

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/2/68

Mr. DONALD PARNELL, Credit Department, Shell Oil Company, Los Angeles, advised the records of his company reflected a credit card in the name of HAROLD J. THOMES, however the records reflected no activity, and no charges, on this card within the last six to eight months.

Mr. PARNELL stated if he learned anything further concerning THOMES, he would advise the Los Angeles office of the FBI.

On 5/2/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-Q-311  
by SA LLOYD D. JOHNSON Date dictated 5/2/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date May 1, 19681

ANN MARIE CONDON, photographer, 7557 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California, advised that on Sunday April 28, 1968, she and her escort picked up a hitchhiker on Santa Monica Boulevard and drove him as far as the Hollywood Bowl on Highland Avenue, Hollywood. This was about 1:30 AM that date.

She recalled that he had indicated that he was en route here from the mid-western part of the United States and that his car had broken down in the Pomona area, that he had no money, but was attempting to return there to see if he could get his car fixed. She recalled that he had indicated that he was a school teacher by profession, but that he was seeking work in any position that might be available.

She described this person as white, male, over 6', about 200 pounds, light blonde hair, blue eyes, fair complexion, and that he combed his hair back and slightly to the side.

She recalled that he was wearing a dark blue-grey sports jacket, a checkered shirt and grey pants. She stated that the only luggage that he carried appeared to be a small box similar to that housing an electric shaver.

She stated that on Monday April 30, 1968, she saw pictures in "Life" magazine which reminded her of the person that she and her escort had picked up on April 28, 1968.

She was shown pictures of JAMES EARL RAY and indicated that they were not identical to the hitchhiker previously mentioned.

On 5/1/68 at Hollywood, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-D-312  
by SA WALTER M. BRADY/dey 5/1/68  
mmh Date dictated

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/25/68

WILLIS KING, 1429 East 67th Street, Los Angeles, employed at Valley Brass Company, 3141 North Maxson Road, was interviewed at his place of employment and furnished the following information:

KING a special police officer, who works at the C and P Town Hill Club, 9527 South Main Street, Los Angeles, on Friday and Saturday nights. KING is employed by JOANN and ROBERT WATKINS who are the owners of the C and P Club.

KING advised that when he first saw the artist's conception of ERIC STARVO GALT in the newspaper he believed that he had seen a person resembling GALT in the C and P Town Hill Club. KING thought that he had seen GALT in the club sometime during December 1966 and January 1967. KING advised that he did not think that he had seen a person resembling the artist's conception of GALT in the club later than January 1967.

On 4/24/68 at Van Nuys, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574 8-313  
by SA WILLIAM S. BURTON/gk Date dictated 4/25/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/6/68

Mr. ROY V. BARNETT, 9141 Alondra (Hacienda Motor Courts), contacted the Los Angeles Office on April 20, 1968, and stated that the man who resides in the trailer court directly behind him fits the description of the man that the FBI is seeking for the killing of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr.

On April 29, 1968, Mr. ROY V. BARNETT, same address as above, was contacted and he advised that he had seen additional pictures of subject ERIC S. GALT, also known as James Earl Ray, and now felt that his neighbor mentioned above did not meet the description of GALT or RAY.

On 4/29/68 at Bellflower, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-10314  
by SA JOHN W. WHALEY/cag Date dictated 5/8/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/30/68

NELLIE WEBSTER, Manager of the apartment house at 932 South Irolo, Los Angeles, California, advised that about a year ago a man came looking for a furnished apartment and she showed him one but he did not appear interested and did not take it. He walked westerly when leaving the premises and she saw him with no car. He was alone and is described as follows:

|               |                                     |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Name          | Unknown                             |
| Race          | White                               |
| Age           | About 29-30                         |
| Height        | 5'4"                                |
| Weight        | About 150                           |
| Hair          | Black, cut in ordinary haircut      |
| Build         | Broadshouldered                     |
| Address       | Unknown                             |
| Clothing      | Dark blue suit, black shoes         |
| Miscellaneous | Appeared nervous; wore dark glasses |

Mrs. WEBSTER said that she had not seen this man since, did not know who he is and did not know anyone who knows him. Upon being shown the Wanted Notice for JAMES EARL RAY, she said that this man is definitely not identical with RAY. She said that she had made mention of this man, since the KING murder, to a neighbor across the street but had not mentioned him as a suspect in that case but rather had mentioned him as possibly the prowler they had had in the neighborhood.

Mrs. WEBSTER further advised that she has seen, off and on, for about four months a man, name and address and occupation unknown, who parks his car in a garage facing San Marino Street, and located between Irolo Street and Normandie Avenue, Los Angeles. She said that she had previously thought that he appeared to resemble the profile sketch of the suspect in the KING murder which she had seen in the paper, however, at that time he had not been seen.

On 4/26/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-D-315  
by SA ALBERT N. CARLBLOM/fem Date dictated 4/26/68

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without dark glasses. Mr. WEBSTER advised that since then she has seen this man without the dark glasses and he does not resemble the photos of ERIC STARVO GALT both with eyes closed and with them open. She was also shown the Wanted Notice pertaining to JAMES EARL RAY. She said that none of these pictures were of this man who was using the garage. She described this man as follows:

|                 |                                   |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Race            | White                             |
| Age             | About 30-32                       |
| Height          | About 5'5"                        |
| Weight          | 138 pounds                        |
| Build           | Slender                           |
| Scars and Marks | None known                        |
| Car             | Believed a light colored Mustang. |
| Eyes            | Unknown                           |
| Hair            | Dark brown                        |

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 5/2/68

FRED MURPHY, also known as Pat Murphy, Night Manager of the Hotel Ambassador, and who resides at 111 South Oxford Avenue, Los Angeles, California, advised that a woman came into the hotel alone and registered for her and her husband. She gave an address on West Olympic Boulevard, Los Angeles, which proved fictitious, and said her husband would be in later. He said he understood another woman also shared the room but said he had never seen or talked to either of the women. After the hotel tried to lock the occupants out of the room, the man, RICHARD O'CONNER, asked him, MURPHY, what was the matter. The man said he would write a check but he said he had no check blanks with him and when asked for identification, he said he had it in his luggage which had not yet been received from International Airport. The man said he would have the money in the morning. Later a call was received from a man identifying himself as O'CONNER. At that time he said he had a credit card for an oil company and said he would have the money in the morning.

MURPHY advised that he saw O'CONNER only the one time and knew of no vehicle O'CONNER or the women had. MURPHY said that he had told O'CONNER that the address on Olympic Boulevard was no good and O'CONNER admitted it. MURPHY said that it is possible that the woman professing to be Mrs. RICHARD L. O'CONNER was not actually his wife.

MURPHY described the man as follows:

|            |                                                           |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Name       | RICHARD L. O'CONNER                                       |
| Race       | White                                                     |
| Age        | 25 - 30; not believed over 30.                            |
| Height     | 5'7 or 8"                                                 |
| Weight     | 145 - 150 pounds                                          |
| Hair       | Dark, had ordinary haircut, combed back, no part noticed. |
| Build      | Rather slender                                            |
| Eyes       | Unknown; possibly green or brown                          |
| Eyeglasses | None seen                                                 |

On 4/26/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-D-316

by SA ALBERT N. CARLBLOM/les Date dictated 4/29/68

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|                 |                                                              |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Marks and scars | None seen                                                    |
| Clothes         | Grey suit, white shirt and tie.                              |
| Miscellaneous   | Smooth shaven; friendly;<br>rather personable;<br>nonchalant |

When MURPHY was shown the Wanted Notice pertaining to JAMES EARL RAY he said that he did not think that O'CONNER was identical with RAY. He said that O'CONNER was younger, lighter, and smaller. MURPHY advised that the hotel had called the FBI as the man was named O'CONNER.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 5/2/68

WILLIAM F. GARDNER, Director of Security, Room 62, Ambassador Hotel, 3400 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, advised that a blonde woman registered at the hotel on April 13, 1968, under the name Mrs. RICHARD O'CONNOR, saying that her husband would show up later.

An address of 515 West Olympic Boulevard, Los Angeles, was given and they were assigned to Room Number 421 at \$24.00 per day. When the woman appeared at the hotel, she said they would be leaving on April 16, 1968.

Also in the room was another female. The two women were both very young but adults. The one who registered was obviously pregnant. Both were of the white race, both had dark hair and dark complexions. GARDNER said he did not know the color of their eyes nor the name of the one woman. On April 15, 1968, the two women were in the hotel's coffee shop and as they had been drinking they were asked to leave the coffee shop.

GARDNER advised that O'CONNER had a 1965 Mustang parked at the hotel; the parking lot attendant got the license number RYP 356 which, it was determined, was registered to KEN KOBAYASHI, 1326 South Gramercy. GARDNER said that the attendant might have misread the plate.

The groups' unpaid hotel bill amounts to \$316.71. They paid nothing and presented no bad check. They skipped out on April 16, 1968. The bill reflects telephone calls, an extraordinary amount of room service, and a charge on April 13, 1968, for \$9.45 for Coconut Grove photographs.

GARDNER advised that the man was not at the hotel as much as the women. He tried to cash a check at the hotel through PAT MURPHY, the Night Manager, but had no check blanks or identification. GARDNER said that according to MURPHY, the man was shorter and younger than JAMES EARL RAY. GARDNER said that he did not know of others who saw the man, but said that

On 4/25/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-D-317

by SA ALBERT N. CARLBLOM/les Date dictated 4/29/68

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possibly parking attendants did. O'CONNER telephoned the hotel relative to his bill but never showed up to pay it. The women skipped out leaving their luggage which is still in the possession of the hotel.

GARDNER advised that after the skip, the hotel had found in the room a credit card of the American Oil Company Number [REDACTED], in the name of RICHARD L. O'CONNER. The hotel has this card and called the local office of the oil company and learned that records are maintained in Chicago, Illinois. Thereupon the hotel on April 23, 1968, wrote to that oil company at 165 North Canal Street, Chicago, attention of Issuance Department. GARDNER said that the Los Angeles Police Department was not formally notified of this skip but officers of that department came around and are aware of it. GARDNER advised that to make a formal Crime Report they would need sufficient identification data.

GARDNER said that he himself did not see either the man or the two women. He said that there was the remote possibility that O'CONNER might be identical with JAMES EARL RAY in view of the name "O'CONNER". GARDNER said that the possibility of being identical was not based on anyone thinking the man resembled the photographs of RAY in the papers. He said he had checked with the parking attendant and no one saw the group leave; and that the address given on Olympic was no good. GARDNER said that GEORGE WALLACE, 648 North Martel Avenue, Los Angeles, has the concession for taking photographs at the Cocoanut Grove located in the hotel. GARDNER said that the customer's name is placed on an envelope and this is returned to the customer so the customer's name is not maintained by WALLACE. WALLACE would have the negative along with the negatives for other pictures taken.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/6/68

MICHAEL SMITH, 1205 West 88th Street, telephonically contacted the Los Angeles FBI Office on April 20, 1968, and advised that he saw a man that looked like ERIC S. GALT at 3:40 PM driving a blue El Camino, Chevrolet panel truck, California license number U44 522.

Records of the Motor Vehicle Bureau reflected that California license U44 522 was registered to Mr. P. F. MOERBECK who resides at 1948 Lomita Boulevard, Lomita, California, and this license is for a 1961 Chevrolet panel truck.

Mr. THOMAS H. CLEMMER, 1948 Lomita Boulevard, Lomita, California, on May 2, 1968, advised that he is the business partner of Mr. P. F. MOERBECK mentioned above. CLEMMER was shown photographs of ERIC S. GALT and James Earl Ray, and he stated that he had never seen anyone who looked like these pictures before.

On 5/2/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-D 318  
by SA JOHN W. WHALEY *gaw* /cag Date dictated 5/6/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/2/68

JACK IRVIN, Night Clerk, Huntington Hotel, 752 South Main Street, Los Angeles, was interviewed at his place of employment at which time he furnished the following information:

Mr. IRVIN advised he recalled registering DENNIS GUTHRIE into the Huntington Hotel on the night of April 7, 1968, and assigning him to room 447. He was shown a photograph depicting DENNIS GUTHRIE which had been removed from room 447 along with GUTHRIE's other belongings on April 26, 1968, after GUTHRIE failed to return on April 24, 1968. He advised the photograph was a good likeness of GUTHRIE who he described as follows:

|        |                   |
|--------|-------------------|
| Race   | White             |
| Sex    | Male              |
| Height | 5'6"              |
| Weight | 170 to 175 pounds |
| Build  | Stocky            |
| Age    | 30's              |
| Hair   | Light Brown       |

Mr. IRVIN was shown five photographs, two of which depicted JAMES EARL RAY. Mr. IRVIN stated that DENNIS GUTHRIE is definitely not identical with the individuals depicted in the photograph.

On 5/2/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-0-319  
by SA WILLIAM N. HEARD and  
SA BILLY DALE HUBBARD/BDH/gk/cag Date dictated 5/2/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 5/1/68

Mr. JOSEPH MC CARTHY, Assistant Manager, Huntington Hotel, 752 South Main Street, Los Angeles, California, was interviewed at his place of employment at which time he furnished the following information:

Mr. MC CARTHY stated that one DENNIS GUTHRIE, the only address given as city, checked into the Huntington Hotel, Room 447 on April 7, 1968 at 11:40 p.m. He noticed a similarity between this individual and the FBI wanted flyer number 442-A dated April 19, 1968, depicting a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY. MC CARTHY related there was a strong resemblance between the individual registered at the Huntington Hotel as DENNIS GUTHRIE and JAMES EARL RAY. The resemblance between the two prompted him to contact the FBI.

Mr. MC CARTHY advised that GUTHRIE's description was approximately the same as the identifying information on the wanted flyer for RAY. MC CARTHY described GUTHRIE as follows:

|                 |                                                            |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sex             | Male                                                       |
| Race            | White                                                      |
| Age             | Approximately 40 to 45                                     |
| Height          | 5'8" to 5'9"                                               |
| Weight          | Approximately 165 pounds                                   |
| Hair            | Light brown, unruly                                        |
| Characteristics | Left ear slightly more protruding from head than right ear |
| Complexion      | Ruddy                                                      |

MC CARTHY related that GUTHRIE paid his rent once a week for approximately the first two weeks he resided in the hotel but the week of April 22, 1968 he began paying each day. Mr. MC CARTHY only saw GUTHRIE on about three occasions when he collected GUTHRIE's rent. Mr. MC CARTHY further stated that GUTHRIE appeared to be working in the area of the hotel as GUTHRIE asked to be called each morning at 6:00 a.m. Each time MC CARTHY saw GUTHRIE he was dressed in casual clothes or work clothes. GUTHRIE would leave from the hotel in the

On 4/26/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-D-320

by SA BILLY DALE HUBBARD/nmb Date dictated 5/1/68

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morning and not return until after MC CARTHY would go off duty. MC CARTHY related that he did not notice any type of shoes that GUTHRIE wore nor any type of jewelry worn by GUTHRIE. MC CARTHY stated that he never noticed GUTHRIE in the lounge at the hotel talking with any of the other tenants.

MC CARTHY stated he did not know whether GUTHRIE carried his money in a wallet or in his pocket inasmuch as when GUTHRIE paid his rent he would have the money in his hand, ready to pay the rent when MC CARTHY would observe him. MC CARTHY stated the rent was paid in cash. MC CARTHY did not know the denomination of the bills by which he paid the rent. He stated he was sure the bills would not have been larger than a \$20 bills or otherwise he would have recalled it.

MC CARTHY stated that the last day GUTHRIE was in the hotel was on April 24, 1968. GUTHRIE's room was held for two days and on April 26, 1968, MC CARTHY cleaned GUTHRIE's belongings from Room 447. MC CARTHY stated that GUTHRIE has not returned to the hotel since his departure on April 24, 1968.

MC CARTHY related he had never had any conversation with GUTHRIE and knew absolutely nothing about his background.

Mr. MC CARTHY observed a photograph which he had removed from GUTHRIE's room and advised that the individual depicted in the photograph was definitely the individual who identified himself as GUTHRIE and who resided in Room 447, at the Huntington Hotel, Los Angeles, California, until April 24, 1968.

MC CARTHY was shown five photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, one of which was a photograph of RAY taken at the Missouri State Penitentiary in January, 1966. MC CARTHY advised GUTHRIE most closely resembled this photograph.

MC CARTHY made available the items which were removed from GUTHRIE's room, Room 447, by the orders of MC CARTHY to the hotel housekeeper and which are as follows:

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One white shirt, size 14 $\frac{1}{2}$  - 33 inch sleeves. Shirt was new and had never been laundered. It was quite dirty.

One pair of trousers without any marking

One bottle "Lucky Tiger" hair oil

One jar of Noxzema skin cream

One container of Coriciden Nasal Mist

Two pair of socks

One pair shorts

One strip of three photographs of individual who resided in Room 447

MC CARTHY furnished the strip of photographs.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/2/68

EDDIE MC KNIGHT, Housekeeper, Huntington Hotel, 752 South Main Street, Los Angeles, California, was interviewed at her place of employment at which time she furnished the following information:

MC KNIGHT was shown a photograph which had been taken from Room 447 of the Huntington Hotel. She recognized this photograph as being the individual who resided in Room 447 of the Huntington Hotel. She stated this individual had not wanted any room service. She added that on one occasion she had come to clean the room at which time the white male occupying the room expressed his desires that it not be cleaned. While she was in the room, he placed a call to the hotel switchboard and advised them the room should not be cleaned.

MC KNIGHT advised that she cleaned the room on April 26, 1968 when requested to do so by Mr. JOSEPH MC CARTHY, Assistant Manager, Huntington Hotel. She related she had placed all of the individual's articles in a brown paper bag with the exception of two cans of beer which she poured down the sink.

She was shown five photographs which included two photographs of JAMES EARL RAY. She stated the individual occupying Room 447, whose photograph she was shown earlier, was definitely not identical to any of the individuals depicted in the five photographs.

On 5/1/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-D-321  
by SA JAMES R. PACE and  
SA BILLY DALE HUBBARD BDH/nmb Date dictated 5/1/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/2/68

RICHARD K. PADILLE, Bellman, Huntington Hotel, 752 South Main, Los Angeles, California, was interviewed at his place of employment at which time he furnished the following information:

Mr. PADILLE was shown a photograph which had been taken from Room 447 of the Huntington Hotel. He recognized the individual depicted in the photograph as being identical to the person who resided in Room 447 of the hotel. Mr. PADILLE related that approximately three weeks previous he had assisted this person into his room as the individual was intoxicated. This man at the time was wearing dirty clothes which to the best of PADILLE's recollection were khaki or brown colored trousers. He could not recall the type of shirt the individual was wearing and did not recall if it was a white shirt or a sports shirt. He could not recall the individual's height nor could he recall any outstanding characteristics of the man which would make him noticeable. He related that to the best of his recollection the individual residing in Room 447, whose photograph he recognized as being the person he had assisted into Room 447, was described as follows:

|            |                                     |
|------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sex        | Male                                |
| Race       | White                               |
| Hair       | Light brown, not<br>patches of gray |
| Weight     | 135 to 140 pounds                   |
| Complexion | Light                               |
| PAC        |                                     |

PADILLE could not recall anything more about the person as his only contact with the individual in Room 447 was on the occasion when he assisted him into his room. He never had any conversation with this individual at anytime.

PADILLE was shown five photographs, which included two of JAMES EARL RAY. He stated he could not recognize any of the photographs which were exhibited to him as being identical with the man residing in the hotel.

On 5/1/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-D-322  
by SA JAMES R. PACE and  
SA BILLY DALE HUBBARD BDH/nmb Date dictated 5/1/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/2/68

ROBERT KELLEY, Clerk, St. Francis Hotel, 5533 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, was interviewed at his place of employment at which time he furnished the following information:

RUSSELL JOHNSTONE checked into Room 322 of the St. Francis Hotel on February 8, 1968, at 9:40 a.m. He resided at the St. Francis Hotel until sometime between April 22 and April 26, 1968, the exact date he left the hotel is unknown to Mr. KELLEY. When checking into the St. Francis Hotel, JOHNSTONE did not furnish a street address and only gave his previous address as Los Angeles. Mr. KELLEY checked the hotel records for any record of a forwarding address for RUSSELL JOHNSTONE with negative results.

Mr. KELLEY related JOHNSTONE had a telephone in his room. The hotel records reveal that only two local telephone calls were placed by JOHNSTONE from his room through the hotel switchboard. The telephone numbers which were called by JOHNSTONE were not noted on the hotel records.

Mr. KELLEY furnished the following description of JOHNSTONE:

|                 |                         |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Race            | White                   |
| Sex             | Male                    |
| Age             | Fifties                 |
| Height          | 5'9" to 5'11"           |
| Characteristics | Mustache, heavy drinker |

Mr. KELLEY related that he had never seen JAMES EARL RAY associating with RUSSELL JOHNSTONE and did not know if RAY and JOHNSTONE were acquainted.

On 5/1/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-D-323  
by SA JAMES R. PACE and gvk  
SA BILLY DALE HUBBARD/gk Date dictated 5/2/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/30/68

On April 23, 1968, at North Hollywood, California, JACK KRUPP, Owner, Light Horse Liquor Store, 12909 Sherman Way, North Hollywood, California, furnished the following information:

KRUPP advised that the person whom he thought resembled the physical description of ERIC STARVO GALT and who came into the liquor store on April 17, 1968, has been seen by KRUPP since that date. KRUPP has identified the man as a local drunk who is well-known in the area. KRUPP has determined that the man does not in fact resemble the artist's conception of ERIC STARVO GALT and that the man has not left the Van Nuys area for at least the last six months.

KRUPP was unable to furnish the man's name or any other background information concerning him.

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On 4/23/68 at North Hollywood, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-324  
by SA WILLIAM S. BURTON/cag Date dictated 4/25/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/30/68

ALLEN FOX, Pharmacist, Morley's Drugstore, 470 North Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills, California, furnished the following information:

FREDERICK SEEBURG, address 1515 Lindacrest Drive, Beverly Hills, California, is a regular customer at the drugstore. He is a white male, approximately 5'8" to 5'9", with white hair, and between 65 and 70 years of age.

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On 4/23/68 at Beverly Hill, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-<sup>325</sup>~~1~~  
by SA WILLIAM S. BURTON/cag Date dictated 4/25/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/25/68

On April 20, 1968, ALLAN ANGELHARDT, Apartment 28, 20909 Parthenia Street, Canoga Park, California, telephonically advised he had just observed an individual that resembled JAMES EARLYRAY leaving a coffee shop at the Rocket Bowl, on De Soto Street, north of Nordhoff in Canoga Park, California.

On April 24, 1968, ENGELHARDT advised that he had seen this man at the Rocket Coffee Shop on April 20, 1968, and he seemed to be tensely engrossed in reading the article concerning JAMES EARL RAY in the local newspaper. He advised that the unknown individual resembled the photos appearing in that newspaper on April 20, 1968.

ENGELHARDT stated he followed the man to the parking area and observed him entering a 1959 or 1960 Ford Fairlane, bearing California plates EZR 721.

ENGELHARDT described this unknown person as 38 to 40 years of age, 5'10", 165 pounds, sandy to reddish blond hair, eyes not observed and no scars or marks visible. He remarked that he had never seen this person before.

A Department of Motor Vehicles check of California plate EZR 721, shows a listing to SAUL JOHN, 926 North Denair Street, Turlock, California, on a 1954 two-door Buick.

On 4/24/68 at Canoga Park, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574 -8-326  
by SA H. LA MARR GUNN/kaf Date dictated 4/25/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/16/68

*deft*  
ELDON RONALD SLY, 902 North Cabana, La Puente, California, was shown a photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT. He was asked if the person in the photograph was identical to a merchan seaman who he knew as FOTOS. SLY stated that the man in the photograph was not FOTOS. He said FOTOS had a longer face and a sharper nose.

On 4/15/68 at La Puente, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-D-327  
by SA DENNIS C. LE MASTER/dcl Date dictated 4/15/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/19/68

ERIC LEROY CASEY after being advised of the identity of SA ROBERT C. MARTIN, JR. and SA MALVIN LEE WESSEL and being advised of his rights by SA MARTIN as set forth on a rights and waiver form, was advised by SA MARTIN that they wished to interview him concerning any involvement he might have in the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING.

CASEY advised that he had no knowledge of the death of KING other than what he had read in newspapers and that he has not been out of the states of California and Arizona since January, 1968, when he first arrived in California from Amarillo, Texas.

He advised that after arriving in California from his address 313 South Lamar, Amarillo, Texas he went to the Mission at San Jose, California where he stayed and worked and met HAYES P. PUFAHL. He advised that after leaving the Mission at San Jose, California in January, 1968 he went to a bartending school at Santa Clara, California. He stated he did not graduate from this school and left Santa Clara, California with PUFAHL and went to Death Valley, California to prospect. He advised that while in Death Valley and subsequently in the desert area near Trona, California they lived in the desert in the pickup belonging to PUFAHL.

He advised that in February, 1968 he and PUFAHL left Trona, California and went to Vidal, California also to prospect and lived in the pickup. He advised approximately two weeks ago they moved from Vidal, California to Earp, California continuing their prospecting.

He stated that he has no knowledge whatsoever of the person or persons who might have murdered MARTIN LUTHER KING and has been with PUFAHL the entire time since he left Santa Clara, California.

During interview and through observation the following description was obtained from CASEY:

On 4/18/68 at Parker, Arizona File # Los Angeles 44-1574-D-328  
by SA ROBERT C. MARTIN, JR. and  
SA MALVIN LEE WESSEL RCM/nmb Date dictated 4/19/68

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LA 44-1574

|                          |                                                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Name                     | ERIC LEROY CASEY                                                                                                                        |
| Sex                      | Male                                                                                                                                    |
| Race                     | White                                                                                                                                   |
| Date of birth            |                                                                                                                                         |
| Place of birth           | Phoenix, Arizona                                                                                                                        |
| Height                   | 5'8"                                                                                                                                    |
| Weight                   | 145 pounds                                                                                                                              |
| Hair                     | Reddish brown, very long                                                                                                                |
| Eyes                     | Hazel                                                                                                                                   |
| Characteristics          | Wears handlebar mustache                                                                                                                |
| Scars and marks          | $\frac{1}{2}$ " noticeable scar on upper lip                                                                                            |
| Social Security No.      |                                                                                                                                         |
| Texas driver's license   |                                                                                                                                         |
| Selective Service Number | with Tulsa, Oklahoma Local Board 74                                                                                                     |
| Marital status           | Single                                                                                                                                  |
| Father                   | EARNIE CASEY<br>address unknown                                                                                                         |
| Mother                   | Deceased                                                                                                                                |
| Brother                  | CARL CASEY<br>address unknown, however, believes to be in 3200 block Tracy Avenue<br>Kansas City, Missouri                              |
| Stepmother               | ISABELLA LEWIS<br>411 $\frac{1}{2}$ Sunset Boulevard<br>Claremore, Oklahoma                                                             |
| Prior arrests            | Admits had been convicted for Dyer Act violation<br>San Antonio, Texas in 1961 and subsequently served 19 months at Englewood, Colorado |
| Address                  | General Delivery<br>Earp, California                                                                                                    |

Visual observation of CASEY reflected he did not appear to be identical with ERIC GALT. Photographs of CASEY were taken with a Polaroid camera.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

4/19/68

Date

HAYES PALMER PUF AHL was located by SA's ROBERT D. MARTIN, Jr., and MALVIN LEE WESSEL approximately one-half mile across the Colorado River from Earp, California. PUF AHL was advised of the identity of SA's MARTIN and WESSEL and asked if he knew an individual by the name of ERIC CASEY. He stated he did and was at that time sitting out in his pickup parked next to the Whitts Restaurant. He advised that CASEY has been with him since the middle of January, 1968, since they left Santa Clara, California, together to go prospecting. He advised since that time they have lived in the desert near the following places: Death Valley, California; Trona, California; Vidal, California; Earp, California. He advised that CASEY has been with him since the middle of January, and they have not missed a day seeing each other. He advised that he is presently employed as a cook at Whitts Restaurant as they are trying to get enough money saved up to get a grub stake. He advised that he is positive that CASEY could have had nothing to do with the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, and they have not even discussed it among themselves. He stated they do not get a newspaper very often as they live in the desert; however, they were both aware of the death of KING. During interview and observation, the following description was obtained of PUF AHL:

|                   |                                              |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Name              | HAYES PALMER PUF AHL                         |
| Date of Birth     |                                              |
| Race              | White                                        |
| Sex               | Male                                         |
| Permanent Address | 241 North 1st Street<br>San Jose, California |
| Temporary Address | General Delivery<br>Earp, California         |
| Height            | 5'8"                                         |
| Weight            | 180 pounds                                   |
| Hair              | Black, graying                               |
| Eyes              | Blue                                         |
| Occupation        | Cook<br>Whitts Restaurant<br>Parker, Arizona |

4/18/68 Parker, Arizona Los Angeles 44-1574-2-329  
On \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ File # \_\_\_\_\_  
by SA's ROBERT D. MARTIN, Jr., and  
MALVIN LEE WESSEL (RDM:jmk) Date dictated 4/19/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/18/68

LA VERNE ERNEST LOHMEYER was contacted by SA E. RHEAD RICHARDS, JR. at his place of employment, E. L. Payne Heating Company, 9242 Beverly Boulevard, Beverly Hills, California and he furnished the following information:

LOHMEYER stated that he had been employed at Payne Heating Company for approximately 20 years. He stated that on April 5, 1968 at approximately 9:00 p.m. he and his wife IONE and another couple, Mr. and Mrs. LOUIS S. MARTIN, 728 East Palm, Monrovia, California left for Marysville, Kansas to vacation and visit LOHMEYER's mother, Mrs. MARY S. LOHMEYER. LOHMEYER stated that he and his wife and Mr. and Mrs. MARTIN remained in Marysville, Kansas until they returned to Los Angeles, arriving at approximately 10:00 p.m. on April 13, 1968. LOHMEYER advised his car is a white 1964 Chevrolet Malibu, two door with current California license plates OVP 642.

LOHMEYER furnished the following description of himself:

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| Sex            | Male         |
| Race           | White        |
| Age            | 46 years     |
| Date of birth  |              |
| Place of birth | Linn, Kansas |
| Height         | 5'11"        |
| Weight         | 180 pounds   |
| Eyes           | Gray         |
| Hair           | Auburn       |

On 4/17/68 at Beverly Hills, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-D-330  
by SA E. RHEAD RICHARDS, JR. /nmb Date dictated 4/17/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/18/68

Mrs. LOUIS S. MARTIN, 729 East Palm, Monrovia, California, advised that she and her husband have known Mr. and Mrs. LA VERNE ERNEST LOHMEYER for many years. She stated that she and her husband travelled from Los Angeles, California to Marysville, Kansas with the LOHMEYERS leaving Los Angeles on April 5, 1968 and returning on April 13, 1968. She advised that she and her husband were with the LOHMEYERS during the entire time they were in Marysville, Kansas where they visited LOHMEYER's mother.

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On 4/17/68 at Monrovia, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-D-331  
by SA E. RHEAD RICHARDS, JR. /nmb Date dictated 4/17/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/24/68

Mr. SIEGFRIED TRICK, painting contractor, 2710 Whitefield Road, Pasadena, California, was contacted on April 24, 1968, inasmuch as he is the employer of WERNER W. GOHL who drives an automobile bearing Maryland license FJ 1450 who was reported as resembling JAMES EARL RAY.

Mr. TRICK advised that he employs GOHL as a painter and that his records reflect that GOHL was working on a paint contract job at a factory owned by ROCKY MOSS which is located at 4360 Worth Street, Los Angeles, California, for the entire work week of April 3 through 7, 1968.

On 4/24/68 at Pasadena, California File # 44-1574-D-332  
by <sup>WMA</sup> Walter L. Heyer, SA Date dictated 4/24/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/19/68

JOHN SCHUTT, Vice Chairman of the Board, Bank of California, 550 South Flower, Los Angeles, was interviewed at his office, at which time he furnished the following information:

Mr. SCHUTT advised that he and his wife were vacationing at the Warner Brothers Ranch in Hot Springs, California, on February 22, 1968. When he and his wife arrived at the Warner Brothers Ranch, which is a resort area in Southern California, he observed a Mustang, bearing Tennessee license plates, in front of the office at the ranch. He could not recall the license number, and he did not know the year of the Mustang. He and his wife vacationed on the ranch and in the area of Southern California in which the ranch is located, returning to the ranch on March 1 or 2, 1968, exact date unrecalled. He again saw what he presumed to be the same Mustang with Tennessee plates. He and his wife went into the Butterfield Bar which is located on the above ranch, at which time his wife ordered Bloody Marys. The bartender had a very difficult time in mixing this drink, appeared very nervous, and commented that he had just graduated from a bartender school. The individual stated he had graduated from a bartending school in San Diego. The individual further commented to Mr. SCHUTT that this was his first job after completing bartender school. Mr. SCHUTT related that he recalled the bartender as speaking with a "Southern drawl."

Mr. SCHUTT described the individual as follows:

|        |                               |
|--------|-------------------------------|
| Race   | White                         |
| Sex    | Male                          |
| Age    | 25 - 30                       |
| Hair   | Brown,<br>receding by temples |
| Height | 5'10" - 5'11"                 |
| Weight | 170 pounds                    |

On 4/18/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-8-333  
by SAs BILLY DALE HUBBARD and  
WILLIAM N. HEARD/BDH/eb Date dictated 4/19/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/26/68

On April 20, 1968, LEE PINK, 1142 South La Jolla, Los Angeles, California, advised that he had been working in the Farmers Market, 3rd and Fairfax, as a bus boy, and on that same date had observed an individual at one of the tables who resembled the photo of JAMES EARL RAY.

On April 24, 1968, LEE PINK, 1142 La Jolla, Los Angeles, advised that he had seen the unknown individual sitting at one of the tables and felt he resembled the photo of RAY that he had seen in the local newspaper. PINK stated he had a good chance to observe this person and felt there was a strong resemblance. PINK advised that he watched the table where the man had been sitting and when the man left, he picked up a drinking glass and a fork which the man had used, but that some of the other helpers in the patio had taken these two items and run them through the dishwasher and had destroyed the prints.

PINK advised he is 17 years of age and is currently attending High School and works on the weekends as a busboy.

PINK described this unknown individual as about late 20's or early 30's, height 6'3" to 6'4", 190-200 pounds, light brown hair, blue eyes and was dressed casually.

PINK advised he had never seen this person before and did not observe the direction he left when he departed from the area.

On 4/24/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-D-334  
by SA H. LA MARR GUNN/mig Date dictated 4/25/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 15, 1968

Mrs. LOUISE (JOHN W.) RICHARDSON, #8 Mountain View Estates, end of New York Avenue, La Crescenta, California, was interviewed on April 11, 1968, at her residence at which time she furnished the following information:

She is presently employed as a waitress on a split shift so she is at her residence at odd hours of the day and evening. She said that she and her husband, JOHN W. RICHARDSON, were the closest neighbors to the residence of JAY VERNON, at #14 Mountain View Estates, La Crescenta, California, which she explained was in a rather remote mountainous area on a dirt road. She said that the last time she had seen JAY VERNON was "about January 1968."

She said that Mr. VERNON's wife, whom she knew as BONNIE VERNON, had resided at #14 Mountain View Estates until the first week in April, 1968; when she said that she was selling the residence to her brother (name not indicated). BONNIE was now residing with her parents, ANN and FORREST BOYCE, 4816 Castle Road, La Canada, California; and could be reached there on telephone 213-248-2858. BONNIE was believed to be currently employed by the Department of Safety of Glendale, California in the Glendale City Hall. She was off work for about five or six weeks since the first of the year (1968); but her husband was not residing with her during this time. Mrs. RICHARDSON said that she had heard somewhere (she could not recall from whom), that JAY VERNON was presently working and residing in or near Upland, California. She had the definite impressions that Mr. and Mrs. VERNON were separated.

Mrs. RICHARDSON furnished her own home telephone number as 213-249-5071.

On 4/11/68 at La Crescenta, California File # 44 - 1574 - 0 - 335  
by SAs G. E. MOOREHEAD *hgm*  
GILBERT G. BENJAMIN:GGB Date dictated 4/15/68 GGB

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/15/68

FRANK DAWSON, Employee, U. S. Recovery Agency, 3420 East Florence Street, Huntington Park, California, furnished the following information:

DAWSON was shown a photograph of JEROME WALLIS VERNON and advised that VERNON came by himself to the U. S. Recovery Agency office, 3420 East Florence Street, Huntington Park, California, on Saturday, April 6, 1968, at 3:00 PM. DAWSON is certain of the time because he was getting ready to leave the office to go play golf. VERNON drove up in a 1964 or 1965 El Camino Camaro, Chevrolet, which was red in color.

VERNON came to reclaim personal possessions of his which had been left in a car of his which had recently been repossessed by the U. S. Recovery Agency. DAWSON advised VERNON that since it was Saturday that DAWSON could not give VERNON his personal possessions. He advised VERNON that he would have to come back on Monday. DAWSON and KEN CARROLL, another employee at U. S. Recovery, both talked to VERNON on April 6, 1968.

On Monday, April 8, 1968, while DAWSON was in the U. S. Recovery Agency office, VERNON returned to reclaim his personal possessions. VERNON reclaimed his personal possessions and left the U. S. Recovery Agency office.

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On 4/10/68 at Huntington Park, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-336  
by SA's WILLIAM J. SLICKS and WILLIAM S. BURTON/cag Date dictated 4/15/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/15/68

ROSS FREDRICKSON, Zone Representative, Crocker Citizens National Bank, Glendale, California, furnished the following information:

Crocker Citizens National Bank held the title to a 1962 Ford Van, blue in color, 1968 California License SET 735, which was purchased by JEROME VERNON on February 1, 1968, from Court Fox Ford, Hollywood, California. VERNON had a loan through Crocker Citizens and his first payment on the Van was due February 8, 1968. VERNON never made payments on this Van.

On April 5, 1968, KEN CARROLL, Employee, U. S. Recovery Agency, 3420 East Florence Street, Huntington Park, California, repossessed the 1962 Ford Van referred to above from 1826 North Allen Street, Pasadena, California.

On 4/11/68 at Glendale, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-8-337  
by SA's WILLIAM J. SLICKS and  
WILLIAM S. BURTON/cag Date dictated 4/15/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 14, 1968

Mr. JOHN W. RICHARDSON, #8 Mountain View Estates, end of New York Avenue, La Crescenta, California, was interviewed on April 11, 1968, at his residence at which time he furnished the following information:

Mr. RICHARDSON advised that his home telephone number was 213-249-5071. He said that he and his wife, LOUISE RICHARDSON, are the closest neighbors in the rather remote mountainous area to the residence where JAY VERNON formerly resided, at #14 Mountain View Estates. He said the last time he can recall seeing Mr. VERNON was, "about the first of the year, in January 1968."

He said that JAY VERNON lived at this address for about one and one-half years with his wife, who was known to the RICHARDSONS as BONNIE VERNON.

Prior to vacating the premises in Mountain View Estates, Mr. VERNON said he was operating a laundry in Los Angeles with his mother. The exact address was not disclosed. Prior to this he reportedly worked at Weber or Menasco aircraft plants in Burbank, California, and with Electronic Specialties Company, Glendale, California.

Mrs. BONNIE VERNON was last seen about a week before April 11, 1968. At that time she indicated she was living with her mother at 4816 Castle Road, La Canada, California; just behind the Jack-in-the-Box drive-in restaurant on Foothill Boulevard. She is employed by the Department of Safety, City of Glendale, Glendale City Hall, Glendale, California. She drives a 1966 or 1967 maroon Pontiac Grand Prix, which has a black vinyl top.

JAY VERNON drives a red 1966 El Camino, with "mag" wheels and big tires.

Mr. RICHARDSON identified two photographs of JEROME WILLIS VERNON as the individual he knew as JAY VERNON, who was a neighbor in the Mountain View Estates. He did not know where Mr. VERNON was residing at the present time, but indicated it was his impression that Mr. and Mrs. VERNON were separated.

On 4/11/68 at La Crescenta, California File # 44 - 1574 - 8-338  
by SAs G.J. MOOREHEAD *kjm*  
GILBERT G. BENJAMIN: GGB *ggb* Date dictated 4/14/68 GGB

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 15, 1968

Mrs. LORRAINE NORMA VERNON, nee BOYCE; who advised she is also known as Mrs. BONNIE VERNON, Mrs. JEROME WALLIS VERNON, Mrs. JAY VERNON, was interviewed April 12, 1968, near her place of business, the Department of Safety and Traffic, City of Glendale, Glendale City Hall, Glendale, California, at which time she furnished the following information:

She stated that she married JEROME WALLIS VERNON on August 21, 1965, in Las Vegas, Nevada. At the time of their marriage she did not know that Mr. VERNON had been previously married and had four children. Subsequent to their marriage she learned that he had been previously married to one LORRAINE MAY VERNON, nee GEISS; who presently resides in Visalia, California.

After she learned that JEROME had been previously married, he told her that he had obtained a divorce from his first wife in Baja California, Mexico. He said that he had spent \$110.00 for this Mexican divorce; but she doubted the legality of his divorce, since he told her that he did not have his first wife sign the divorce papers. She said that at the present time she is taking legal steps to obtain a divorce from JEROME VERNON, from whom she has been separated for approximately two months.

She said that JEROME VERNON was presently residing in Upland, California. He was to meet with her on the evening of April 12, 1968, to sign their joint income tax returns. She said that the last time she had seen him was two weeks previously when he said that he needed his honorable discharge papers from his military service, in order to obtain a job in the Upland area.

Mrs. VERNON said that it was quite a coincidence that both she and JEROME VERNON's mother were known as BONNIE VERNON. She said they usually referred to her as "LITTLE BONNIE," and her mother-in-law as "BIG BONNIE." She also noted the coincidence in the fact that both she and Mr. VERNON's first wife were both named LORRAINE VERNON.

The name of ERIC GALT was entirely unknown to Mrs. VERNON.

On 4/12/68 at Glendale, California File # 44 - 1574 - 0-339  
by SAs G.J. MOOREHEAD  
GILBERT G. BENJAMIN:GGB Date dictated 4/15/68 GGB

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/15/68

JOSEPH H. VALENTINE, Manager, Valley National Bank, Glendale, California, furnished the following information:

Valley National Bank, is the holder of a note on which JEROME WALLACE VERNON is the primary obligor. The loan was made by Valley National Bank to VERNON for the purpose of purchasing laundry equipment.

The first payment on the above obligation was made on April 5, 1968, by MAURICE W. HOWARD, 2740 Fetcher Road, Los Angeles, California. HOWARD called the bank on April 5, 1968, and said that he would make all payments on the note. He did not explain why JEROME WALLACE VERNON would not be making the payments.

On 4/10/68 at Glendale, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-8  
SA's WILLIAM J. SLICKS  
by WILLIAM S. BURTON <sup>WSB</sup>/cag Date dictated 4/15/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/19/68

HOMER WESLEY GALT, 1022 Santa Anita Avenue, Burbank, California, was contacted at this location and furnished the following information:

The name ERIC STARVO GALT is unfamiliar to him, and to the best of his knowledge he has no relatives by this or any similar name.

After viewing photographs depicting an individual described as ERIC STARVO GALT, HOMER WESLEY GALT advised that this individual was unknown to him.

On 4/18/68 at Burbank, California File # 44-1574 - Q-341  
by SA RICHARD J. RAYSA/rjr Date dictated 4/19/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/17/68

WENDELL GALT, residence 6262 Oakdale, Woodland Hills, California, employment architect, Victor Gruen Associates, 6330 West San Vicente, Los Angeles, California, was contacted at his residence and furnished the following information:

The names ERIC STARVO GALT and MARY MEARS GALT are unfamiliar to him, and these individuals are not known relatives of his family.

GALT noted that his brother, SHEFFIELD GALT, 464 West 8th Street, Claremont, California, is in a severely retarded mental condition and would probably be unable to furnish any pertinent information regarding family background.

On April 17, 1968 WENDELL GALT recontacted SA RICHARD J. RAYSA to advise that he recalls that a distant cousin of his by the name of RALPH GALT was a teacher at an all-Negro college or university in one of the Southern states, possibly Alabama. He believes that this individual, RALPH GALT, is a minister.

On 4/16/68 at Woodland Hills, California File # 44-1574-D-342

by SA RICHARD J. RAYSA/rjr Date dictated 4/17/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/17/68

LAWRENCE GALT, residence 1196 Sierra Madre Boulevard, San Marino, California, employment Thorpe Insulation Company, 2741 South Yates, Los Angeles (723-6521), telephonically furnished the following information:

The names ERIC STARVO GALT and MARY MEARS GALT mean nothing to him, and to the best of his knowledge these individuals are not related to his family.

On 4/17/68 at Los Angeles, California File # 44-1574-D-343  
by SA RICHARD J. RAYSA/rjr Date dictated 4/17/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date May 6, 19681

ROBERT NICHOLS, 7914 San Rafael Drive, Buena Park, California, telephone number 714-522-8086, Passenger Service Instructor, United Airlines, Los Angeles International Airport, advised on May 3, 1968, that he was summoned by JOAN KEPP, United Airlines ticket agent to observe an individual who was attempting to purchase airline tickets.

NICHOLS advised he physically observed this individual for approximately five minutes and provided the following description:

|            |                                                         |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Sex        | Male                                                    |
| Race       | Caucasian                                               |
| Height     | 6'                                                      |
| Weight     | 180 pounds                                              |
| Age        | 35 years                                                |
| Eyes       | Unobserved                                              |
| Hair       | Dark hair (Crew cut)                                    |
| Complexion | Fair                                                    |
| Clothing   | Grey business suit, neat appearance, shoes not observed |

NICHOLS was shown a group of eight photographs and from this group NICHOLS selected the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY taken between August, 1967, and February, 1968, as resembling the individual who was attempting to purchase airline tickets for a flight to Honolulu, Hawaii.

NICHOLS stated that at one point during his observation he was distracted and at that point the unknown white male had disappeared.

NICHOLS advised that he was unable to state that the unknown individual ~~as was~~ identical to the photograph of JAMES RAY but did bear a resemblance.

On 5/3/68 at Los Angeles International Airport, Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-<sup>344</sup>D-  
by SA THOMAS E. LAVIN and SA WILLIAM S. BURTON TEL/dey Date dictated 5/6/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/6/681

ROBERT WALQUIST, Base Manager, United Airlines, Los Angeles International Airport, who resides 2588 Via Anita, telephone 375-5584, Palos Verdes Estates, California, advised on May 3, 1968, that he was alerted by JOAN KEPP, United Airlines Reservations Agent, that she was suspicious of a white male attempting to purchase tickets for a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, Hawaii.

WALQUIST further advised he went to the lobby area of the airport and observed this individual and provided the following description:

|                 |                                                                  |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Race            | White                                                            |
| Sex             | Male                                                             |
| Height          | 6'                                                               |
| Weight          | 185 pounds                                                       |
| Age             | 30 to 35                                                         |
| Hair            | Golden Blond (crew cut)                                          |
| Eyes            | Dark eyes                                                        |
| Clothing        | Light gray business suit                                         |
| Unusual         |                                                                  |
| Characteristics | Long triangular shaped face,<br>sun tanned face. Neat appearance |

WALQUIST who stated he observed the subject for approximately five minutes was shown a group of eight photographs which included the most recent photo of JAMES EARL RAY. WALQUIST was unable to select any photograph resembling the individual he observed in the Los Angeles Airport Terminal.

WALQUIST was unable to provide any information relating to the individual departing the Terminal Building. WALQUIST stated his attention was diverted and subject disappeared.

Los Angeles International Airport  
Los Angeles, California

On 5/3/68 at gah File # Los Angeles 44-1574-345

by SA THOMAS E. LAVIN and  
SA WILLIAM S. BURTON/TEL/dey Date dictated 5/6/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date May 6, 1968

Mrs. JOAN KEPP, United Airlines Reservations Agent, 305 Loma Vista, Apartment 1, El Segundo, California, telephone 322-0398, advised on May 3, 1968, that a male caucasian approached the United Airlines ticket reservations window at approximately 7:45 AM. KEPP stated this individual requested one round-trip coach class and one one-way coach class ticket on United Airlines for May 8, 1968, to Honolulu, Hawaii. INFO

KEPP stated during the course of business this individual presented a temporary Frontier Airline Credit Card No. 31088 and two Frontier Airline tickets No. 829-753 and 829-754. The credit card was issued April 26, 1968, to one CARL RAY, Ray Land and Cattle Company, Route No. 4, Box 868, Peco, Texas. Frontier Airline tickets were issued on May 1, 1968, at Denver, Colorado to one Mr. and Mrs. C. RAY. The Frontier tickets were issued for flight No. 710 from Las Vegas to St. Louis and return.

KEPP stated the individual who identified himself as Mr. RAY advised he would like to use the Frontier tickets as partial payment for the requested tickets for the flight to Honolulu.

At this point KEPP advised Mr. RAY that it would be necessary to check with her supervisor for approval of the redeming of the Frontier tickets.

KEPP stated she asked RAY where he was staying in Los Angeles and he replied "International Hotel" but was unable to recall room number.

KEPP stated she advised ROBERT NICHOLS and ROBERT WHALQUIST of the situation. Upon returning to her window approximately five minutes later the unknown white male had departed leaving behind the Frontier Airline tickets and Frontier credit cards earlier described.

On 5/3/68 at Los Angeles International Airport,  
Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-<sup>346</sup>2  
by SA THOMAS E. LAVIN and <sup>JEX</sup>SA WILLIAM S. BURTON TEL/dey Date dictated 5/6/68

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KEPP provided the following description of subject:

|                 |                                         |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Race            | White                                   |
| Sex             | Male                                    |
| Height          | 6'                                      |
| Weight          | 190 pounds                              |
| Hair            | Dark (color unknown) Brown<br>(Crewcut) |
| Eyes            | Breenish-blue                           |
| Clothing        | Grey - checkered - business suit        |
| Unusual         |                                         |
| Characteristics | Sun tan face                            |

KEPP was shown a group of eight photographs and from this group selected a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY taken between August, 1967, and February, 1968, as resembling this individual. KEPP could not positively identify subject as being identical.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/7/68

HOMER WOXBURG, Manager, Hertz Rent-A-Car,  
Los Angeles International Airport, furnished the  
following information:

A review of Hertz's records from May 1, 1968,  
through May 3, 1968, revealed that no person using the  
name C. RAY or CARL RAY or JAMES EARL RAY had rented  
or turned in a car during this period.

On 5/3/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574 - 347  
by SAs WILLIAM S. BURTON and  
THOMAS E. LAVIN/WSB/eb Date dictated 5/7/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/7/68

JOHN W. RICH, Passenger Service Representative,  
Pan American Airlines (PAA), Los Angeles International  
Airport, furnished the following information:

RICH was displayed a photo of JAMES EARL RAY.  
RICH advised that he had never sold a ticket at PAA's  
desk to a person resembling this photo.

On 5/3/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-10-348  
by SA WILLIAM S. BURTON/eb Date dictated 5/7/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/7/68

CLIF W. JOHNSON, Passenger Superintendent,  
Pan American Airlines (PAA), Los Angeles International  
Airport, furnished the following information:

PAA and United Airlines are the only two  
airlines which have commercial flights to Hawaii from  
Los Angeles.

No person using the last name RAY or using  
any known alias of JAMES EARL RAY purchased a ticket  
from Los Angeles to Hawaii on May 3, 1968.

The only PAA Agents who could have sold a  
ticket to Hawaii on May 3, 1968, are HERNAN A. GOMEZ  
and JOHN W. RICH.

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On 5/3/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-<sup>349</sup>0-  
by SA WILLIAM S. BURTON/eb Date dictated 5/7/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/7/68

HERNAN A. GOMEZ, Passenger Service Representative,  
Pan American Airlines (PAA), Los Angeles International  
Airport, furnished the following information:

A photo of JAMES EARL RAY was displayed to  
GOMEZ. GOMEZ has not seen a person resembling this  
photo purchase a ticket at PAA's desk at the Los Angeles  
International Airport.

On 5/3/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-<sup>350</sup>~~12~~  
by SA WILLIAM S. BURTON/eb Date dictated 5/7/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/20/68

FRANK COPE, residing in a trailer at Kal Craft Aviation, Blythe Airport, Blythe, California, advised that he assisted his mother, NETTIE COPE, fueling a Cessna Skymaster at about 2:00 a.m. on March 19, 1968.

He viewed all the photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and advised that RAY is not identical with the man who piloted the above plane.

On 5/14/68 at Blythe, California File # Los Angeles 26-53238  
SA THEODORE HINDERAKER/jan Date dictated 5/17/68 Los Angeles 44-1574-D-351

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/20/68

WILBUR B. HUMMEL, Route 1, Box 698 H, Blythe, California, is employed as an air traffic specialist by the Federal Aviation Agency at the Blythe Airport, Blythe, California. HUMMEL advised that he was on duty at about 2:00 a.m. on March 19, 1968, when a man called the Blythe Federal Aviation Agency by radio stating that he was landing and wanted fuel. After fueling his plane the man personally came to the Federal Aviation Agency Office and talked with HUMMEL for about 15 minutes. He asked about weather conditions and said he was going to fly to Dallas, Texas, but was going to stop at El Paso, Texas, first.

HUMMEL did not see the plane this man was flying as he was only able to see the planes lights from his level.

HUMMEL felt he could identify this man again if he ever saw him in person. He recalled the man appeared to have a cold as he coughed a great deal.

HUMMEL described this person as:

|        |             |
|--------|-------------|
| Race   | White       |
| Sex    | Male        |
| Age    | 40 years    |
| Height | 5'10"       |
| Build  | Medium      |
| Hair   | Dark, bushy |

HUMMEL viewed all the photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and stated that although he could not be positive he did not believe the above individual was identical with RAY.

On 5/14/68 at Blythe, California File # Los Angeles 26-53238  
Los Angeles 44-1574-D-352

by SA THEODORE HINDERAKER/jan Date dictated 5/17/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 5/20/68

NETTIE COPE, Kal Craft Aviation, Blythe Airport, Blythe, California, advised that at about 2:00 a.m. on March 19, 1968, she received a call from Mrs. HAMMEL of the Federal Aviation Agency, Blythe, stating that a plane was landing and had requested fuel by radio.

Mrs. COPE advised that she and her son, FRANK COPE, got up and went out on the flight line and a Cessna Skymaster, white in color with blue and yellow trim with push and pull propellers taxied up to the pit.

The plane was occupied by a white male, 28 to 30 years, 5'10" to 6', 180 pounds, olive complexion, dark brown hair, slight indentation on upper lip, no accent, wearing horn rim glasses and dressed in a white shirt, tie, and dark business brown suit. She viewed all the photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and stated that RAY is not identical with the man who piloted the above plane.

This man purchased 30 gallons of gasoline and paid cash. He initially asked if Mrs. COPE would take a Gulf credit card and she said that she preferred a Standard credit card at which time he said he would pay cash for the 30 gallons.

He also asked if she had any coffee and she replied no at which time he said he still had some coffee in his thermos bottle. He commented that the coffee in his thermos had been there since about 3:00 a.m. the previous day. In writing up the sale Mrs. COPE wrote down the craft number on a credit card ticket although the purchase was cash. This ticket with the number has since been sent to the bookkeeper, name unknown, for KALMAN STADLES, President of the Kal Craft Corporation. This bookkeeper lives in Yuma, Arizona and Mrs. COPE did not have her address. She stated that STADLES was currently out of town.

Mrs. COPE further noted that when the plane radioed in for fuel it gave the Federal Aviation Agency, Blythe,

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