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that RAY acknowledged a 1951 robbery at Chicago, Illinois, for which he was sentenced to twenty-one months in the Pontiac Reformatory and a 1955 arrest for transportation of forged documents, for which he received a sentence of thirty-four months to the Federal Penitentiary at Fort Leavenworth.

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HRD: amb

RE: RESIDENCE, 2023 PARK AVENUE

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI:

The following investigation was conducted by SA JOHN O. TRETHEWEY, JR. on May 7, 1968:

Mr. EDMOND HATTON, 2023 Park Avenue, advised he had purchased the building at that address in August of 1960. He has never seen JAMES EARL RAY and was not aware of his existence until recent publicity.

He stated Mr. E. C. COWLEY who lives in an upstairs room at that address was living in the building at the time RAY was arrested there in 1959. A Miss JONES, present address unknown, also resided in the building at that time. The building was previously owned by a Mrs. G. MC LAUGHLIN who still resides in the St. Louis area but whose exact address was unknown to him.

Mr. HATTON also owns an apartment building at 2021 Park Avenue. He stated that all present tenants took up residence there subsequent to 1960.

Mr. E. C. COWLEY, Room 8, 2023 Park Avenue, advised he had occupied Room 5 at that address which was adjacent to Room 6 which was occupied by RAY at the time of his 1959 Kroger robbery arrest. Mr. COWLEY had no contact with RAY. RAY had only been in the room for approximately three days at the time of the arrest. Mr. COWLEY recalled that on the morning of RAY's arrest he had observed two young men, one of whom was probably RAY, go into RAY's room just before he left for work that morning at approximately 9:00 a.m. That was the last he ever saw of RAY as he, COWLEY, had been at work at the time of the arrest.

He was unable to recall the identities of any other tenants who had resided there at the time of the arrest except for a Mrs. G. MC LAUGHLIN who was owner of the building at that time and a Miss JONES who currently resides in the neighborhood but whose address is unknown.

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Mr. W. M. HOOD, 2031 Park Avenue, advised he and his wife had witnessed the policemen in the yard at the house next door at the time of RAY's arrest in 1959, although they never saw RAY. He was unable to recall the identities of any other residents of the building at that time. He never saw RAY and had no information concerning him.

Mrs. REUBEN CRAFT, 2015 Park Avenue, advised she had resided in that area for approximately the past four years; that she had never seen subject and never heard of him until recently; and that she had no information concerning him.

The current residence of Miss LORETTA JONES, who formerly resided at 2023 Park, was determined to be 2335 Park Avenue, however, repeated attempts to contact her at that address proved fruitless.

Mrs. G. MC LAUGHLIN, 3020 Hawthorn, advised she had formerly owned the building at 2023 Park Avenue. She said that RAY had resided there less than a week prior to his arrest in 1959, and that she had no prior or subsequent knowledge or information concerning him.

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WHW:bam

RAY'S MEXICO TRIP

The following investigation was conducted at St. Louis, Missouri, by SA WILLIAM H. WARFIELD:

On April 30, 1968, RICHARD H. DIXON, 13000 Woodley Lane, St. Louis, was interviewed at the Federal Paper Stock, 4810 McKisock Street, where he is employed as Vice President.

DIXON advised that he stayed at the Rio Hotel, Puerto Vallarto, Mexico, from October 20 to 22, 1967. He and his wife, GLORIA, flew to Puerto Vallarto from Guadalajara, Mexico, via Mexicana Air Lines. They met friends, Mr. and Mrs. BEN LAPIN of San Francisco, California, at the Rio Hotel. DIXON thinks that he and his wife occupied Room #206.

DIXON viewed photographs of JAMES EARL RAY as depicted on FBI Wanted Flyer #442A, dated April 19, 1968. He advised that he does not recall having seen this man at the Rio Hotel. He could furnish no information concerning RAY.

On April 30, 1968, GLORIA L. (Mrs. RICHARD) DIXON, nee BRITTON, 13000 Woodley Lane, St. Louis, was interviewed at 8701 McKenzie Road, Affton, Missouri, where she is employed as a secretary to the Superintendent of Affton Schools.

Mrs. DIXON furnished essentially the same information as her husband. She viewed photographs of JAMES EARL RAY as depicted on FBI Wanted Flyer #442-A. She stated that she doesn't recall having seen RAY at the Rio Hotel during October, 1967, and could furnish no information concerning RAY.

Mrs. DIXON pointed out that she and her husband generally did not eat in the dining room at the Rio Hotel while residing there.

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JAF:amb

RE: LAUNDRY MARKS

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

The following investigation was conducted by SA
JACK A. FRENCH:

On April 17, 1968, MC CAWLEY SUITS, Assistant Manager, Suits Laundry, 1400 Russell (TO 5-1494), displayed to the agent their two Thermo-seal marking machines, Serial Numbers 32760 and 32759. They utilize the first machine with three digit marks; alternating A through Z for the first character and 1 through 99 consecutively for the last two characters.

The other machine uses three numbers only, 100 through 999. They do not have machine with Serial Number 30979.

On April 17, 1968, a check of 2323 Rutger Street reflected Sunshine Laundry has been out of business for several years and all machinery and furniture in the interior has been removed.

In view of the above neither of these laundries would ever be utilizing the codes "O2B-6", "D2B-6", or "20R-3."

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TLB:bam

RE: TWA AIRLINE CHECK

The following investigation was conducted by
SA THOMAS L. BUCKLEY at St. Louis, Missouri, on April 30,
1968:

Mr. RAS NEWSOME, Supervisor, Reservations Sales, Trans World Airlines, Inc., 440 Mansion House Center, Fourth Street and Washington Avenue, caused a search of his company's records to be made regarding TWA flights 489, 529, and 537 which departed Atlanta, Georgia, on April 5, 6, 11, and 12, 1968. This search failed to reveal that any passenger giving a name W. C. HERRON, JAMES MC BRIDE, JAMES O'CONNER, JAMES WALTON or JAMES WALYOU rode any of these flights. An additional search regarding persons who made reservations and cancelled them was also made for the above names on the above flights without effecting an identification. All of the above flights departed as scheduled except flight 489 on April 11, 1968, which was cancelled because no equipment was available.

Mr. IRVIN STRICKLAND, Supervisor, Reservations Sales, TWA, placed stops for the names JAMES EARL RAY, ERIC STARVO GALT, W. C. HERRON, HARVEY LOWMYER, JAMES MC BRIDE, JAMES O'CONNER, JAMES WALTON, JAMES WALYOU, and JOHN WILLARD with all reservations agents employed by TWA at St. Louis, Missouri.

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HCK/ral

Re: HIPPIE ROOMING HOUSES

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

On April 25, 1968, Mr. PAUL PICK, formerly employed as Director of the Exit, a so-called Christian coffee house, located in Gaslight Square, St. Louis, Missouri, at Boyle and Olive Streets, now employed as a teacher, University of Missouri at St. Louis, was contacted by SAA HOWARD C. KENNEDY at the YMCA, Fifteenth and Locust Streets, St. Louis, where he was then teaching. He furnished the following information:

He is very well acquainted with many persons frequenting the Gaslight Square area having been employed as Director of the Exit for several years. He resided in that area during the entire time. In his opinion there are no hippie rooming houses located outside the area of McPherson Street between Boyle and Taylor. Almost all of the rooming houses located in that area are at times occupied by hippies. He estimated that there are about 100 "hardcore hippies" living in the St. Louis area, and all of them are located on McPherson Street. There are perhaps several hundred young persons who are generally known as weekend hippies or "plastic hippies", but in his opinion, these persons are attending school as students or employed in industry in this area and are not to be confused with bona fide hippies. Mr. PICK was unable to furnish any information concerning JAMES EARL RAY, whose photograph was exhibited to him as was descriptive information concerning RAY.

The following persons were contacted concerning this matter by Agents identified below on April 26, 1968, in the course of investigation to contact all hippie rooming houses located on McPherson Street, St. Louis, Missouri; none of these individuals, however, furnished any information concerning JAMES EARL RAY whose photograph was exhibited and descriptive information furnished to each of them:

SA LAWRENCE B. CURTIN and SA EDWARD M. MORELAND

4303	McPherson	Mrs. NELSON
4311	"	STEVE CARVER
4323	"	Mrs. CAROLINE VOSS
4333	"	JOE WELSH

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4333	McPherson	JOE BARROW
		JAMES NEELY
4339	"	JACK WORKMAN
		SAM CRAMER
		WAYNE MISTLER
		JAMES L. FITZGERALD
		JERRY "D.C." HENNEN
		MIKE YOUNG
		JACK GRIMES
		Mr. JOHNNY CARTER
4363	"	EDGAR STONE
4367	"	RILEY PHILLIPS
4373	"	THURSTON A. GREER
4381	"	Miss ARLEE MC GHAW
4397	"	MELVIN BURKE
		NAPOLEAN JONES
4308	"	RAYMOND FLIPPIN
		JOE GENNA
4312	"	BOB DALTON, manager of the
		rooming house at this address
4342	"	FRED MC GUIRE

SA LOUIS F. CAPUTO AND SA THOMAS L. BUCKLEY

4487	McPherson	JOHN MC VICKER
		ARTHUR DABOUB
		JANE ABRAMOFF
4483	"	WILLIAM SMITH
		Mrs. ERNESTINE SMITH
4477	"	Mrs. MABEL TAYLOR
		MERLIN TAYLOR
4473	"	Mrs. DOROTHY BLANCHARD
4463	"	CARL WESTERMAYER
		HERMAN BOEDICKER
		CHARLES SCHUMACHER
		SAM MISINANY
		RONALD GILES
		ROBERT MC DONALD
4457	"	Mrs. NITA CARNEAL
		Miss LINDA CARNEAL
4453	"	Sister DELORES
		Sister VERA
		MARY LINZMEYER
		Father FRANCIS MAC NUTT

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4437	McPherson	PATRICIA KOHN WILLIAM KOHN SAMUEL WAYNE JANE WAYNE
4431	"	Mr. THOMAS BOLEN Mrs. MARY BOLEN Miss ANNE BOLEN Miss CATHERINE BOLEN
4425	"	VERONICA HIGGINS LILLIAN PARKER AARON O'NEAL (a visitor residence 1315 N. 7th)
4421	"	Mrs. MABEL CURTIS
4417	"	BABE WEINSTEIN
4411	"	WILLIAM STEVENSON
	"	ISAAC RUSSELL
4374	"	JANET PETE
	"	CLARENCE PETE
	"	JOHN D. BROWN
4362	"	ALBERTA STRINGER
4350	"	GERALD HALL (manager) PATRICIA HALL
4346	"	Mrs. BEULAH LONG
4332	"	ELIZABETH B. JACKSON Mrs. EDNA LAYTON
	"	CLARENCE MEASHER
4320	"	Mr. BERT SMITH

SA JAMES T. DEARBORN and SA DONALD S. DE FONCE

382	Taylor	EMMA SLAUGHTER
4482	McPherson	PEARLIE HENDERSON
4480	"	WALTER MOSS
4476	"	MICHAEL HOUSTON
4476A	"	HELEN MEYERS
4478	"	Mr. LARSON
	"	RANSOM SCHWARTZ
4474	"	BILL GLADFELTER J. P. MULLHOLLAND EUGENE MOSES
4468	"	C. A. GROSS
4466A	"	HUGO F. MUSKOFF THEODORE MC COWAN

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4466	McPherson	NAOMI SMITH
4464	"	E. K. HASBAN
		JULIE SHELDON
4464A	"	RUTH SIEGEL
4462	"	SOPHIE SHERMAN
4462A	"	MARGARET MC CLUSKEY
4456	"	DONA M. FOWLER
		RENE SANDLER
		CLEVELAND YOUNG
4452	"	LARRY BREWSTER
		MIKE BORTNICK
		FRANK FRIEMEL
		Mrs. IRA MOYERS
4448	"	Vacant
4444	"	ROBERT DAY
4438	"	CHARITY MULLINS
		THOMAS WASHINGTON
4434	"	FLORENCE GEST
4428	"	ROOSEVELT HAMM
		CLARLES HAMPTON
4426	"	ELMOS PEARSON
4424-22	"	Vacant
4402-6	"	Mrs. IONA REDMAN, Manager, Kampden Hall Apartments
4398	"	WILLIAM BUCKLEY
4396	"	SARAH BROWNE
4394	"	JAMES ATHANAS
4394A	"	EDITH HACKENBERRY
4390	"	FRANCIS G. HRABOVSKY
4388	"	ISABEL CLERVIS
4380	"	MARTIN STACK
4366	"	WESLEY RIDEOUT
4358	"	FRANK WOLFF
		MARGUERITE OLDANI (manager)
4330	"	Mrs. WILLIAM MARLOW.

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POLICE DEPARTMENTS UNIDENTIFIED LATENT COMPARISON

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

On April 23, 1968, MICHAEL FITZPATRICK, Identification Division, St. Louis Police Department, advised SA GEORGE M. PEET that he had compared unidentified latent fingerprints in robberies, burglaries, etc., in St. Louis against the fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI Number 405 942 G, without effecting an identification.

AT ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI

On April 24, 1968, ED BRIGHT, St. Louis County Police Department, Identification Division, conducted a similar examination with negative results.

It should be noted that the Missouri State Highway Patrol, with headquarters at Jefferson City, Missouri, handles latent fingerprint work for most smaller police departments and in rural areas of the state.

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RE: LOCAL UNIDENTIFIED LATENT SEARCH

In connection with the search of the fingerprints of subject RAY against unidentified latent fingerprints maintained in files of local law enforcement agencies, Sergeant DAVID WENDELL, St. Louis County Police Department, Identification Bureau, and MICHAEL FITZPATRICK, Identification Division, St. Louis Police Department, were contacted in an effort to ascertain the identity of departments in the metropolitan St. Louis area who would have the files of unidentified latent fingerprints. As a result of this contact, the following departments were contacted on May 2, 1968. They advised that a comparison would be made of their unidentified latent fingerprints with the fingerprints of JAMES RAY. In the event an identification is effected by any department, that department will telephonically contact the St. Louis Office.

Florissant, Missouri Police Department
Kirkwood, Missouri Police Department
University City, Missouri Police Department
Clayton, Missouri Police Department
Webster Groves, Missouri Police Department.

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JAD/jtc

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RE: UNIDENTIFIED LATENT CHECKS

AT HANNIBAL, MISSOURI

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

Chief ARLO BALDWIN, Hannibal, Missouri Police Department, on May 6, 1968, was requested to check the fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY, I. O. #4182, against the unidentified latents of any unsolved cases. He later advised, May 6, 1968, his fingerprint man had made the comparisons without results.

There are no other departments which maintain files of unidentified prints. The Missouri State Highway Patrol submits all latents to Jefferson City.

The Latent Fingerprint Section has been requested to compare the unidentified latents in the Perry State Bank burglary with subject's prints.

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RAY FELLOW PRISONERS

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PWB:amb

RE: PRISON ASSOCIATE WALTER E. NOLAN

The following investigation was conducted by SAs ROBERT A. HESS and PATRICK W. BRADLEY on April 24, 1968, at St. Louis, Missouri:

Mr. SAM KRAMER was contacted at his place of business, the Plaza Buffet, 18th and Chestnut Street, St. Louis, Missouri, at which time he advised that he is not in fact an uncle of former Missouri prison inmate, WALTER E. NOLAN, however, is commonly referred to as an uncle by NOLAN because in the past he and his wife have made efforts to rehabilitate and befriend NOLAN.

He stated that last fall (1967) NOLAN was again released from the state penitentiary, however, since that time he (KRAMER) has made no further attempt at rehabilitation of NOLAN. He stated that occasionally NOLAN comes by his place of business, the last time being Saturday, April 20, 1968, at which time he cashed a \$10 check drawn on the State Bank and Trust Company of Wellston, Missouri.

He stated that it is his understanding since NOLAN's release he has worked as a baker at Hullings Restaurant, 8th and Olive, and worked subsequent to that for a few weeks on a part-time basis as a cook on a river boat, barge line name unknown. Mr. KRAMER stated that he has no knowledge as to his current employment or current residence address.

Mr. KRAMER stated that his residence may be known to newscaster LES CARMICHAEL, KMOX Television Station. Mr. KRAMER pointed out that CARMICHAEL was in touch with NOLAN obtaining historical data regarding his lengthy imprisonment primarily for a human interest news-type story.

LES CARMICHAEL, KMOX TV, 1215 Cole Street, St. Louis, Missouri, advised that last fall he noticed an article in the newspaper regarding a prisoner writing his own brief and getting a release from prison and this article slanted the version to the point where it appeared the man might have been unjustly imprisoned. As a result of this he contacted

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WALTER E. NOLAN, the ex-convict in question, in an effort to obtain some human interest story for a news item. He noted that he contacted NOLAN through a well-known St. Louis attorney whose name he could not immediately recall but whose name was either in the newspaper article or came to his attention as NOLAN's representative from some other source. Mr. CARMICHAEL also related that the reason why he followed up this was because when he contacted the attorney, the attorney spoke highly of NOLAN's intelligence and his legal ability in the preparation of legal briefs.

Mr. CARMICHAEL stated that after a number of contacts with NOLAN he did not feel that there was sufficient human interest in the matter to follow it any further and just left it drop. Mr. CARMICHAEL stated that in his conversations with NOLAN as he recalls NOLAN was a highly intelligent individual, was not radical or an extremist in any manner with the exception of having an extremely hostile attitude toward the authorities at the various penitentiaries he has been in. Mr. CARMICHAEL reiterated that NOLAN never displayed any racial extremism emotion. Mr. CARMICHAEL advised that at no time does he ever recall NOLAN mentioning JAMES EARL RAY as an associate or friend in prison.

The following information is confidential and can only be obtained by the issuance of a subpoena duces tecum issued to HENRY E. CLABOUGH, Manager, Bookkeeping Department, State Bank and Trust Company of Wellston, Wellston, Missouri:

Mr. HENRY E. CLABOUGH, Manager, Bookkeeping Department, advised that they have an account #3233939 in the name of WALTER E. NOLAN, giving an address in care of Mrs. CARMEN PATTON, 5206 Washington Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri, 63108. Mr. CLABOUGH stated that this checking account has a current balance of \$18.34 and was opened in November, 1967. Since November, 1967, the average monthly balance has been \$17. Mr. CLABOUGH stated there are no major deposits nor withdrawals, the last deposit being made on April 16, 1968, in the amount of \$113.26.

Mr. CLABOUGH stated that their central indices do not reflect any other accounts nor do they reflect that this individual has a safety deposit box at this bank.

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Mrs. CARMEN PATTON, 5206 Washington Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri, telephone #FO 1-5462, advised that WALTER E. NOLAN resides as a roomer at this address. Mrs. PATTON stated that because of the newspaper publicity at the time of Mr. NOLAN's release from prison she is aware of his background as an ex-convict. She pointed out, however, that he is extremely quiet, mannerly, and appears to be a regular working individual. He does not have associates frequenting the rooming house and although she has no knowledge of his current employment he is employed somewhere as a cook and usually arrives home around 5:00 p.m.

Mrs. PATTON pointed out that he has been attempting to get some type of job with the Anti-Poverty Program and she displayed a note that had been left earlier this date to Mr. NOLAN which indicated that he should report ready for work in connection with the poverty program at 2420 Cass Avenue at 9:00 a.m. on April 29, 1968.

On April 24, 1968, IC JOHN D. DYER, JR. checked the records of the St. Louis Police Department and determined that under their #18295 and FBI #41847, WALTER ELLSWORTH NOLAN has the following record:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
December 24, 1921	Robbery first degree and grand larceny	5 years Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP) committed to 3 years in the Missouri State Reformatory
October 16, 1925	Robbery first degree	7 years MSP
March 24, 1929	"	3-17-30, continued generally as he was at that time in the Illinois State Peni- tentiary (ISP). Hold placed against him at ISP.

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
		1-14-42, verdict guilty, robbery first degree, 50 years MSP with a dangerous and deadly weapon. (1-17-46, robbery first degree and habitual criminal - nolle prossed)
October 23, 1958	Robbery first degree with a dangerous and deadly weapon	2-11-59, nolle prossed
"	(Parole violator, State) (of Missouri) (Parole violator, State) (of Illinois)	2-13-59, turned over to Missouri State Parole Officer BERNARD LAKE
September 11, 1957	Violation of electric signal	Fined \$5 and costs.

The following description was obtained from these records:

Name	WALTER ELLSWORTH NOLAN
Aliases	WALTER ELSWORTH NOLAN, WILLIAM FLYNN, and WILLIAM LEYANN
Sex	Male
Race	White
Date of birth	
Place of birth	St. Louis, Missouri
Height	5'7"
Weight	130
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Build	Slender
Complexion	Medium to sallow
Marital status	Married
Occupation	Clerk, sheet metal worker, and carpenter

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Addresses

February, 1959; September, 1957;
and October, 1958, 610 North
10th Street, St. Louis, Mis-
souri;

Wife

December, 1921, 451 Woodlawn,
Webster Groves, Missouri
MARILYNN NOLAN, 8034 Church
Road, St. Louis, Missouri
(December, 1921).

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date 4-26-68

At the onset of the interview SAs PATRICK W. BRADLEY and ROBERT A. HESS identified themselves to WALTER E. NOLAN in the lobby of the rooming house where he resides. After being advised of the identity of the interviewing agents he stated, "I want nothing to do with you people.", and then said, "What do you want with me? I haven't done anything since I've been out."

Mr. NOLAN was advised that we were not investigating his activities, however, we were conducting a fugitive investigation to locate one JAMES EARL RAY, a former inmate of the Missouri State Penitentiary. At this point NOLAN stated, "I remember Jim Ray but I don't know anything about him now and if I did know anything about him I wouldn't tell any representative of law enforcement."

It was pointed out to NOLAN that the agents had spoken earlier in the day to acquaintances of NOLAN who spoke very highly of NOLAN's intelligence and ability in legal research and briefs. Therefore, he should have a clear understanding of the possible consequences of harboring a fugitive.

NOLAN stated that he had nothing to do with the escape of RAY and has not seen or heard from RAY since the Saturday before he left from behind the walls of the Missouri State Penitentiary.

At this point NOLAN volunteered that he knew JIM RAY approximately 10 years, the entire acquaintanceship being made and carried on in the Missouri State Penitentiary. He pointed out that he was aware of RAY planning to escape on the three occasions that he attempted to do so, however, was not aware of the details of the plans nor was he aware of the exact time that RAY planned to go. He noted that he resided in the same hall with RAY although both he and RAY were celled individually, not having cellmates. He further noted that RAY was gone approximately 30 days from the penitentiary before his escape was reported and during that 30-day period on a daily basis he was reported present in the hall when he actually had already escaped.

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On 4-24-68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL 44-775
by SA PATRICK W. BRADLEY
SA ROBERT A. HESS PWB:amb Date dictated 4-25-68

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NOLAN stated that he believes that he (NOLAN) was the closest associate that RAY had in the penitentiary and walked in the yard with him daily. He pointed out that RAY in effect was a loner with no one really close to him. NOLAN stated that even though he considered himself the closest friend of RAY, RAY never really told him any personal information other than on one occasion he mentioned that he had an unnamed brother in Chicago, Illinois, and allegedly was raised in a small town in the State of Illinois.

NOLAN stated that RAY was a loner in his opinion because he felt all convicts were potential "stool pigeon material" and he did not trust any of them because he had been "done in a couple of times" by the stool pigeon system that operated in the prison. At this point NOLAN noted that it was his opinion that if RAY saw one of his former fellow-convicts he would immediately leave the area for fear of that individual turning "stool pigeon." He continued indicating that he felt RAY would never contact a former fellow-convict for this reason, including himself.

With regard to RAY's last escape from the penitentiary he stated that it was not as reported that RAY left in a bread box because he knew it to be a fact that RAY walked out the front door of the prison. He would not go into further details regarding this statement. When questioned as to whether or not he meant there was a bribery in connection with this escape he stated that he did not mean it in this manner, however, would not elaborate.

With regard to RAY's prior escape attempts, on one escape attempt charge he pled insanity as his defense and subsequently was sent to Fulton Mental Hospital for observation and after a short period of time was returned to the Missouri State Penitentiary adjudged sane.

With regard to RAY's emotional feelings he stated that JIM RAY was not an extremist, he never knew him to be emotional over anything, and if JIM RAY is responsible for the death of Dr. KING he feels that he was completely out of character with the person he knew as JIM RAY in the Missouri State Penitentiary. He described RAY's demeanor as being

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that of a cynical individual, however, the cynicism always being in a humorous vane. NOLAN pointed out that RAY had the unique ability of being able to laugh at himself and be cynical in a humorous way about his own past mistakes.

NOLAN pointed out that the majority of the conversation between him and RAY had to do with their legal research in regard to preparing briefs for themselves in an attempt to gain freedom from prison. He pointed out RAY was extremely interested in law, especially if it concerned his particular case. This interest was to the extent that RAY spent extra moneys to purchase law books and literature regarding recent court decisions.

NOLAN again reiterated that he felt that RAY would never contact him and doubts that RAY even knows his current location, however, he reluctantly agreed to notify the FBI if he was contacted by RAY because of the possibility of a law violation which would cause him (NOLAN) to return to prison which he does not want to do.

He noted that in the preparation of the brief by which he was released he had obtained the services of Attorney ORVILLE RICHARDSON in St. Louis for arguing the brief through approaching a judge by letter and suggesting the appointment of one or five attorneys by which ORVILLE RICHARDSON was the appointed one.

NOLAN indicated that he is currently employed as a second cook at the Heritage House Restaurant in St. Louis, however, is going to work in connection with the poverty program on April 29, 1968, in St. Louis noting that he is doing this at a reduced salary in an effort to help others rehabilitate themselves.

He again noted that he never knew of RAY to have any racial extremist emotions or ideas particularly pointing out that during part of the time RAY was in prison he was employed in the kitchen with many members of the Negro race and he always spoke well of anybody who held up their own end of the work regardless of their race. He never expressed any animosity toward anyone because of their color.

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PWB/leh

RE: RAY'S PERSONAL ASSOCIATE
WALTER ELLSWORTH NOLAN

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

The following investigation was conducted on April 29, 1968, by IC JOHN D. DYER, JR.:

The records of the Commercial Credit Rating Company, St. Louis, Missouri, were checked and no record could be located identical with WALTER ELLSWORTH NOLAN, 5206 Washington Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri.

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JAMES EARL RAY -
Former Associate
JOSEPH ELMER AUSTIN

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

On May 9, 1968, SA JOSEPH A. DUBYAK and SA HOWARD G. SLACK contacted MYRTLE COOK, Acme Hotel, 4040 Olive Street, St. Louis, Missouri, in an effort to obtain information regarding JOSEPH ELMER AUSTIN. COOK advised she does not know JOSEPH ELMER AUSTIN, JAMES FREELEY, "Sharkey," Or "Blackey;" nor has she ever known or corresponded with anyone known by the above names.

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JAD:mjb

RE: BUDDY BATCHELDER

AT HANNIBAL, MISSOURI:

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

Chief ARLO BALDWIN advised on April 25, 1968, he last heard of BUDDY BATCHELDER being sentenced at Alton, Illinois, in 1961 or 1962, for murder. He believes him to be presently incarcerated at Illinois State Prison.

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SL 44-775
WCJ:amb

RE: BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON JAMES EARL RAY

On April 29, 1968, the Kansas City Office advised St. Louis that the parents of Missouri State Penitentiary inmate, JAMES Z. BRADLEY, may have information concerning JAMES EARL RAY.

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI:

On May 8, 1968, OPHIE BRADLEY, 3860 DeTonty, St. Louis, Missouri, mother of JAMES Z. BRADLEY, advised SA WALTER C. JOHNSON she frequently visited her son at the Missouri State Penitentiary, the last time being May 7, 1968. The last visit she specifically asked her son if he knew RAY and he indicated he became acquainted with RAY while he was at the penitentiary but did not elaborate on his association. Mrs. BRADLEY said this was the only time RAY was ever mentioned to her by her son.

Mrs. BRADLEY said she resided with her husband, JOHN B. BRADLEY, at this address but he was in poor health and did not visit his son at the penitentiary.

Mrs. BRADLEY said her son's ex-wife, MAXINE, divorced her son eight years ago soon after he went to the penitentiary and re-married shortly thereafter. She does not know her current whereabouts but said her son had not heard from MAXINE for eight years.

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SL: 44-775
JDD: pdp

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

RE: RAY PRISON ASSOCIATES
GEORGE FREDERICK BRASS
POLICE CHECK

The following investigation was conducted by
IC JOHN D. DYER, JR.:

The records of the Metropolitan St. Louis Police Department disclosed GEORGE FREDERICK BRASS, St. Louis Police Department number 56230, was arrested with ROBERT DALE PORTER, St. Louis Police Department number 56229, on September 13, 1946, charged with larceny of an auto. On November 1, 1946, BRASS pleaded guilty to climbing in or upon a motor vehicle without the owner's consent and was sentenced to two months in the city workhouse.

Their records contain the following background and descriptive data concerning BRASS:

Sex	Male
Race	White
Date, place of birth	[REDACTED] Lorraine, Ohio
Height	6'1"
Weight	155
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Build	Slender
Complexion	Ruddy
FBI Number	4680585
U. S. Army Serial Number	[REDACTED]
Marital Status	Single
Occupation	Soldier
Addresses	September 1946 - Scott Field, Illinois Home address Lorraine, Ohio
Parents	JOHN F. and MATHILDA BRASS, Lorraine, Ohio, September 1946
Sister	BEVERLY A. BRASS, Lorraine, Ohio, September 1946
Brother	JOHN G. BRASS, 856 North Central Drive, Lorraine, Ohio

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SL: 44-775
WCJ:wma

RE: BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON
JAMES EARL RAY

On April 29, 1968, Kansas City Office advised JAMES HUGH CARPENTER, a fellow inmate friend of JAMES EARL RAY, at Missouri State Penitentiary, was currently serving time at St. Louis County Jail.

On May 7, 1968, PEGGY TAMMY, Clerk, St. Louis Circuit Court, advised SA WALTER C. JOHNSON, that JAMES HUEY CARPENTER was released from St. Louis City Jail on March 1, 1968, after serving nine-months sentence and current whereabouts unknown.

On May 1, 1968, WILLIAM R. STRADER, Apartment 3, 2102 Lafayette, St. Louis, Missouri, advised SA WALTER C. JOHNSON that he had been resident manager at this address for six or seven years and that EULA HOWELL had been dead for four years. HOWELL was supposedly a friend listed by CARPENTER in records of MSP. STRADER did not know CARPENTER.

The address 2201 Park, St. Louis, Missouri, occupied by CARPENTER's nephew, DON DEETER, has been a vacant lot for four years and no information developed in the area as to the whereabouts of DEETER.

Pertinent St. Louis directories negative concerning JAMES HUEY CARPENTER and DON DEETER.

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SL 44-775
KAW:amb

RE: FELLOW PRISONER EVERETT WAYNE COX, FBI #127 115 C

The following investigation was conducted by SAs
KENNETH A. WILLIAMS and JOHN O. TRETHEWEY, JR., at St. Louis,
Missouri:

On April 25, 1968, Mr. PETE "SMILEY" GENOVESE, 10623
Hallwood Drive, St. Louis County, Missouri, advised until
March, 1968, he owned and operated the Northwestern Bar and
Lounge, 4911 Natural Bridge. He stated he had never been
incarcerated at the Missouri State Penitentiary and was not
acquainted with anyone named EVERETT WAYNE COX. He viewed
the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY without being able to identify
him by his true name or known aliases and stated he has never
known or met RAY.

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SL: 44-775
DR: pdp

RE: RAY PRISON ASSOCIATES
 CARL BENTON DRAKE

The following investigation was conducted by
SA DOUGLAS ROSENBERGER at Cape Girardeau, Missouri:

On April 24, 1968, FRANK and BETTY WALLS, residing
in an apartment on the corner of Goodhope and Benton Streets,
Cape Girardeau, Missouri, advised as follows:

Mrs. WALLS stated that she was formerly married
to CARL BENTON DRAKE, however received a divorce from him
in early 1965 while he was still confined to the Missouri
State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri. She stated
she has since remarried and since her divorce from DRAKE
has had no contact or communication from him.

She supposed that subsequent to his release he
would return to St. Louis, Missouri, where his mother, OLLA
DRAKE, resides on North Ninth Street.

She stated that in the event any contact is made
with her by DRAKE she would immediately contact the Federal
Bureau of Investigation.

She stated that JAMES EARL RAY is unknown to her
and she has no information concerning him.

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SL 44-775
WCJ/ral

Re: BACKGROUND OF JAMES EARL RAY

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

On April 29, 1968, CARL BENTON DRAKE, a self-employed contractor, 2934 St. Vincent, St. Louis, Missouri, residence telephone PR6-3540, furnished the following information to SA WALTER C. JOHNSON:

While an inmate in the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP), DRAKE became acquainted with JAMES EARL RAY and subsequently became good friends until DRAKE's release in June, 1965. Their main association at the prison was when they got together in the prison yard and conversed while walking for exercise. During this association, DRAKE feels that he became as close a friend to RAY as anyone at the prison. He described RAY as a "loner" and "close-mouthed", who kept his own counsel and did not even mention his planned escape which DRAKE later learned was an unsuccessful attempt by him to go over the wall on a ladder. RAY had very few friends, however, he mixed well with other inmates, both black and white, and had never shown any propensity for violence or appeared to be a racist.

DRAKE said there were several instances of racial trouble at the penitentiary, but RAY never seemed to get involved or to express his feelings in the matter one way or another.

RAY often mentioned that he could not do his twenty year sentence, but never indicated any escape plans or any contacts with outside individuals. The only member of RAY's family he referred to was his brother, JACK RAY of St. Louis. DRAKE recalled JACK visited his brother at prison on the average of possibly once a year. DRAKE vaguely recalled RAY mentioning that he had another brother who was killed in an automobile accident in northern Missouri, but did not recall RAY mentioning any other relatives. RAY did not discuss his general background, other than mentioning on several occasions he had previously done time at Menard State Prison, Chester, Illinois.

RAY was not addicted to use of drugs, however, DRAKE said nearly all inmates "fooled around" with anything they could get their hands on and that if RAY used any form of drugs it was unknown to DRAKE.

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WCJ/ral

DRAKE said about two weeks after his release in June, 1965, he visited JACK RAY in St. Louis upon the request of JIMMY and this was the last time he saw JACK. Their conversation primarily concerned JIM's welfare at the MSP.

DRAKE had no heard of RAY's escape and presumed he was still in prison until the recently publicity about him.

DRAKE regards RAY as a small-time robber, mentally incapable of planning the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING without additional intelligent guidance from some other source. He believes RAY capable of being hired for this but would certainly not be alone in this matter. He is also of the opinion that whoever hired RAY, that person or group has disposed of him. He commented with the "heat" on RAY and rewards advertised, it would be extremely difficult for a fellow like RAY to hide.

DRAKE indicated he would cooperate in any way he could with the FBI in the event any information came to his attention regarding the whereabouts of JAMES EARL RAY.

CARL DRAKE said his brother, JAMES FRANCIS DRAKE, was also an inmate at the MSP and was acquainted with RAY through their association in the exercise yard. DRAKE, his brother JAMES and RAY all walked together on many occasions. JAMES FRANCIS DRAKE was released two years before CARL and later served time at Terre Haute Federal Prison being released in November, 1967. CARL said his brother JAMES resides with his mother, OLA DRAKE, at Modesta, Illinois, and is currently employed at the Valley Steel Company, Jacksonville, Illinois.

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SL: 44-775
WCJ:wma

RE: BACKGROUND INFORMATION REGARDING
JAMES EARL RAY

On May 6, 1968, Little Rock advised RUSSELL LEE MARTIN, former inmate of Missouri State Penitentiary, contacted CARL BENTON DRAKE, an acquaintance at MSP, on May 4 and 5, 1968, at St. Louis, Missouri. DRAKE at the time indicated to MARTIN that JAMES EARL RAY had been in contact with him on two occasions since KING's assassination.

On May 9, 1968, CARL BENTON DRAKE was re-contacted by SA WALTER C. JOHNSON and reiterated information previously furnished regarding background information of RAY at MSP. DRAKE advised he had not learned anything further regarding RAY. He again expressed a willingness to cooperate in the event he learned anything of value.

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SL 44-775
HRD:paw

Fellow Prisoner: JAMES C. FLETCHER

AT MOBERLY, MISSOURI

The following investigation was conducted by
SA WILLIAM R. DUNCAN on April 26, 1968.

Inmate JAMES C. FLETCHER, Number 72071, Missouri Training School for Men, advised he had been incarcerated at the Missouri State Penitentiary in Jefferson City, Missouri, at the same time as subject and knew subject slightly from going back and forth to the dining room to eat. He stated everyone in the penitentiary knew RAY by his reputation as he had attempted to escape several times. FLETCHER stated he had reported RAY as being missing at the time of his escape on April 23, 1967, to Lieutenant BILLY "BOB" TURNER after he had heard from other inmates that RAY had escaped. FLETCHER stated it was rumored at that time that RAY was going to go to the State of Georgia if his escape was successful. FLETCHER was of the opinion that Major B. J. PORTER, presently at the penitentiary at Jefferson City, would be aware of the inmates who furnished information concerning RAY's intentions to go to Georgia.

FLETCHER stated he had no knowledge or information concerning RAY following RAY's escape, and that he would be unable to make any suggestion as to where RAY might be found at this time.

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Date May 8, 1968

ORVILLE ERNEST GANN was interviewed at Dismas House, 901 Cole Street, at which time he advised that his last Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP) number was 69729. GANN stated he first entered the MSP in August, 1926, on a four-year sentence of burglary from Butler County, Missouri. He re-entered the MSP April, 1931, on a 25-year sentence for murder from Butler County and entered a third time in April, 1955, on a 20-year sentence for armed robbery at St. Louis, Missouri. He was released from this institution on parole to Dismas House on April 9, 1968.

GANN is presently employed in maintenance work at the Milner Hotel, 20th and Washington, but is seeking employment as an employee of the Missouri State Hospital on Arsenal Street in the laundry department. GANN expects to be residingsoon with his wife, EILEEN MASCHINO, 4040 Laclede in St. Louis.

GANN knew subject RAY casually while they were both inmates in MSP at Jefferson City. During the period of this casual acquaintance, RAY was living in K Hall while GANN was a resident of J Hall. Their association consisted of casual passing in the hallways of the institution, some slight association in the yard and slight association based on the fact that RAY worked on the food detail and sometimes served special dishes to GANN and GANN reciprocated by giving RAY special consideration in connection with his laundry service since GANN was assigned to the laundry in the institution. GANN recalled that RAY was always a neat, clean individual, but he stated he could not picture RAY as a person who would plan and carry out an assassination such as that committed on Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING.

GANN stated he had never heard RAY or anyone else in the institution discuss any plans concerning the assassination of KING or anyone else for a monetary consideration. He recalled vaguely the name COOLEY (phonetic) among inmates in the MSP but could not place this individual as to race or any associates. When questioned concerning possible close associates of subject RAY while he was in the MSP, GANN named one CARL DRAKE, age about 40, tinner, who has returned to the St. Louis area and was recently ~~shot~~ in South St. Louis in a tavern brawl. He also mentioned one "TED" RICHARDSON employed in a ~~small~~ cleaning establishment in the 1600 block of South Jefferson in St. Louis, Missouri.

When questioned concerning any individuals in the MSP who might be capable of planning a major assassination such as that of

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On 5/6/68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL: 44-775
by SA CLETIS B. BIDEWELL/mjb
SA WILLIAM H. WARFIELD Date dictated 5/6/68

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KING he named BOBBY ASH, current inmate of the penitentiary who is doing 30 years for armed robbery in the vicinity of Kansas City, Missouri. He also named JIM BRADLEY, who is serving time in the penitentiary for killing a St. Louis policeman. He described the majority of the MSP inmates as small time hoodlums but advised that ASH and BRADLEY may have connections on the outside that would afford them information such as a planned assassination. He attributed political connections to ASH.

He pointed out at the time of RAY's escape from the penitentiary he, GANN, was not ~~confined~~ at Jefferson City but at the honor farm located at Fordland near Springfield, Missouri.

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SL: 44-775
HRD:jfb

RE: FELLOW PRISONERS

AT MOBERLY, MISSOURI

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent JAMES A. DUFFEY:

Convict JOHN EDWARD JOHNSON, Number 00876, Men's Training Center, advised on May 3, 1968, he knew subject when both of them were prisoners were at Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri. He was never a close associate of RAY and last saw him in 1964. He has observed photographs in the newspaper recently and recognized them as being of the person he knew as JIM RAY.

He never heard RAY make any antagonistic remarks concerning Negroes and never heard him mention Dr. KING.

The names "COOLEY" or "COOLEY Associates" was not familiar to him. He never heard any gossip at the prison that any amount of money would be paid to anyone for the death of KING. He was unable to suggest the name of any person who would have been a close associate or confidant of subject.

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SL 44-775

HRD:paw

Fellow Prisoner: PAUL ARTHUR LAIL, JR.

The Springfield Division, on April 26, 1968, requested that the Miami Division be furnished available information in St. Louis files concerning PAUL ARTHUR LAIL, JR. for the assistance of the Miami Division in conducting an interview of LAIL at his residence, 34 Barbodos Drive, Palm Springs, West Palm Beach, Florida.

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

A review of St. Louis files on April 27, 1968, concerning PAUL ARTHUR LAIL, JR. disclosed that LAIL had been sentenced at Stoddard County, Missouri, on June 20, 1963, on a fraudulent check charge. He escaped on June 22 or 23, 1963, by sawing the bars of the jail. Process for unlawful flight to avoid confinement was issued, and LAIL was subsequently apprehended at Galesburg, Illinois, on October 12, 1963. He was returned to local authorities.

LAIL WAS CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS BECAUSE HE HAD A .22 CALIBER WEAPON.

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HRD:paw

Fellow Prisoner: ERIC LARSON, No. 0877

AT MOBERLY, MISSOURI

A review of the records of the Missouri Training School for Men at Moberly, Missouri, by SA WILLIAM R. DUNCAN on April 26, 1968, failed to disclose that ERIC LARSON is now, or has ever been, an inmate of that institution. Officials of the Training School advised that No. 0877 is not a Moberly number.

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HRD:jfb

RE: FELLOW PRISONER

AT MOBERLY, MISSOURI

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent JAMES A. DUFFEY:

Convict FRANK MAYBERRY, Number 13763, Men's Training Center, advised on May 3, 1968, he was only in the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri, from December, 1962, until August, 1963, when he was paroled. He thereafter violated his parole and was sent to the Renz Prison Farm until he was discharged on May 15, 1964. He was again sentenced in March, 1965, and sent to the Missouri State Penitentiary. Except for the thirty day processing section on each occasion he was assigned to the "L" Hall outside the walls.

He was unable to recall ever seeing or hearing anything about subject until after the assassination of KING.

MAYBERRY stated he had never heard any mention of "COOLEY" or "COOLEY Associates" in prison and he was not aware of any prison gossip to the effect that the killing of Dr. KING might be worth some money. He was unable to suggest the identity of any individual who might have been closely associated with RAY and he had no information concerning him.

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WRD:pjh

FORMER INMATES INCARCERATED WITH JAMES EARL RAY

The Jacksonville Division by communication dated April 30, 1968, advised that BILLIE MILES, presently at the new prison at Moberly, Missouri, was an acquaintance of JAMES EARL RAY.

The following investigation was conducted by SA WILLIAM R. DUNCAN on April 30, 1968:

AT MOBERLY, MISSOURI:

Mr. A. H. BALDWIN, Associate Warden, Missouri Training School for Men, Moberly, Missouri, advised from records that the only two MILES he presently has in the institution are JOHN SHERMAN MILES, FBI #367 878 D, and LAVELLA MILES, FBI #388 565 B.

The institution at one time had BILLY MAC MILES, also known as MILLY MAX MILES, FBI #89 784 C, who was transferred from Moberly to Fordland, an honor camp, operated in the Missouri Prison System out of Jefferson City, Missouri, on February 10, 1964. He came to the institution originally on August 16, 1963, transferred to Moberly, September 13, 1963, transferred to Fordland, September 10, 1964.

Mr. BALDWIN determined by telephone from Jefferson City from Mr. DON BUNKER of the Records Office, that MILES was paroled from Fordland on September 29, 1964, returned as a parole violator on May 31, 1966, and released from Jefferson City on January 20, 1967, upon completion of his sentence. His relatives were listed as father - GARIE MILES, Marshfield, Missouri; wife - SHIRLEY SUE MILES, 612 Burford Street, Marshfield, Missouri.

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WRD:pjh

FORMER INMATES INCARCERATED WITH JAMES EARL RAY

The Kansas City Division by communication dated May 1, 1968, advised that FRED MILLER, Missouri Corrections #02273, and FRED HENRY MILLER, Missouri Corrections #66535, are both incarcerated at the Missouri Training School for Men at Moberly, Missouri, and were former inmates of subject JAMES EARL RAY.

The following investigation was conducted by SA WILLIAM R. DUNCAN on May 1, 1968:

AT MOBERLY, MISSOURI:

FRED HENRY MILLER, white, male, Missouri Training School for Men #66535, advised that he was convicted and sentenced to a life term for murder on November 2, 1952, in Wayne County, Missouri. He served time at Jefferson City, Missouri, from November, 1952, through July 1965, when he was transferred to Moberly, Missouri. He was transferred back to Jefferson City, Missouri, during August 1966, and stayed there until February 4, 1968, when he was transferred back to Moberly, Missouri. During this time he was Hall Tender of "A" Hall and a clerk in the Honor Barracks. He knew JAMES EARL RAY by sight and by reputation. He knows nothing personally about him and was not even a speaking acquaintance. He is the only FRED MILLER he has known either in Jefferson City or Moberly in the 15½ years that he has been there.

Mrs. PAULINE DICKERSON, Missouri Training School for Men, advised that they have no record of a FRED MILLER, #02273, and this is not even a good number for the Missouri Training School for Men.

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SL 44-775
KAW: amb

RE: FELLOW PRISONER JAMES LOMA OWENS

The following investigation was conducted by SAs KENNETH A. WILLIAMS and JOHN O. TRETHEWEY, JR. at St. Louis, Missouri

The records of the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, reflect the last known address listed for JAMES LOMA OWENS as being in care of his wife, BETTY OWENS, 4447 Rosemary, Berkeley, Missouri.

On April 25, 1968, it was observed that Rosemary Lane, Berkeley, Missouri, extends only from 9336 through 9522. A review of the St. Louis City and St. Louis County Directories for the 9300 through the 9500 block of Rosemary Lane listed no one named OWENS living in the area.

On April 24, 1968, IC JOHN D. DYER, JR. ascertained that the Commercial Credit Rating Company has no record of JAMES LOMA OWENS.

The records of the St. Louis Police Department reflect the last known address for OWENS, listed in October, 1959, as 4023 Olive Street, St. Louis, Missouri. This address is now occupied by non-Caucasians.

On May 6, 1968, Mrs. MARY LEVAN, Secretary, Barbers Union #102, 2133 Hampton Avenue, advised a search of the active and inactive members of Union #102 failed to reflect any records to JAMES LOMA OWENS. She also advised that she examined the records of licenses issued to barbers who are non-members of the union and also advised these records were negative concerning OWENS. She stated Barbers Union 102 includes Jefferson, Franklin, St. Charles, and St. Louis Counties as well as the City of St. Louis, Missouri. She also advised that a convicted felon cannot receive a barber's license in the State of Missouri.

On May 7, 1968, Mrs. EMMA MC CLURE, 9447 Rosemary Lane, Berkeley, Missouri, advised her daughter, BETTY, was formerly married to JAMES LOMA OWENS. They were divorced six years ago and BETTY has remarried, living somewhere in the greater St. Louis area. She advised that she was under

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the impression that OWENS was still serving a sentence in the Missouri State Penitentiary. She advised she is positive that her daughter, BETTY, does not know the whereabouts of OWENS. Mrs. MC CLURE stated she does not know where her daughter is living since their relationship is very estranged and she, herself, had not seen her daughter in the past 18 months. She advised her daughter married an individual named JESSE SMITH but she did not know any further information concerning him. Mrs. MC CLURE advised that she did not approve of her daughter's marriage to OWENS and actually knew very little concerning him or his background. She stated OWENS' mother reportedly lives in Honolulu, Hawaii, and she would venture a guess that he is most likely to be incarcerated in some penal institution since he was always breaking the law.

On May 6, 1968, Mrs. DAVIDA WILKIN, Secretary, Missouri State Board of Pardon and Parole, 1500 Big Bend Boulevard, advised she possessed no record of JAMES LOMA OWENS as a current parolee. She advised complete records of all current and former state parolees are maintained in Jefferson City, Missouri, and records are returned to Jefferson City after a parolee becomes inactive.

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HRD: amb

RE: PRISON INMATE LEO HOLDEN PARKER

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI:

The Kansas City Division advised on April 26, 1968, captioned prisoner at Missouri State Penitentiary claimed he was innocent of the crime of kidnaping for which he was being imprisoned; that the victims had identified a retouched photograph of him; and that victims claimed their kidnaper stated he had broken out of prison and needed a car. He felt he bore such a physical resemblance to subject RAY that RAY might actually have been responsible for the kidnaping.

The following investigation was conducted by SA HAROLD R. DOBSON on April 26, 1968, telephonically:

Detectives JOHN LEPPING and EDWARD ALLERS, 5th District, St. Louis, Missouri, Police Department, advised there is no actual similarity of features or appearance between LEO HOLDEN PARKER and subject RAY. They denies that a retouched photograph had been utilized in the identification of PARKER and stated that a copy of the regular mug photograph which had been used would be available at 5th District Headquarters on the following day. They stated that comparison of that photograph with the photograph of subject RAY failed to disclose any similarities.

They advised further that PARKER is known as a "jail house lawyer" and conducted his own defense at the time of his trial. They ventured the opinion that PARKER is mentally unbalanced.

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JEL/leh

RE: RAY LOOK-ALIKE - LEON HOLDEN PARKER

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

The following investigation was conducted by SAs
JAMES E. LINDSAY and LAWRENCE B. CURTIN:

On April 27, 1968, Mr. and Mrs. GEORGE MC QUADE, JR., 4708 Plover, St. Louis, Missouri, advised that photograph of JAMES EARL RAY is not identical to LEO HOLDEN PARKER, the person who kidnapped them and stole their vehicle.

Mrs. MC QUADE who is the former RITA BROCKELMAN, advised that similarities in PARKER's hairline with JAMES EARL RAY, but PARKER is one who they identified as the kidnapper.

GEORGE MC QUADE advised he saw no similarity between PARKER and JAMES EARL RAY.

He advised that PARKER from his observation is a "nut," and thinks he is a legal brain, and attempted to conduct his own defense. MC QUADE advised that PARKER was identified in open court as the person who committed this local crime.

Mr. MC QUADE advised that he believes that PARKER is trying to obtain coverage in the news media and attempt to get another trial.

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SL: 44-775
JDD: pdp

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

RE: RAY PRISON ASSOCIATES
ROBERT DALE PORTER
POLICE CHECK

The following investigation was conducted by
IC JOHN D. DYER, JR.:

On April 25, 1968, a review of the records at the
Metropolitan St. Louis Police Department disclosed the following
arrests for ROBERT DALE PORTER, St. Louis Police Department
number 56229:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHARGE</u>	<u>DISPOSITION</u>
September 13, 1946	Larceny of auto	November 1, 1946, pleaded guilty to charge of climbing in and upon a motor vehicle without owner's consent - sen- tenced to three months in city workhouse
October 30, 1956	Investigation - suspect larceny	Released
January 7, 1957	Suspect fugitive Dinuba, California (child abandonment, non-support, bigamy)	Turned over to East St. Louis, Illinois, authorities
September 7, 1957	Suspect burglary	Released

The St. Louis Police Department records disclosed the
following background and descriptive data regarding PORTER:

Sex	Male	
Race	White	
Date, place of birth		Clerinda, Iowa
Height	5'11"	
Weight	166	

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Hair
Eyes
Build
Complexion
Tattoos

Scars
Peculiarities
Occupation
FBI Number
Addresses

Wives

Parents

Sisters

Brown
Blue
Slender
Ruddy
"CHERYLE" on right upper arm,
outer;
"BOB LOVES WINNER" on right
forearm outer;
Wings and "AAF" left upper forearm;
"MOM AND DAD" left forearm outer
Two inch scar right thumb
Wears glasses
Laborer
4590482
September 1946 - 2736 Caroline
Street, St. Louis, Missouri;
Waverly, Iowa;
October 1956 - Oriole Hotel, 607
Pine Street, St. Louis;
January 1957 - 5139 Enright,
St. Louis;
December 1967 - 3819 Wyandotte,
Kansas City, Missouri
MARIAN ELIZABETH PORTER, nee
HANEY, Negro female, born in
Tennessee, address 2502 Marcus
Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri, in
November 1956;
JOSIE LUNA PORTER, married
November 3, 1955, Dinuba,
California, residing 270 South
L Street, Dinuba, California,
January 1957;
MARY MARTHA PORTER, 3819 Wyandotte,
Kansas City, Missouri, December
1967
HAROLD and CLARA PORTER, Waverly,
Iowa, September 1946
NINA DE GROOTE, Waverly, Iowa,
also shown as NINA ACKER
Aplington, Iowa, April 1946;
BETTY SPURBECK, Waverly, Iowa,
September 1946

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HGS:jfb

RE: RAY FELLOW PRISONERS
ROBERT POWELL

AT FARMINGTON, MISSOURI, AND DOE RUN, MISSOURI

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent HOWARD G. SLACK on April 25, 1968, in order to locate ROBERT POWELL, former inmate at the Missouri School for Men. This investigation was predicated on receipt of a communication from the Kansas City Division which advised that JAMES R. RUSSELL was a fellow inmate of JAMES EARL RAY. RUSSELL advised that ROBERT POWELL was also a fellow prisoner of RAY.

Mrs. OPEL POWELL, Doe Run, Missouri, was interviewed at her residence and advised that she is the mother of ROBERT POWELL, who was released from prison in February, 1968. Mrs. POWELL stated she did not know her son's address but believed that he was employed in St. Louis.

Mrs. POWELL viewed a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY but stated she had never seen him nor had her son mentioned his name.

On April 29, 1968, ROBERT LYNN POWELL advised he was in prison at Jefferson City, Missouri, from January 16, 1967, to February 1, 1968. He stated that he knew JAMES EARL RAY only slightly since they both had worked in food service in prison. POWELL advised that he may have talked to RAY but they were not friends. POWELL further advised that he did not know of any background information concerning RAY and he had no information concerning RAY's escape from the prison and did not know whether or not RAY used narcotics. POWELL stated that RAY was somewhat of a loner and no one was very close to him. POWELL stated that he had no idea of RAY's present whereabouts.

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1Date May 8, 1968

JAMES EDWARD "TED" RICHARDSON, Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP) #49632, was interviewed at his place of employment, the Jefferson Cleaning Shop, 1650 South Jefferson. His residence is in the rear of this establishment. RICHARDSON furnished information that he was born [redacted] at Chillicothe, Missouri, and entered the MSP on a murder charge from Trenton, Missouri, in May, 1935. He was sentenced to "death row" at that time but his death sentence was later commuted. He was released from MSP on March 30, 1965, and has resided in the St. Louis area since that time.

He described RAY as one of the "nuts" or "cowboys" who according to RICHARDSON were small time hoodlums who would be involved in most any type or petty thievery or gangsterism going on inside the institution.

RICHARDSON stated he knew subject RAY only casually since he worked more than 20 years in the hospital in the institution under Doctor HUGH W. MANLEY. RICHARDSON stated he read some publicity concerning RAY escaping shortly after it occurred but had heard nothing indicating that subject RAY had been in St. Louis or made any contacts in the St. Louis area since that time.

He described RAY as one of the inmates who used narcotics or medicine of any kind whenever obtainable. He stated that his most frequent encounter with RAY was upon the occasions of RAY's reporting to the hospital for sick call.

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On 5/6/68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL: 44-775
by SA CLETIS B. BIDEWELL/mjb
SA WILLIAM H. WARFIELD Date dictated 5/6/68