

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

5/10/55
 J. Edgar Hoover
 Director

538 765

The following FBI record, NUMBER **538 765**, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
PD Evansville Ind SO Quincy Ill St Paul Vandalia Ill	Vernon Elms Rife #12071 Walter Rife #-- Walter Rife #20075	12-5-43 3-3-44 4-8-44	inv D of motor veh temp with mch veh	Arrest \$1500 bond to Cir Ct 1 yr: 3-3-45 final check per \$1000 bond
PD Hannibal Mo St Hwy Patrol Macon Mo USDS Fort Leavenworth Kans PD Quincy Ill	Walter Terry Rife #27520 Walter Terry Rife #2-9375 Walter Rife #15053 Walter T. Rife #--	4-29-47 8-5-47 12-5-47 2-28-51	deserter from Army escape from USDF Ft Leavenworth Kans desertion bad checks	ret to Army rel to Fed Auth 6-8-47 5 yrs rel to Dep Sheriff of DeCATur Ill
SO Decatur Ill PD DeCATur Ill SO Newark Ill St Hwy Patrol Macon Mo	Walter T. Rife #39302 Walter Terry Rife #7828-A Walter Rife #22574 Walter Terry Rife #3-3376	3-1-51 3-6-51 10-4-51 3-23-55	forged check forg forg cashing stolen postal money orders	1-14 yr 1-18-55 per rel to Postal Insp Kans City Mo 3-24-55
USM Kans City Mo SO Kans City Mo	Walter T. Rife #12019 Walter Terry Rife #29636	3-28-55 3-28-55	forg US Postal Money Order forg govt	

ADD CHANGE

Notations indicated by * ARE NOT BASED ON FINGERPRINTS IN FBI files. The notations are based on data furnished this Bureau concerning individuals of the same or similar names or aliases and ARE LISTED ONLY AS INVESTIGATIVE LEADS.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-02 BY SP1 CLK/ld

FBI No. 44-760-1A2 ①

Date Received 4/24/68

From William J. T. Wellington
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)

Federal Pen
(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)

Leavenworth, Mo
(CITY AND STATE)

By SA W.N. Owsley
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)

To Be Returned Yes
 No

Receipt given Yes
 No

Description:
Letter dated 4/18/68
from Maurice Block
to J.T. Wellington

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-22-02 BY SPICKER

File No. 44-160-1A2 (8)

Date Received 4/23/68

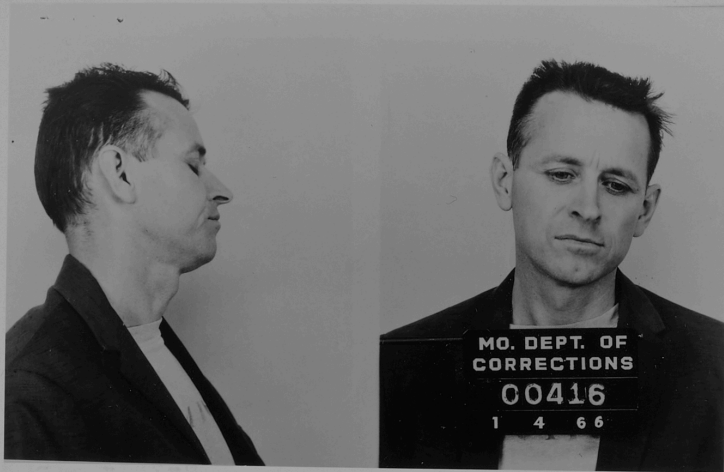
From MSP
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)

Jeff City Mo
(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)
(CITY AND STATE)

By SA Rowe
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)

To Be Returned Yes No
Receipt given Yes No

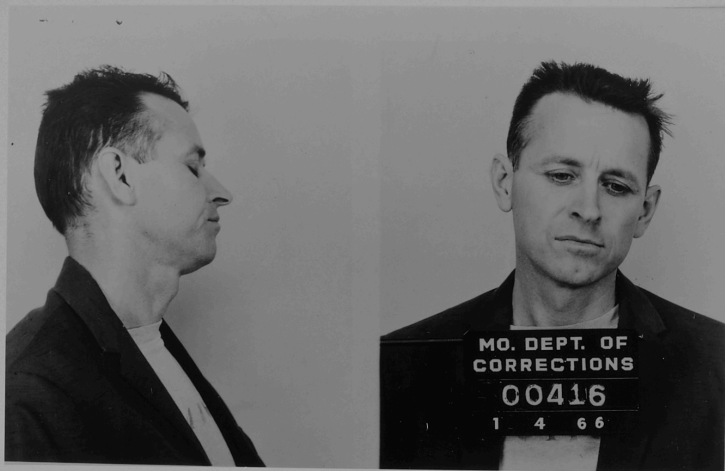
Description:
Photo of James Earl Ray



2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

JAMES EARL RAY
KC 44-760-1a2-8

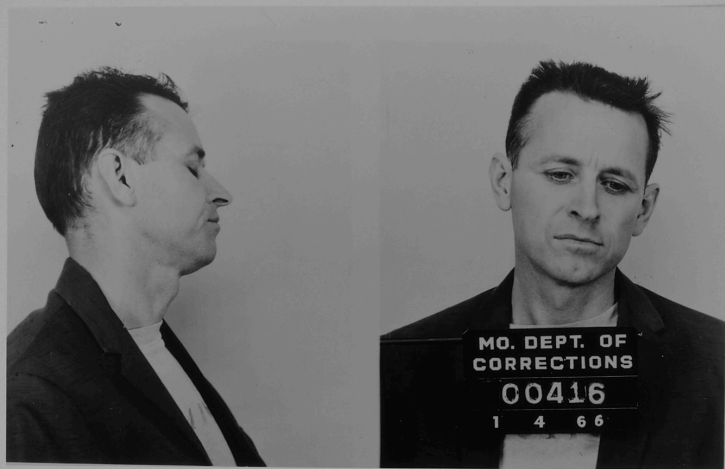
2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



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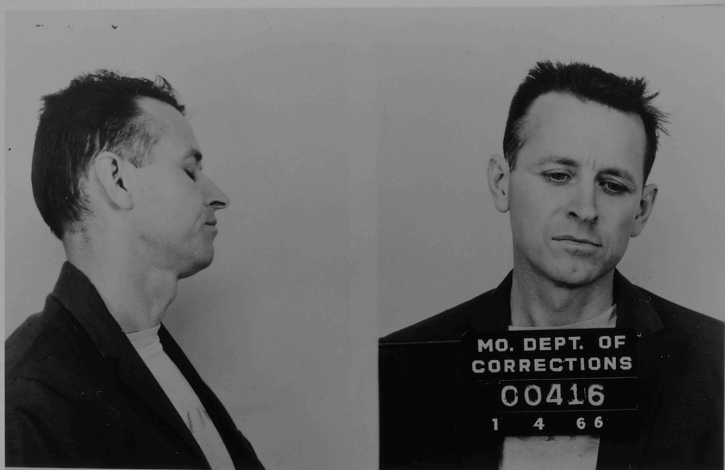
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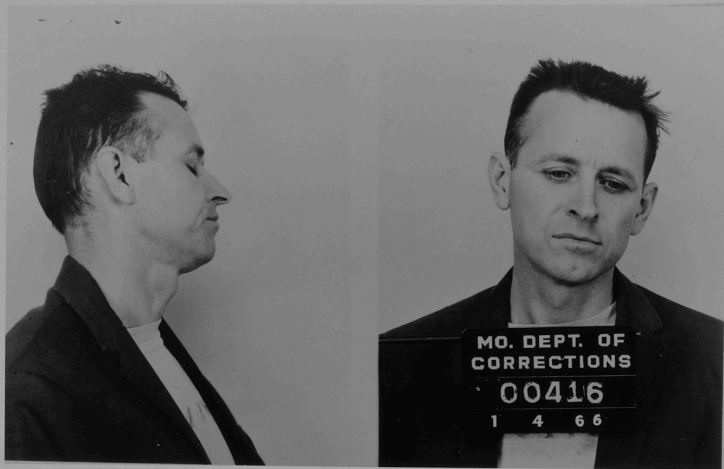
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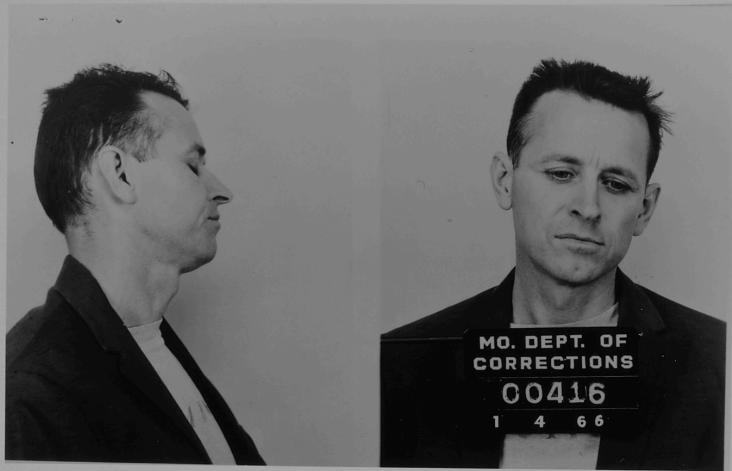
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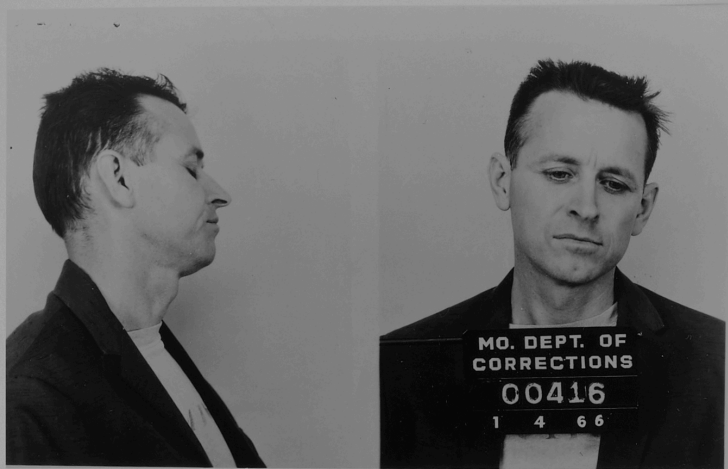


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JAMES EARL RAY

KC 44-760-1A 2

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JAMES EARL RAY

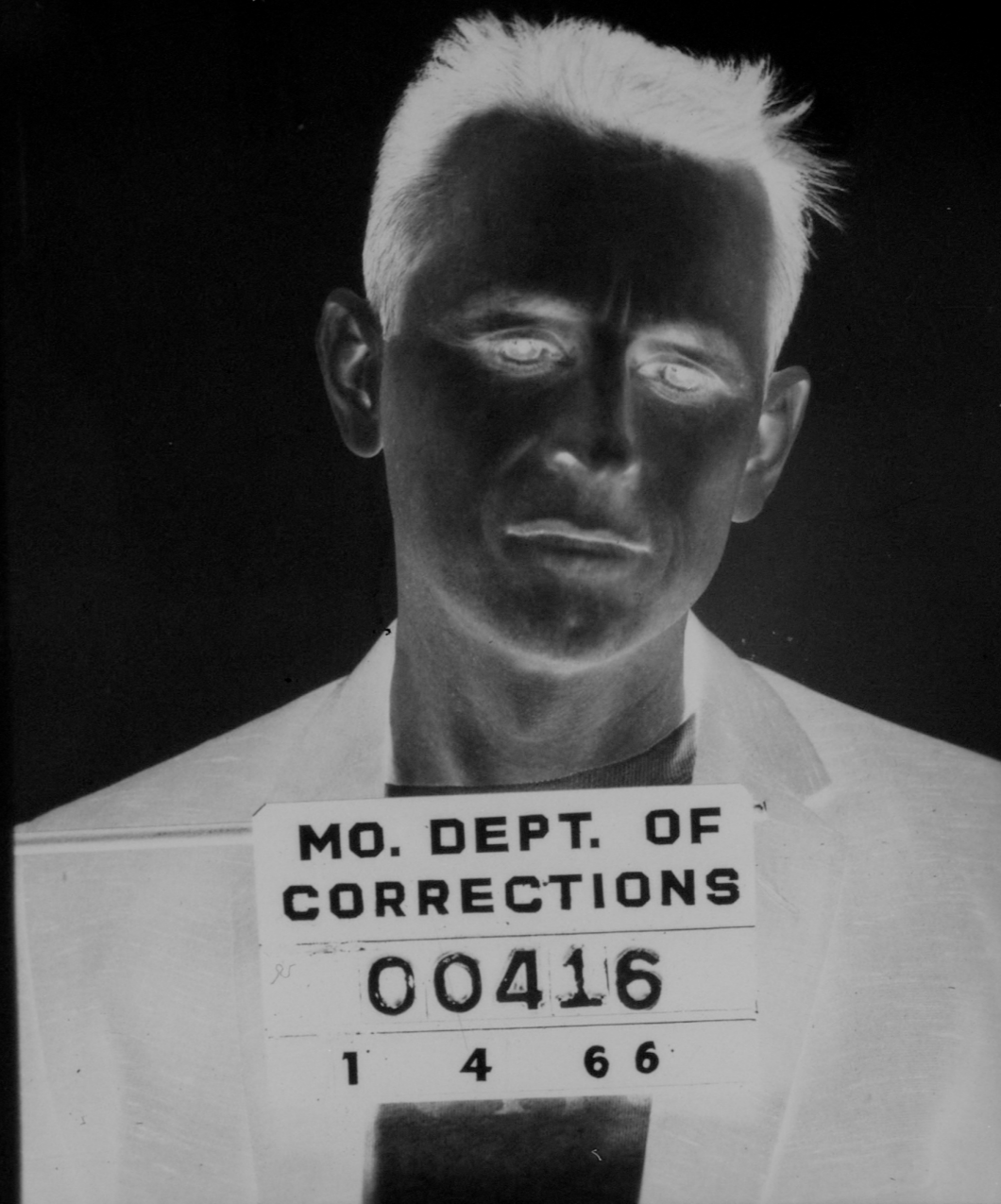
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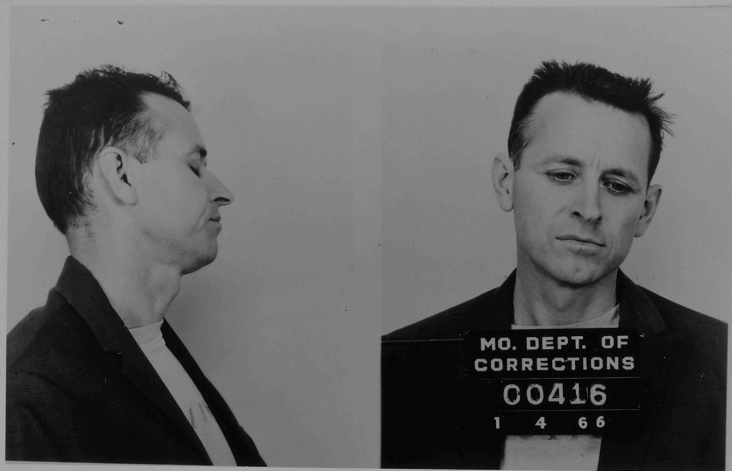
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CORRECTIONS

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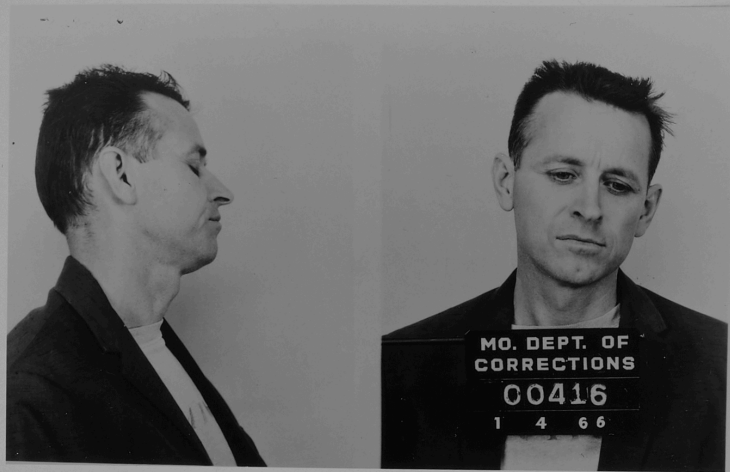
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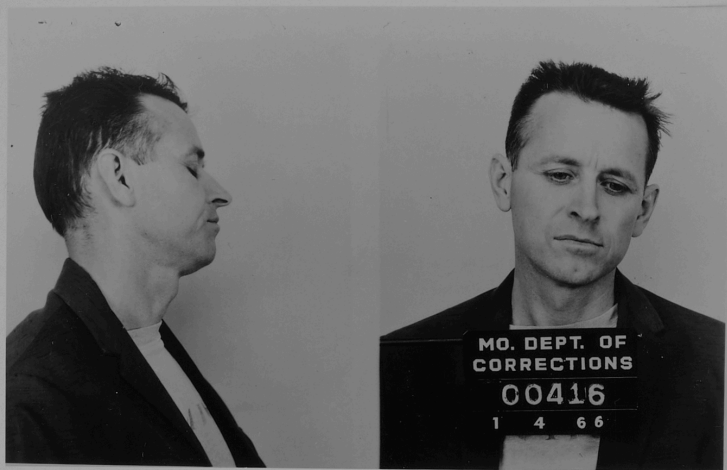
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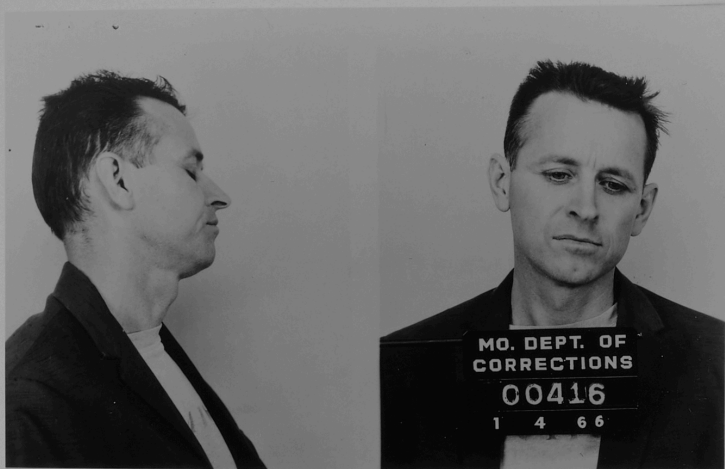
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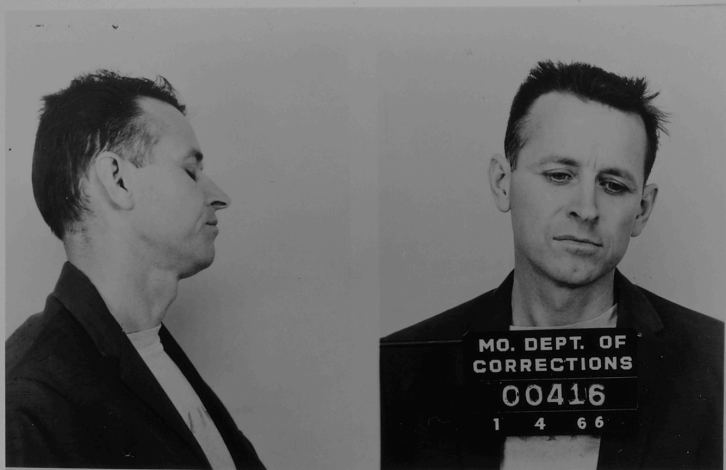
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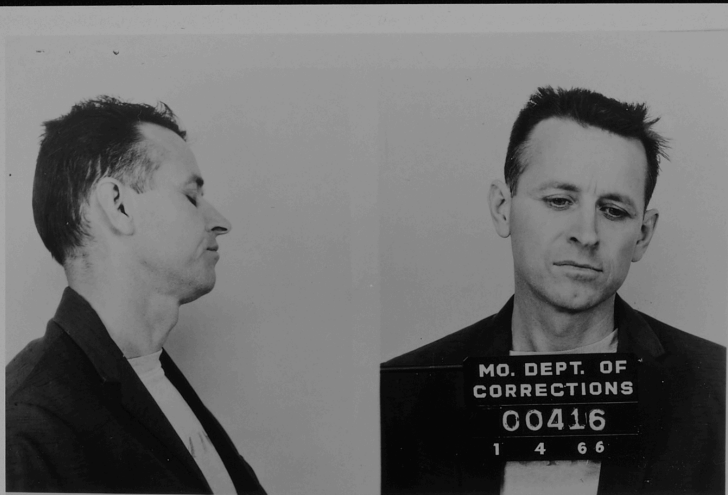
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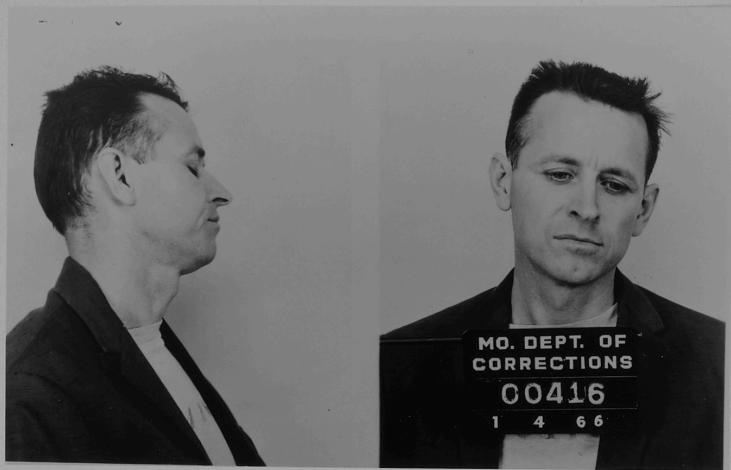
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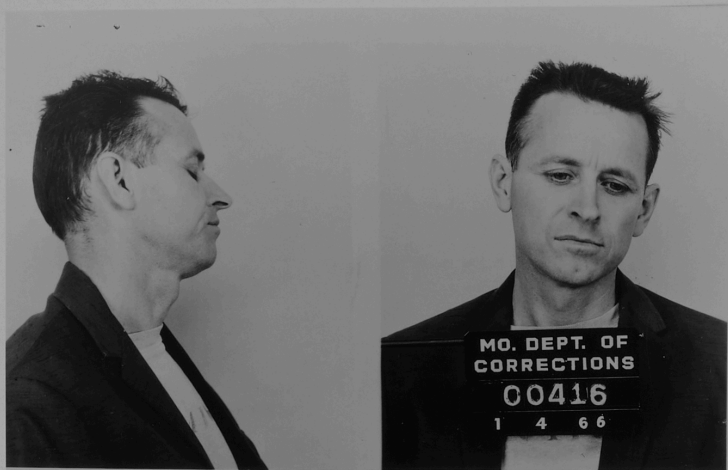
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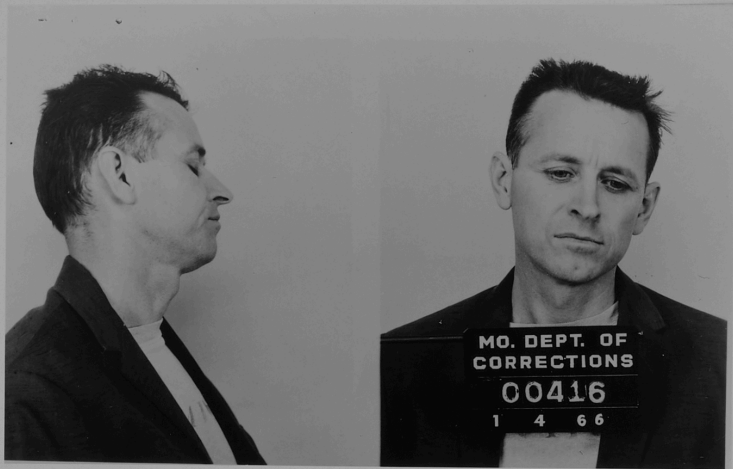
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JAMES EARL RAY

KC 44-760-1a2-8

KEEP ATTACHED TO EXHIBIT

KC 44-760-1A2 ⑨

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

April - 21 - 68

Warden

Mr G. J. Willingham:

Sir:

I am not seeking favor, but feel I owe someone a favor; so if you would I'd appreciate it if you would see to it that this message reach Mr J. S. Melton, Federal Bureau of Investigation; K. C. Mo.

#

#

#

Warden H. Swenson, of Jefferson City, Penn was wrong in his statement concerning the man James Earl Ray - they said, may be the killer of Dr Martin L. King. He (Ray) did have two very near and dear friends - that helped him get out in the Bread Box. I worked with them all and was somewhat trusted; plus, Ray - did indeed have deep racial feelings. There is a colored Lt, name Billy Bob who Ray said should be dead.

The two men who he trusted and worked with - are: Bob, Pennell; and I heard him say he wanted Ray to go to Doe Run Mo, and beat up a woman name Frankie Barbara. Bob, also is a deep feeling guy. The other - is G. R. Russee, whom I think was from Farmington Mo.

Sir, I don't know if this will help any. But I

know that Bob and Ray use to do a lot of off
in the dark talking:

In order Willingham, please, don't feel I am at-
tempting to go over your head; I wouldn't mind
telling you this in person first. but I was
once burnt pretty bad in the 1950's - over a food
strike in here I tried to keep head off - plus
I don't know any more about it - than this.

Thanks.

P. O. Box 1000
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS 66048

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Warden

J. J. Willingham

*# personal
and*

Very important

18

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-22-12 BY SPICKARD

File No. 44-760-1A2(c)

Date Received 7/26/78

From IRL DAY
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)

Warden
(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)

USPL
(CITY AND STATE)

WALTER A. WITSCHART
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)

To Be Returned Yes
 No

Receipt Given Yes
 No

Description:

envelope/ltr to
Warden from
Roy G. KUCP

KEEP ATTACHED TO EXHIBIT
KC 44-760-1A2(10)

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Aug. 1, 1978

Warden,
Federal Penitentiary
Leavenworth, Ks.

NOTED

AUG 07 1978

IRL E. DAY WARDEN

Sir:

For what it may be worth - James Earl Ray
escaped from Mo. State Pen at Jefferson City in 1967.

Informant - J. J. Hull, Sheriff's Office (~~Barber~~^{Morgan}
County, Mo.) Versailles, Mo., 1967.

Witness - Policeman named Sonny.

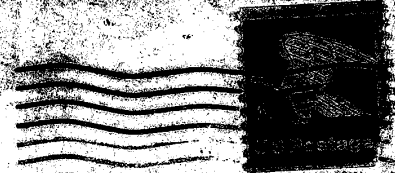
Signed

Roy H. Kulp

Gen. Del.

Lewiston, Idaho 83501

J. J. Hull could have been involved in Stringbean -
New Hawt (1974) - Re Nashville, Tenn. Police Dept.



Warden,
Federal Penitentiary,
Leavenworth,
Kansas



2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

L44-760

Sub Sec.

Vol. 1

1A thru 1A2