBI INDAPOLS

FBI BIRMGHAM

555 PM URGENT 4-23-68 GDM

TO DIRECTOR (44-30861) CHARLOTTE AND INDIANAPOLIS  
FROM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

MURKIN.

BIRMINGHAM IN CONSIDERING OBTAINING STATEWIDE CIRCULATION OF PHOTOGRAPH AND PRESS RELEASE TO BARBER SHOPS LOCATED IN THE STATE OF ALABAMA, ON THIS DATE CONTACTED WILLIAM R. SMITH, SECRETARY, LOCAL EIGHTYTHREE, JOURNEYMAN BARBERS, HAIRDRESSERS, COSMETOLOGISTS AND PROPRIETORS INTERNATIONAL UNION OF AMERICA, BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA, WHO ADVISED THAT NO LOCAL IN ALABAMA DISTRIBUTES ANY PUBLICATIONS TO BARBERS OR BARBER SHOPS IN THE STATE OF ALABAMA. HE ADVISED THAT THE INTERNATIONAL UNION LOCATED ONE ONE FOUR ONE NORTH DELAWARE STREET, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, PUBLISHES MONTHLY THE JOURNEYMAN BARBER, WHICH IS DISTRIBUTED TO EVERY MEMBER OF THE INTERNAIONAL WITHIN THE UNITED STATES. SMITH FURTHER STATED THAT THE ASSOCIATED MASTER BARBERS AND BEAUTICIANS OF AMERICA, NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, TWO ONE NINE GREENWICH ROAD, CHARLOTTE, N. C., PUBLISHES MONTHLY THE MASTER BARBER AND BEAUTICIAN MAGAZINE WHICH IS DISTRIBUTED TO EVERY BARBER

END PAGE ONE

*Felles  
advised*

44-563-107

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APR 23 1968	
FBI - INDIANAPOLIS	

*[Signature]*

PAGE TWO

SHOP OWNER WITHIN THE UNITED STATES.

IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THE BUREAU GIVE CONSIDERATION TO HAVING A PHOTOGRAPH AND ARTICLE ON JAMES EARL RAY PUBLISHED IN THE ABOVE MAGAZINES, AND SUCH ARTICLE SHOULD BE OF A CONDENSED VERSION OF PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY BUREAU ON RAY.

IF BUREAU APPROVES SUCH PUBLICATION, INDIANAPOLIS SHOULD CONTACT JOSEPH N. DE PAOLA, MANAGING EDITOR OF JOURNEYMAN BARBER, INTERNATIONAL UNION OF AMERICA, INDIANAPOLIS; AND CHARLOTTE SHOULD CONTACT THOMAS H. BROUGHTON, EDITOR OF THE MASTER BARBER AND BEAUTICIAN MAGAZINE AT NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS OF THE ASSOCIATION, CHARLOTTE, N.C.

MEMPHIS ADVISED BY AIRMAIL.

END

GWK

FBI INDAPOLS

P



FBI INDAPOLS

FBI PITTSBGH

10:22PM URGENT 4-23-68 ERC  
TO INDIANAPOLIS AND RICHMOND (44-657)  
FROM PITTSBURGH (44-578)

MURKIN

RE PITTSBURGH TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR FOUR TWENTYTHREE INSTANT  
AND RICHMOND TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR FOUR TWENTYTHREE INSTANT.

FOR INFORMATION INDIANAPOLIS AND RICHMOND, CHARLES WILLIAM  
MOATES, JR., LOCATED FOUR TWENTYTWO LAST, AT DIXIE HOTEL, WESTON,  
W.VA. HE SUPPLIED SUFFICIENT INFORMATION TO IDENTIFY HIM AS  
PERSON MENTIONED RE CLEVELAND TELETYPE. MOATES EMPLOYED ON AN  
ORE BOAT "MIDDLETON" OUT OF TOLEDO, OHIO, THREE ELEVEN THROUGH  
FOUR EIGHTEEN LAST. FROM DESCRIPTION AND IDENTIFICATION IN HIS  
POSSESSION, MOATES DETERMINED AS NOT IDENTICAL WITH SUBJECT  
THIS CASE.

END...

GWK

FBI INDAPOLS

P

*Teller  
Krus*

44-563-108

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 23 1968	
FBI - INDIANAPOLIS	

*Heister*

FBI INDPOLS

FBI RICHMOND

704PM URGENT 4/23/68 ECS

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), INDIANAPOLIS, MEMPHIS (44-1987),  
PITTSBURGH (44-578), WFO (44-703)  
FROM RICHMOND (44-657) 3P

MURKIN - CR (OO:ME)

RE CV TEL TO BUREAU, APRIL TWENTY LAST, AND WFO TEL CALL  
TO ALEXANDRIA RA, APRIL TWENTYONE LAST.

RE: CHARLES MOATS - LOOK ALIKE

FOR INFO INDIANAPOLIS: RETEL REFLECTS MANAGER AND CLERK  
OF AKERS FOLKMAN TRAVEL AGENCY, CLEVELAND, OHIO, ADVISED WHITE  
MALE, BELIEVED TO BE IDENTICAL TO SUBJECT RAY, ENTERED THEIR  
OFFICE APRIL EIGHTEEN LAST, USING NAME CHARLES MOATS, BOTH  
BELIEVED MOATS TO BE IDENTICAL WITH PHOTO IN NEWSPAPERS AND  
THOSE EXHIBITED BY AGENTS. MOATS DESIRED TO FLY TO CLARKSBURG,  
WEST VA., IN A HURRY, DID NOT CARE ABOUT STOPS EN ROUTE.  
TRAVEL AGENCY ARRANGED TICKETS FOR MOATS FOR NORTHWEST AIRLINES  
FLIGHT THREE TWO SIX, FLYING NONSTOP TO WASH. NATL. AIRPORT (WNA)  
APRIL EIGHTEEN LAST, AND WAS GIVEN TRANSFER FOR LAKE CENTRAL  
AIRLINES FLIGHT FIVE THREE FOUR, FROM WNA TO CLARKSBURG, W.VA.,  
DEPARTING WNA AT ONE FIFTYFIVE P.M., AND ARRIVING CLARKSBURG,  
THREE TWELVE P.M.

END PAGE ONE

*Handwritten initials*

44-563-10<sup>13</sup>

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 23 1968	
FBI - INDIANAPOLIS	

*Handwritten signature*

PAGE TWO

RH 44-657

MANAGER OF TRAVEL AGENCY ADVISED MOATS INDICATED HE ARRIVED CLEVELAND VIA BUS. SUSPECT DESCRIBED FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SIXTYFIVE TO ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY LBS., DARK HAIR, MEDIUM BUILD, AGE MID THIRTIES, CLEAN SHAVEN, BEARING SCAR APPROXIMATELY ONE-HALF INCH IN MIDDLE OF FOREHEAD, CURVING TOWARDS LEFT EYE AND ENDING APPROXIMATELY ONE INCH ABOVE LEFT EYE. SUSPECT WEARING DARK TWEED SPORTS COAT, SPORT SHIRT OPEN AT NECK, NO HAT. JACKET VERY CRUMPLED AND IN NEED OF CLEANING. SUSPECT SPOKE WITH HILLBILLY ACCENT BUT USED GOOD ENGLISH. APPEARED VERY NERVOUS.

ON APRIL TWENTYFIRST LAST, LAKE CENTRAL AIRLINES EMPLOYEE, MISS KATHY PETRUSKA, ADVISED TICKETS FROM LAKE CENTRAL FLIGHT FIVE THREE FOUR NOT FULLY CLEARED TO DATE. EXPECTED TO BE CLEARED BY APRIL TWENTYTWO LAST.

ON APRIL TWENTYTHREE INSTANT, MISS PETRUSKA ADVISED FINAL TICKETS CLEARED OFFICE AND CONFIRMED PASSENGER CHARLES MOATS ON LAKE CENTRAL FLIGHT FIVE THREE, FOUR FROM WNA TO CLARKSBURG, W.VA. END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

RH 44-657

ON APRIL TWENTYTHREE INSTANT, LAKE CENTRAL AIRLINES SUPERVISOR EUGENE L. ADAMS, ADVISED CREW OF LAKE CENTRAL FLIGHT FIVE THREE FOUR STATIONED IN INDIANAPOLIS AND WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW IN INDIANAPOLIS THROUGH LAKE CENTRAL AIRLINES, WEIR COOK AIRPORT. HE ADVISED CAPTAIN OF FLIGHT TO BE JOHN COLESCOTT; FIRST OFFICER, M. R. BENNETT; AND STEWARDESS, CHERYL SHAEFER.

INDIANAPOLIS: EXHIBIT PHOTOS OF RAY TO CREW IN ORDER TO EFFECT IDENTIFICATION.

PITTSBURGH: FURTHER IDENTIFY MOATS AT AIRPORT, CLARKSBURG W. VA., THROUGH LAKE CENTRAL AIRLINES.

END

GWK

FBI INDAPOLS

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (44-38861)

DATE: 4/19/68

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (44-760)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Enclosed to the Bureau are six copies and to each office one copy of the following photographs:

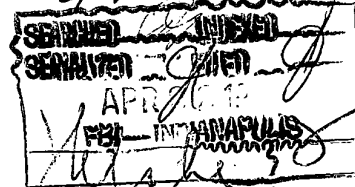
JAMES EARL RAY, Missouri Department of Correction #00416, dated 3/17/60 and 9/8/66

WALTER TERRY RIFE, Kansas City SO #29636  
FBI #4558766

Stand up photographs of RAY on the left, Kansas City SO #29637 and RIFE, Kansas City SO 29236, taken 3/28/55.

- 2 - Bureau (Encs. 24) (AM)
- 2 - Each Field Office (Encs. 4) (AM)
- 2 - Kansas City  
(120)

*Indianapolis*



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : All Investigative Personnel

DATE: 4/23/68

FROM : SAC, Indianapolis (44-563)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

CR

OO: Memphis

Re: JAMES EARL RAY

Subject's mode of transportation after 4/5/68, is not established. Accordingly Atlanta requests that all car recoveries within this division stolen from the State of Georgia subsequent to 4/4/68 and consider same to have been possible mode of transportation for subject. The same consideration should be given to any cars recovered in the near future that were stolen from the State of Georgia after 4/4/68.

Those incidences where cars were stolen from Georgia and where the transporter of same cannot otherwise be accounted for, investigation should be conducted to determine if RAY was the person who may have stolen and transported same.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- 1 - Indianapolis
- 1 - All Investigative Personnel
- 1 - 66-3

PJF:car  
OM #184

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED

FBI - INDIANAPOLIS

44-563-111

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

4-23-68 307 HJC

The following FBI record, NUMBER 405 942 G, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY. Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. WHERE FINAL DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE IS DESIRED, COMMUNICATE WITH AGENCY CONTRIBUTING THOSE FINGERPRINTS.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Army	James Earl Ray #16 163 129	February 19, 1946		
Sheriff's Office Los Angeles, California	James Earl Ray #B-119908	October 11, 1949	suspicion of burglary	
Police Department Los Angeles, California	James Earl Ray #139648	October 11, 1949	suspicion 459 Penal Code (burglary)	8 months County Jail suspended; 2 years probation served; first 90 days County Jail; 146 December 30, 1949 Csl29438
Sheriff's Office Cedar Rapids, Iowa	James E. Ray #5937	April 18, 1950	vagrancy	
Police Department Alton, Illinois	James Earl Ray #7514	July 23, 1951	no operator's license - no State License - no City License	released to pay later
Police Department Chicago, Illinois	James Ray #D90696	May 6, 1952	robbery (Gun)	Grand Jury \$3000
Cook County Jail Chicago, Illinois	James Ray #131165	May 9, 1952	robbery	June 13, 1952 sentenced to penitentiary 1 to 2 years
State Penitentiary Joliet, Illinois	James E. Ray #32419	June 13, 1952	robbery	1 to 2 years
State Penitentiary Pontiac, Illinois	James E. Ray #19121	July 7, 1952 in transfer from Joliet	robbery	1 to 2 years March 12, 1954 discharged

44-563-112  
*[Handwritten signature]*

Notations indicated by \* are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**  
**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**  
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

4-23-68 307 HJC

2

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CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Sheriff's Office Edwardsville, Illinois	James Earl Ray #2640	August 30, 1954	burglary and larceny	
Police Department Hannibal, Missouri	James E. Ray #40714	March 23, 1955	investigation of breaking and entering Post Office	
State Highway Patrol Macon, Missouri	James Earl Ray #B-3376	March 23, 1955	cashing stolen postal money orders	released to Postal Inspector Kansas City, Missouri March 24, 1955
United States Marshal Kansas City, Missouri	James Earl Ray #12018	March 28, 1955	forgery United States Postal Money Order	sentenced to 15 months custody of Attorney General
Sheriff's Office Kansas City, Missouri	James Earl Ray #29637	March 28, 1955	Forgery - Government	July 7, 1955 3 years and 9 months
United States Penitentiary Leavenworth, Kansas	James Earl Ray #72498-L	July 7, 1955	Post Office Laws Forgery Money Orders	3 years and 9 months May 20, 1958 conditional release March 31 1959 maximum April 5, 1958 conditional release on charge of Post Office forgery Post Office Money Orders
Police Department Saint Louis, Missouri	James Earl Ray #81071	October 10, 1959	suspicion of robbery	

Notations indicated by \* are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover  
Director



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

4-23-68 307 HJC

3

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CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Police Department Saint Louis, Missouri	James Earl Ray #81071	October 16, 1959	suspicion of robbery stealing and fugitive other authorities	
State Penitentiary Jefferson City, Missouri	James Earl Ray #00416	March 17, 1960	"TC" operating motor vehicle without permission of owner robbery first "b/m DDW" (2 charges)	20 years (20, 7, 5, concurrent)
State Hospital Number 1 Fulton, Missouri	James Earl Ray #37045 C-5	September 8, 1966	Patient	

Notations indicated by \* are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover  
 Director

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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4-23-68 307 HJC

4

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CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
	WANTED: James Earl Ray for escape April 23, 1967 (operating motor vehicle without permission of owner; robbery first degree "b/m of a D & DW") (will extradite) Notify Warden State Penitentiary Jefferson City, Missouri information received May 10, 1967.			

Notations indicated by \* are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover  
 Director