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FEDERAL BUREAU

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DECLASSIFICATION

INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number 44-38861

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COMMITTEE I ASSASSINATIONS

See also Nos.

~~DO NOT DESTROY - 497~~  
~~PENDING LITIGATION~~ 106, 115

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VOL. 4

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44-1574

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Volume Number

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VOL.

3

**FEDERAL BUREAU**

*of*

**INVESTIGATION**

**Bureau File Number**

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**Serials**

**Volume Number**

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>NEWARK</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>MEMPHIS</b>	DATE <b>5/13/68</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>4/12-26/68</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>JAMES EARL RAY, aka. Eric Starvo Galt, Harvey Lowmyer, John Willard, James Mc Bride, James Walton, W. C. Herron, James O'Conner - FUGITIVE; REVEREND MARTIN LUTHER KING - VICTIM IO #4182, WF #442-A TOP TEN FUGITIVE</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>HOWARD H. RICE</b>	TYPED BY <b>amd</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY UFAC - ARMED ROBBERY</b>	

REFERENCE

Report of SA ALAN G. SENTINELLA dated 4/18/68,  
at Atlanta.

P

ADMINISTRATIVE

The details of this report contain only the  
investigation concerning subject's contact with the  
Locksmithing Institute, Little Falls, New Jersey.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED: <b>NONE</b>						ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED  SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE  COPIES MADE:  <b>FOR COPIES SEE COVER PAGE B</b>  <b>NK 44-854</b>  <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">                     Los Angeles                 </div>	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW  <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 5px;">44-1574-H-8</div> <table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">SEARCHED</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">INDEXED</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">SERIALIZED</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">FILED</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> <b>MAY 15 1968</b> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;">                     FBI — LOS ANGELES                 </td> </tr> </table>	SEARCHED	INDEXED	SERIALIZED	FILED	<b>MAY 15 1968</b>		FBI — LOS ANGELES	
SEARCHED	INDEXED								
SERIALIZED	FILED								
<b>MAY 15 1968</b>									
FBI — LOS ANGELES									
Dissemination Record of Attached Report									
Agency Request Recd. Date Fwd. How Fwd. By	Notations								

NK 44-854

- 3 - Bureau (44-38861)
- 3 - Birmingham (44-1740)
- 1 - Atlanta (44-2386) (Info)
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- 1 - New Orleans (Info)
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- 1 - St. Louis (Info)
- 2 - Newark (44-854)

B  
COVER PAGE

NK 44-854

Results of all negative investigation conducted are maintained in Newark file.

A copy of this report for the USA, Birmingham and Memphis has been included with copies for these offices, but not marked as such. Dissemination should be held in abeyance pending Bureau authority.

LEADS

NEWARK

AT NEWARK, N.J. 1. Will follow all logical investigation toward the location and apprehension of subject.

ATLANTA, LOS ANGELES, NEW ORLEANS, CHICAGO, KANSAS CITY, ST. LOUIS (INFORMATION)

An information copy of this report has been designated for Atlanta, Los Angeles, New Orleans, Chicago, Kansas City and St. Louis in view of investigation conducted by these divisions and in anticipation of subsequent investigation.

C \*  
COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of: HOWARD H. RICE Office: Newark, New Jersey  
Date: 5/13/68  
Field Office File #: 44-854 Bureau File #: 44-38861  
Title: JAMES EARL RAY;  
REVEREND MARTIN LUTHER KING - VICTIM  
IO #4182, WF #442-A

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

Synopsis: Investigation at the Locksmithing Institute, Little Falls, NJ, revealed that an individual using the name ERIC S. GALT enrolled in a correspondence course, July, 1967, with initial correspondence coming from Montreal, Canada. The records indicate changes of address to Los Angeles, Birmingham and Atlanta. The most recent address is in Atlanta as of March, 1968. Investigation at local banks located photograph of payments by GALT to the Locksmithing Institute. These payments were in the form of two (2) Bank of America Money Orders, two (2) US Postal Money Orders and one (1) Canadian Postal Money Order. The FBI Laboratory has concluded that the hand printing and signatures on the material furnished by Locksmithing Institute was prepared by the individual responsible for preparing other specimens in this case attributed to ERIC S. GALT. Laboratory reports set forth. ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

P

DETAILS

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date April 22, 1968

The following information should not be made public in any other manner except in the usual proceedings following the issuance of a subpoena duces tecum.

GEORGE DURYEA, Director, Locksmithing Institute, 1500 Cardinal Drive, Little Falls, New Jersey, provided the following information:

ERIC S. GALT, 2589 Rue Notre Dame Est, Montreal, Canada, Quebec, according to his records enrolled at the Locksmithing Institute, Little Falls, New Jersey, in July, 1967. Mr. DURYEA made available an enrollment form date stamped July 31, 1967, with the heading Locksmithing Institute-Little Falls, New Jersey 07424. The enrollment form was a pre-printed blank containing the following information:

"Please enroll me for the complete course in professional locksmithing (subject to your liberal money back agreement). I agree to follow your plan of teaching and to submit at least one lesson and/or payment each month. I will pay tuition or payment each month. I will pay the tuition fee according to the payment plan below:

## "Plan A

"I enclose \$10 enrollment fee. I will pay \$7.50 with each completed lesson (not less than \$7.50 per month) until I have paid \$229.50. I may proceed as rapidly as I wish.

## "Plan B - Double Quick Plan

"I enclose \$25 enrollment fee. I will pay \$15 with each completed lesson (not less than \$15 per month) until I have paid \$219.50. I may proceed as rapidly as I wish. I save \$10.

## "Plan C

"I enclose \$199.50 in full payment. I may proceed as rapidly as I wish and save \$30.

On 4/18/68 at Little Falls, New Jersey File # Newark 44-854

SA JOHN R. LYONS &  
SA DON G. GREENS (A)

DGO:EP

4/16/68

by

Date dictated

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.



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NK 44-854

Name	ERIC S. GALT
Street	2539 Rue Notre Dame Est.
City	Montreal, Canada
State	Quebec

"LESSON INCLUDES TOOLS AND SUPPLIES AT NO EXTRA CHARGE."

The above is all hand printed except the middle initial "S" which is written.

The student ledger card in the name of Mr. ERIC S. GALT, 113 14th Street, Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia, disclosed the following information.

In the top right hand corner it shows student number as 3-1-15189, with a date at the top of March 30, 1968.

Mr. DURYEA advised that the Locksmithing Institute had received a change of address for GALT to the aforementioned address on March 30, 1968.

The first payment for the course was recorded on July 31, 1967, and the last payment of \$7.50 was recorded on April 8, 1968.

Mr. DURYEA advised that he could provide no information regarding GALT's enrollment.

The following is a confidential information form used by Locksmithing Institute when students enroll for the locksmithing course:

671

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Your credentials as a registered Locksmithing Student justify your possession of tools and equipment necessary to pick locks and to perform other work of a highly restricted and confidential nature.

This form is your application to receive such credentials, the tools of your trade, instruction in lock-picking, and in the other secrets of the locksmithing profession. Answer each question completely and return this form promptly.

1. YOUR NAME ERIC S. GALT  
 Student Number 30-15189 Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_
2. Age 36 Married \_\_\_\_\_ Single  Dependents NONE
3. Name of Employer AM TAKING COURSE AT AMERICAN BUSINESS CONSULT-  
 Nature of your work ANTS. I6010 CRENSHAW, LONG BEACH, CALIF.
4. Have you any specialized training? BACK PAGE
5. Education: Public School \_\_\_\_\_ High  College \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
6. How do you plan to capitalize on your training?  
 Spare-time earnings? \_\_\_\_\_ Open Your Own Shop? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other Plans?
7. Have you any physical defects? NO
8. List two character references:  
 1) Name MRS RITA STEEN  
 Address 5666 FRANKLIN, L.A.  
 Occupation HOUSEWIFE  
 2) Name MRS MARIE DENINNO  
 Address 5533 HOLLYWOOD, L.A.  
 Occupation WAITRESS

List any other information which you feel we should have in order to help you, on the reverse side of this form.

I, the undersigned, do hereby swear and affirm that I have never been convicted of the crimes of burglary, or breaking and entry, robbery, or grand or petty larceny,

FURTHER, I solemnly swear that I will keep in strict confidence and to myself all of the information that I will receive from the Locksmithing Institute in regard to picking locks; that I will use this information only in the discharge of my duties as a locksmith; that I will never use my knowledge of this subject to aid or abet in the commission of a crime.

Name Eric S. Galt City Los Angeles  
 (write)  
 Address 1535-N-Serrano State Calif Zip Code 90027

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NK 44-854

I HAD TRAINING IN THE MILITARY IN ORDINANCE  
AND SINCE THEIR IS A SIMILARITY <sup>between</sup> THE TWO  
I COULD COMBINB THEM IN ONE BUSINESS.

5  
WK 44-854

According to Mr. DURYEA, this document is an affidavit filed by the student when he returns his first lesson to the Locksmithing Institute. He has no way of determining when this document might have been received, however, he would assume that it was submitted with the first lesson or else there would be a notation made on the back that his institute had submitted a follow up letter to the student.

In addition to the above documents, he made available two addresses which are as follows:

Mr. ERIC S. GALT  
1535 North Serrano  
Los Angeles, California 90027

Mr. ERIC S. GALT  
2608 Highland Avenue  
Birmingham, Alabama 35205

Dr. DURYEA further informed that the order of addresses would have been as follows: the Montreal, Canada, address, the first address that his institute received. The Los Angeles, California, address, the second received. The Birmingham, Alabama, address, the third address and the address on the student ledger card in Atlanta, Georgia, the most recent address which was March 30, 1968.

A search was made of the subscriptions for the Locksmith Ledger which is housed in the same building as the Locksmithing Institute and no subscription could be located under the name ERIC S. GALT.

Mr. DURYEA advised that everything, including lessons, payments, letters or any correspondence of any nature, received by the Locksmithing Institute or Locksmith Ledger would be immediately maintained by him and given to the Federal Bureau of Investigation as soon as possible after it is received.

In the event the above information is to be made public, a subpoena duces tecum should be directed to Mr. GEORGE DURYEA, Director, Locksmithing Institute, 1500 Cardinal Drive, Little Falls, New Jersey, 07424.

5A

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 25, 19681

The following information should not be made public in any other manner than the usual proceedings following the issuance of a subpoena duces tecum.

GEORGE DURYEA, Director, Locksmithing Institute, 1500 Cardinal Drive, Little Falls, New Jersey, made available a white envelope postmarked Montreal, Canada, with the Roman numeral VII, 1967. The envelope bore a return address of ERIC S. GALT, 2569 Rue Notre Dame, followed by the abbreviation, E.S.T., Montreal, Canada, Quebec. The envelope was mailed to Locksmithing Institute, Little Falls, New Jersey, USA 07424. The address on envelope was hand-printed and has been submitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Laboratory, and Identification Division, for examination.

In the event the above information is to be made public, a subpoena duces tecum should be directed to GEORGE DURYEA, Director, Locksmithing Institute, 1500 Cardinal Drive, Little Falls, New Jersey.

On 4/15/68 at Little Falls, NJ File # Newark 44-354

by SA DON G. OWENS /cg Date dictated 4/19/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

1

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date May 1, 1968

The following information should not be made public in any other manner than the normal proceeding following the issuance of a subpoena duces tecum.

GEORGE DURYEA, Director, Locksmithing Institute, 1500 Cardinal Drive, Little Falls, New Jersey, made available the following items to SA JAMES R. LAUGHLIN and SA DON G. OWENS:

1. Coupon to locksmith ledger, Little Falls, New Jersey, requesting the padlock handbook bearing the typewritten name and address of ERIC S. GALT, 1535-N-SERRANO, Los Angeles, California.

2. Four (4) green payment coupons to Locksmithing Institute, Little Falls, New Jersey, showing payment for lessons six through nine. Coupons six through eight bore the handprinted address of 1535-N-SERRANO, Los Angeles, California, and the handprinted name of ERIC S. GALT. Coupon for lesson number nine bore the handprinted address of 113-14th Street, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia.

3. Envelope postmarked April 9, 1968, Little Falls, New Jersey, from 1500 Cardinal Drive, Little Falls, New Jersey, and marked "Moved, left no address." The envelope contained a white examination certificate bearing the address of GALT in the upper left hand corner and the letter grade of B plus in the upper right hand corner. This examination certificate was for lesson number eight.

4. Envelope postmarked April 10, 1968, Little Falls, New Jersey, from 1500 Cardinal Drive, Little Falls, New Jersey, and marked "Moved, left no address." The envelope contained a white examination certificate bearing the address of GALT in the upper left hand corner and the letter grade of A in the upper right hand corner. This examination certificate was for lesson number nine.

5. Five (5) fingerprint cards of key personnel who might have handled the above material. These cards are

On 4/19/68 at Little Falls, New Jersey File # Newark 44-354

by SA DON G. OWENS and SA JAMES R. LAUGHLIN DGO/jz Date dictated 4/25/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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NK 44-854

for the following persons:

BOYD HENRY GILLEN

ANNIE DELORES JAMES

TRUDY ROBERTA DE FINIS

LYN CASHNELLI MENZIES

GEORGE FLOYD DURYEA

The above material has been submitted to the  
FBI Laboratory for appropriate examination.

If the above information is to be made  
public, a subpoena should be directed to GEORGE DURYEA,  
Director, Locksmithing Institute, 1500 Cardinal Drive,  
Little Falls, New Jersey.

1

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

April 22, 1968

Date \_\_\_\_\_

EDWIN LEAFHILL, Cashier, Bank of Bloomfield, 554 Bloomfield Avenue, made available Recordak film which photographically recorded a film record of all the checks and other negotiable instruments handled by the above bank during the following pertinent periods:

7/28 - 8/3/67  
 8/3 - 8/10/67  
 1/8 - 1/12/68  
 1/31 - 2/6/68  
 3/11 - 3/12/68  
 4/8 - 4/10/68

The above-described Recordak film records were visually reviewed on a Recordak 310 Film Reader and the following information was developed:

Recordak Film Pack Dated January 8 - 12, 1968

Bank of America Money Order #0799 18 037, in the amount of \$15, purchased at the Hollywood-Western Branch, Hollywood, California, and payable through the National Trust and Savings Association, Hollywood, California, issued on January 8, 1968, payable to Locksmithing Institute, purchaser ERIC S. GALT, date of deposit January 10, 1968, account number listed on the bottom of the right-hand corner of the check 7998 85000 and account number listed on the left-hand corner bottom of the check 018937 1223 1007.

Recordak Film Pack Including Date of March 6, 1968

Bank of America Money Order #0799 19 701, in the amount of \$7.50, purchased at the Hollywood-Western Branch, Hollywood, California, drawn on the National Trust and Savings Association, Hollywood, California, payable to Locksmithing Institute, dated February 26, 1968, purchaser's name listed as ERIC S. GALT, account number on right-hand bottom of check listed as 7998 85000 and account number listed on left-hand bottom of check 019701 1223 1007, deposited on March 6, 1968.

On 4/15/68 at Bloomfield, New Jersey File # Newark 44-854

SAs UDO H. SPECHT

by and CHARLES E. KURZ UHS/jtm Date dictated 4/16/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.



1

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 29, 1968

Records of the Fidelity Union Trust Company, 765 Broad Street, contain the following items which were received in regular deposits on the dates indicated from the Bank of Bloomfield, 554 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, New Jersey, a corresponding bank:

Deposit dated July 31, 1967

Canadian Postal Money Order #C31600868, in the sum of \$17.50, signed ERIC GALT.

Deposit dated March 11, 1968

U.S. Postal Money Order #1916211078, dated stamped March 8, 1968, in the sum of \$15.00, payable to Locksmithing Institute, Little Falls, New Jersey, and signed ERIC S. GALT.

Deposit dated April 8, 1968

U.S. Postal Money Order #5615657923, date stamped March 28, 1968, in the sum of \$7.50, payable to Locksmithing Institute, Little Falls, New Jersey, and signed ERIC S. GALT.

The above information is not to be made public except in a usual proceeding following the issuance of a subpoena duces tecum. In the event this information is necessary for court purposes, a subpoena should be directed to any officer of the Fidelity Union Trust Company.

On 4/19 & 4/22/68 at Newark, New Jersey File # Newark 44-854  
 by SAA CLAUDE M. DUNCAN, JR. /lgd Date dictated 4/26/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

NK 44-854

The following are the results of an FBI Laboratory  
Report dated April 17, 1968:

10 A

REPORT  
of theFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: FBI, Memphis (44-1987)

Date: April 17, 1968

Re: MURKIN  
CRFBI File No. 44-38861  
Lab. No. D-560665 JK  
D-560666 JK  
D-560667 JK

Specimens received from Los Angeles, 4/12/68

- Q127 White envelope bearing typewritten address "MR DALE L. DYKEMA, Receiver 3325 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles, California. 90005." postmarked "Los Angeles California Annex JA 22 AM 1968"
- Q128 Typewritten letter dated 1/21/68, beginning "DEAR SIR, I AM WRITING..." and signed "Eric S. Galt"
- Q129 Letter dated 12/21/67, addressed to "Eric Galt 1535 North Serrano, Hollywood, California," beginning "Dear Mr. Galt: As you know..." and signed "Dale L. Dykema"

Specimens received from Chicago, 4/12/68

- Q130 Typewritten letter dated 10/5/67, beginning "Dear Sir: I received..." and signed "Eric S. Galt"
- Q131 Typewritten letter dated 10/22/67, beginning "Dear Sir, I ordered four..." and signed "Eric S. Galt"
- Q132 Typewritten letter dated 11/20/67, beginning "Dear Sir, While in Birmingham..." and signed "Eric S. Galt"
- Q133 Order Blank of the Superior Bulk Film Co., Chicago, Ill. for order in the amount of \$337.24, to be shipped to Eric S. Galt, 2608 Highland Ave., Birmingham, Alabama

ALSO SUBMITTED: Six miscellaneous items of correspondence of the Superior Bulk Film Co.

44-954

Specimens received from Newark, 4/13/68

Q134 Enrollment Form of the Locksmithing Institute, Little Falls, N. J., dated 7/31/67, in the name "Eric S. Galt"

Q135 "Confidential Information" form of the Locksmithing Institute, bearing the signature "Eric S. Galt"

Result of examination:

The "Eric S. Galt" signatures on Q128, Q130, Q131, Q132 and Q135 were prepared by the writer of the signatures in this name appearing on items previously submitted in this case.

The typewritten impressions appearing on Q127, Q128, Q130, Q131, Q132 and Q135 were found to be the same style of type but the lack of identifying defects precluded a determination as to whether the same typewriter prepared all of these items; however, no significant differences were noted between the impressions appearing on these items. The style of type appearing on these specimens conforms to a standard for Royal pica style of type spaced ten letters to the inch. This style of type also appears on a typewriter sold under the Singer name.

It was determined that the hand printing appearing the Q133 order blank and the Q134 enrollment form was prepared by the same individual. No questioned hand printing appears on the other items received.

Indented impressions were noted on the reverse side of the Q128 letter. The names "Ray," "Galt" and "Rily" and numerals "ET3623" were some of the notations interpreted on this item.

NK 44-854

The following are the results of an FBI Laboratory  
Report dated April 19, 1968:

REPORT  
of theFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: FBI, Memphis (44-1987)

Date: April 19, 1968

Re: MURKIN  
CR

FBI File No. 44-38861

Lab. No. D-560919 JK  
D-560789 JK

Specimens received 4/16/68, from FBI, Newark

Q215 White envelope postmarked "Montreal, P.Q., VII, 1967," bearing return address "Eric S. Galt 2589 - Rue Notre Dame Est. Montreal, Canada, Quebec" and hand printed address "Locksmithing Institute Little Falls, New Jersey, U. S. A. 07424"

Specimen received 4/15/68, from FBI, Chicago

K35 Nine sheets of paper bearing known handwriting and hand printing of GINGER NANCE

## Result of examination:

It was concluded that the hand printing appearing on the Q215 envelope was prepared by the individual responsible for the preparation of the hand printing on the Locksmithing Institute Enrollment Form and the Superior Bulk Film Company order blank which were previously submitted in this matter.

No significant indented impressions were noted on this envelope.

Except for the word "broult" it was concluded that the questioned writings on Q118 (torn "Kleenex box") were prepared by GINGER NANCE, K35. Similarities were also noted between the word "broult" and the known writings of NANCE but the lack of known writing precluded a definite opinion from being reached.

NK 44-854

The following are the results of an FBI Laboratory  
Report dated April 23, 1968:

REPORT  
of theFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: FBI, Memphis (44-1987)  
Re: MURKIN  
CR

Date: April 23, 1968  
FBI File No. 44-38861  
Lab. No. D-561211 JK

Specimens received 4/20/68

- Q248 Payment coupon #6 of the Locksmithing Institute bearing hand printed name and address "Eric S. Galt, 1535 N. Serrano, L.A. Calif."
- Q249 Payment coupon #7 of the Locksmithing Institute bearing hand printed name and address "Eric S. Galt, 1535 N. Serrano, L.A. Calif."
- Q250 Payment coupon #8 of the Locksmithing Institute bearing hand printed name and address "Eric S. Galt, 1535 N. Serrano, L.A. Calif."
- Q251 Payment coupon #9 of the Locksmithing Institute bearing hand printed name and address "Eric S. Galt, 113-14th St., N.E. Atlanta-Ga."
- Q252 Order blank for the "Locksmith Ledger" bearing typewritten name and address "Eric S. Galt"
- Q253 Envelope postmarked "Little Falls, N.J., Apr.-9'68" with enclosed "Lesson #8" of the Locksmithing Institute, bearing typewritten name and address for Eric S. Galt
- Q254 Envelope postmarked "Little Falls, N.J., Apr.-10'68" with enclosed "Lesson #9" of the Locksmithing Institute, bearing typewritten name and address for Eric S. Galt

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Result of examination:

It was concluded that the questioned hand printing appearing on Q248, Q249, Q250 and Q251 was prepared by the individual responsible for preparing other hand printing on specimens in this case attributed to Eric S. Galt.

The typewritten impressions appearing on Q252, Q253 and Q254 are similar in style to those appearing on other items received in this matter believed to have emanated from Eric S. Galt, but the lack of identifying defects precluded a definite determination as to whether the same typewriter was used to prepare all of these items; however, no significant differences were noted.

NK 44-854

The following are the results of an FBI Laboratory  
Report dated April 26, 1968:

REPORT  
of theFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: FBI, Memphis (44-1987)

Date: April 26, 1968

Re: MURKIN  
CR

FBI File No. 44-38861

Lab. No. D-561586 JK

Specimens received 4/24/68

Qc288 Photocopy of Canadian Money Order #C 31,600,868, in  
the amount of \$17.50, signed "Eric Galt"

## Result of examination:

Although the photocopy, Qc288, lacks the quality necessary for a satisfactory comparison, some differences were noted between the writing appearing on the face of this item when compared with the writings appearing on specimens submitted in this case.

Some features noted on Qc288 which might give an indication of its place of purchase are a stamp with the wording "Montreal 28 VII 67;" the number of the money order, "C-31,600,868;" the printed name "Hector Cormier" at the bottom of the money order and the initials "M." or "N." "D." on the bottom line to the right of the printed Cormier name.

NK 44-854

By communicated dated April 23, 1968, the FBI Laboratory advised as follows:

Two latent fingerprints of value developed on envelope, Q253, and two latent fingerprints developed on envelope, Q254. One of the latent fingerprints on Q253 and one of the latent fingerprints on Q254 have been identified as fingerprints submitted for elimination purposes of GEORGE FLOYD DURVEA. The two remaining latent fingerprints are not identical with the fingerprints submitted for elimination purposes or of the fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #405942G.

The latent fingerprint previously reported on the white envelope bearing hand printed address in part "Locksmithing Institute," Q215, has been identified as a fingerprint of LYNN CASINELLI MENZIES, who is an employee of the Locksmithing Institute.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>KANSAS CITY</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>MEMPHIS</b>	DATE <b>5/15/68</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>4/5/68 - 5/10/68</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>JAMES EARL RAY, aka - FUGITIVE, I.O. #4182, W.F. #442-A, TOP TEN FUGITIVE; DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., (DECEASED) - VICTIM</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA RAYMOND B. HOWE</b>	TYPED BY <b>rmb</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>CR - CONSPIRACY; UFAC - ROBBERY</b>	

**REFERENCE:**

Memphis report of SA JOE C. HESTER dated 4/30/68.

- P -

**LEAD**

**KANSAS CITY**

**AT KANSAS CITY**

Will continue efforts to locate JAMES EARL RAY.

Handle all leads immediately.

**ADMINISTRATIVE:**

At the outset of this investigation, the Kansas City Division conducted the following extensive investigation concerning

**Accomplishments Claimed: None**

<p>APPROVED _____ SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE</p> <p>COPIES MADE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 Bureau (44-38861)</li> <li>5 Memphis (44-1987)</li> <li>1 Atlanta</li> <li>1 Birmingham</li> <li>1 Chicago</li> <li>1 Houston</li> <li>1 Jackson</li> <li>① Los Angeles</li> <li>1 New Orleans</li> <li>1 St. Louis</li> <li>1 Springfield</li> <li>2 Kansas City (44-760)</li> </ul> <p>DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">AGENCY.....</td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>REQUEST RECD.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>DATE FWD.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>HOW FWD.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>BY.....</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	AGENCY.....				REQUEST RECD.				DATE FWD.				HOW FWD.				BY.....				<p style="text-align: center;">DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">44-1574-H-9</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">SEARCHED _____</td> <td style="width: 50%;">INDEXED _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SERIALIZED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>FILED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;"> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">MAY 16 1968</p> <p>FBI - LOS ANGELES</p> </td> </tr> </table> <p>NOTATIONS</p>	SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____	SERIALIZED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FILED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">MAY 16 1968</p> <p>FBI - LOS ANGELES</p>	
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KC 44-760

ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, and JOHN WILLARD with negative results:

All Federal, State, County, and City agencies, this area; all Credit Bureaus and law enforcement agencies, plus Bureau of Vital Statistics, Driver's License and Motor Vehicle Departments for both Missouri and Kansas, Selective Service records for Missouri and Kansas for birth date  all logical residences and rooming houses on Chestnut Street, Kansas City, Missouri; voter registration records; Department of Public Welfare; Liquor Control Board records; Bartenders and Truck Drivers Unions; Marriage and Divorce records; all utility companies; records of Workmen's Compensation, U. S. Department of Labor; financial institutions; all dancing schools and academies; all logical laundry and dry cleaning establishments, this area, contacted.

All Criminal, Racial, Security Informants, and Sources in hippie and drug traffic areas contacted with negative results.

Also, numerous look-alikes have been reported, located, interviewed, and eliminated as possible suspects.

All above information is on file, Kansas City office, however, the negative information not pertinent in this investigation is not being set out in this report.

It is to be noted that JAMES EARL RAY escaped, Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, on 4/23/67. Because of this, an Unlawful Flight to Avoid Confinement investigation has been conducted by the Kansas City Office. When information received from the Bureau on 4/19/68 that GALT and RAY were identical, all pertinent information regarding subject was furnished the Bureau and all offices by teletype and information from the UFAC file was included in the Civil Rights case, and it continues to be investigated under that caption.

Extra copies of this report are being furnished office of origin in event of future dissemination.

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WCM:jlh

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The following investigation was conducted by  
IC WILLIAM C. MC DONALD at Jefferson City, Missouri:

On May 1, 1968, Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP) records were checked for RAY EUGENE WARREN. The following information was obtained:

RAY EUGENE WARREN was received at the MSP on June 9, 1955, to serve a 10 year sentence on charge of robbery first degree by means of a dangerous and deadly weapon under court case #1941-C. He completed this sentence and began an additional 20 year sentence on July 11, 1961, on charge of robbery first degree by means of a dangerous and deadly weapon, court case number 1945-C. He was assigned MSP number 69963. WARREN was discharged by commutation of sentence from April 13, 1968. Relatives listed on WARREN's correspondence and visiting list are wife DORIS WARREN, 3330 Sims, St. Anne, Missouri; brother-in-law BILL SCOTT, same address; sister, BETTY WARREN, Route 2, Box 187, Robertson, Missouri. Records reflect that WARREN was visited by his mother and brother, PAUL WARREN, Robertson, Missouri, and brother, SCOTT WARREN, Pomona, California. While WARREN was in the MSP, he was in the following cells:

From November 6, 1959, until January 4, 1960, G70;

From January 4, 1960, until July 1, 1960, G89;

From July 1, 1960, until August 31, 1960, C20;

From August 31, 1960, until October 31, 1960, E80;

October 31, 1960, until January 6, 1961, E33;

January 6, 1961, until March 17, 1961, F96.

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Warden HAROLD SWENSON advised confidentially that WARREN had assisted his department in an investigation which had been conducted and that from November, 1965, until after JAMES EARL RAY escaped from the MSP, that WARREN was in solitary confinement being given maximum security for fear of his life. Warden SWENSON continued that if at all possible, WARREN should not be contacted as he is extremely nervous and fearful for his life. However, Warden SWENSON advised that WARREN is to be living with his brother, SCOTT L. WARREN at 17902 Edmond Place, Covina, California.

SINCE WARREN WAS SENTENCED TO THE MSP FOR A TOTAL PERIOD OF 30 YEARS ON CHARGE OF ROBBERY WITH A DANGEROUS AND DEADLY WEAPON AND IS EXTREMELY NERVOUS, HE SHOULD BE APPROACHED WITH CAUTION AND POSSIBLY CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

All inmates and former inmates that have furnished information regarding subject requested that their identity be concealed by the Bureau for fear of retaliation from other prisoners because of their furnishing information to law enforcement agencies.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: RAYMOND B. HOWE Office: KANSAS CITY  
Date: May 15, 1968  
Field Office File No.: 44-760 Bureau File No.: 44-38861  
Title: JAMES EARL RAY;  
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
(DECEASED) - VICTIM

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

Synopsis:

JAMES EARL RAY reportedly escaped from Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP) on 4/23/67, where he was serving a twenty-year sentence for Robbery First and Operating a Motor Vehicle Without Permission. It is believed he escaped by hiding in a box delivering bread to a prison farm located approximately five miles from the main prison. Subject's brother, JOHN RAY, St. Louis, Missouri, visited him at the prison on 4/22/67. Interviews with fellow inmates and prison officials reveal subject to be a "loner" and was called the "hide-out guy", because he would stay hidden within the confines of MSP for a matter of days at a time. Subject reportedly used amphetamines and barbiturates while in prison. RAY preferred to cell alone at prison, was very quiet, and made few friends. Reports conflict as to any homosexual activity on his part. One inmate stated he read "girlie" books and even engaged in selling and renting books at MSP. He reportedly was "very tight" with his money and used it mainly to support his drug habit. Reports conflict on his anti-Negro sentiments, however, at one time in U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, he stated he could not live in a dormitory that was integrated. At MSP, RAY always worked in kitchen or bakery. Subject had made previous attempts to escape from MSP, but was unsuccessful. Because of these attempts, he was given a psychiatric evaluation in October, 1966. This revealed he had no physical disease or defects requiring treatment. He was diagnosed as having a sociopathic personality, anti-social type with anxiety and depressive features, but no mental disease or defect within the meaning of the Missouri State Code. GEORGE BEN EDMONDSON, former

KC 44-760

escapee from MSP, who was located in Canada and is currently incarcerated at MSP, advised that RAY associated with all the St. Louis inmates at the prison and is familiar with the procedure to get Canadian passports, which are easy to come by in Montreal, Canada. Handwriting samples were obtained from prison records and forwarded to FBI Laboratory, which resolved that the "GALT" writings have been identified as being prepared by JAMES EARL RAY. One former cellmate of subject advised that RAY had told him that he had hidden out on two previous occasions on the outskirts of a town called Campeche, Mexico, and that he smuggled small appliances to that area from Brownsville, Texas. Pertinent information from prison records and interviews concerning other suspects or look-alikes in this matter set forth. IN VIEW OF CRIME FOR WHICH SUBJECT BEING SOUGHT, HE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- P -

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DETAILS:

DETAILS REGARDING ESCAPE

On April 22, 1968, Warden HAROLD SWENSON, Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, furnished the following reports from their office concerning the escape by inmate JAMES EARL RAY, number 00416, on April 23, 1967, to Special Agent ROWEN B. AYERS.

In addition to these reports, Warden SWENSON advised that their records reveal this inmate had a visitor at the prison by the name of JOHN RAY, St. Louis, Missouri, on April 22, 1967. JOHN RAY had visited him eight times prior to this visit. The only two other individuals listed by subject on his visitors' list at Missouri State Penitentiary were MARY MAHER, St. Louis, Missouri, grandmother, and JERRY RAY, St. Louis, Missouri, brother. Records show the grandmother did not make any visits to the prison, and JERRY made five, the last being in 1965.

Department of Corrections  
IN-TER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

To: M. J. ELLIOTT, ASSOCIATE WARDEN-CUSTODY

Date: MAY 3, 1967

*D. G. Steele*  
From: CAPTIAN DANTON STEELE

Subject: INVESTIGATION ESCAPE OF JAMES EARL RAY #00416

Working upon the premise that Inmate James Earl Ray #00416 made good his escape from the institution, Sunday, April 23, 1967, by concealing himself in the Renz Farm bread box and riding out the Sally Port on the Renz Farm truck, I have interviewed all concerned with the Renz Farm bread run and have formed the opinion that Inmate Ray did effect his escape via the Renz Farm bread run and the means of his escape has remained a mystery for ten days because of gross dereliction of duty involving three and possible five prison personnel.

The Renz Farm truck, driven by Guard Officer Alfred Burkhardt came through the Sally Port at approximately 3:00 A.M. to pick up the Renz Farm bread, made the pick up and came back through the Sally Port at approximately 8:16 A.M. When the truck arrived at Renz Farm and was unloaded it was discovered by Mr. Bernard Peschang, civilian cook, that the bread was torn and crushed to the extent that only a few loaves were usable and the rest had to be fed to the chickens. To my knowledge, up until the time of this report, there has been no notification from any Renz Farm source of the condition of the bread delivery of that date to any officer or official of the penitentiary. Mr. Peschang did state to me that after he heard of Inmate Ray's disappearance he did make the remark that "Ray probably came out in the bread box". When asked why he did not report this to someone, Mr. Peschang said he did report it to Officer Burkhardt and to someone in the office. (He could not remember who.) He also said he told Mr. Jim Stone, Civilian Cook, when he came to work the next day.

Mr. Jim Stone, civilian cook at Renz Farm, said he saw the bread the next day and it looked like it "had been shoveled into the box". He said it was not fit for use and was fed to the chickens.

Sergeant John Setser was the officer in charge of Renz Farm, Sunday, April 23, 1967, and he stated that he could not recall Mr. Peschang notifying him of the condition of the bread upon arrival at Renz Farm. (This seems a rather weak statement.)

Guard Officer Ezra Sheldon states that he definitely remember checking the Renz Farm bread box and although he did not handle the bread it was neatly stacked almost to the top of the box. (The box holds 60 loaves, Renz Farm ordered 40 loaves, the box should have been two-third full.)

CONCLUSIONS:

Inmate Ray evidently made good his escape via the Renz Farm bread truck. He must have used a false bottom for the bread to be stacked as neatly as Officer Sheldon said it was. No one at Renz Farm admits seeing the false bottom. Why should the inmate dispose of the false bottom when the bread was mangled beyond use?

Department of Corrections  
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

To: M. J. ELLIOTT, ASSOCIATE WARDEN-SUBSISTY

Date: MAY 3, 1967

From: *DS*  
CAPTAIN DANTON STEELE

Subject: PAGE -2-

Civilian cook Bernard Paschang and whoever else in an official capacity that was aware of the bread delivery are guilty of gross negligence and dereliction of duty and should be appropriately disciplined.

Refer to my report of April 24, 1967, subject inmate James Earl Ray. If inmate Ray did escape via the Renz Farm bread run, then there is a discrepancy in Guard Officer Johnnie Petree's statement that he let him out of the kitchen when the mainline turned out for recreation yard and never saw him again. Guard Officer Petree was on duty at the Kitchen Gate all this time.

SUGGESTION

Officer Alfred Burkhardt is on his regular day off this date and I was unable to contact him. I suggest that he be interviewed in the atmosphere of the Warden's office and acquainted with what we already know. Maybe he can clear this thing up. Someone seems to have been doing some covering up.

cc: Warden  
Mr. Kern  
Capt. Steele  
File

*I*  
*Mr. P O R*  
*Henry Perkins - 04870*  
*Bobby Powell - 13174*  
*George Jones - 05516*

*7227*

*Berkhardt - Review*

*From the desk of: [Signature]*  
*05516 R. Swenson - Warden*  
*Mr. Jones - Kitchen - says he*  
*wants it and says in my report*  
*Bobby Powell, friend of Perkins,*  
*not in on it, but someone else*  
*and it*  
*clean in bread delivery to*  
*Renz Farm*

Department of Corrections  
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

To: M. J. ELLIOTT, ASSOCIATE WARDEN-CUSTODY

Date: MAY 4, 1967

*D. Steele*  
From: CAPTAIN DANTON STEELE

Subject: SUPPLEMENT TO ESCAPE INVESTIGATION REPORT OF MAY 3, 1967

Captain Leroy Casey and myself interviewed Guard Officer Alfred Burkhardt this date and obtained his account of the Renz Farm bread run on Sunday, April 23, 1967.

Officer Burkhardt stated that when he reached the Kitchen dock that morning he unloaded his empty bread box and went to the bread room in the main kitchen via the elevator. He checked the Renz Farm box and noted that his bread was loaded, accompanied the inmate who wheeled the box to the loading dock, and watched the box removed from the cart and loaded on the truck by the kitchen inmate and the inside truck driver inmate. Officer Burkhardt stated that he did not observe the inmates straining under any extra load. He then proceeded to the Sally Port and was present when Guard Officer Ezra Sheldon examined the bread box. Officer Burkhardt noted at this time that the bread was still neatly stacked near the top of the box as it was when he left the bread room.

He then proceeded to the Renz Farm, stopping on the way at Mr. Carl Mill's residence to deliver Mr. Mill's bread which was in a separate box. Officer Burkhardt stated that he went to the rear of the truck and inmate Lloyd R. Reno #10970, who rode the cab of the truck with him, got in the back of the truck and handed him Mr. Mill's bread, which he delivered. He did not at this time notice anything amiss in the truck.

When he reached the Administration building he backed up to the Front Door, went to the rear of the truck and watched the Renz Farm kitchen inmates unload the bread. He stated that at this time one of the inmates commented that the bread was sure in a mess. He said that he never looked at the bread or gave it a thought as to why the bread would be messed up but that he did ask the inmate if he thought they would have to go after another load. The inmate assured him that they could use the bread and he dropped the matter.

Officer Burkhardt emphatically states that he never saw the bread after it reached the Renz Farm. Mr. Bernard Peschang never reported the condition of the bread to him, and that he had never heard of the condition of the bread from anyone else. He was asked why it didn't seem strange to him that, after seeing the bread neatly stacked in the Sally Port, it should be in a mess upon arriving at his destination. He said he just never thought anything about it any further than checking as to whether or not he would have to return for more bread.

Captain Leroy Casey, in the course of his investigation of Inmate James Earl Ray's escape, talked to Officer Burkhardt on the telephone Monday, April 24, 1967. Officer Burkhardt, at that time, told Captain Casey that he, arrived at the Renz Farm with all the bread he had left the walls with. Later Captain Casey talked with Officer Burkhardt in person and was told by the officer that he actually had not seen the bread after it reached the farm but assumed it was all there because they didn't run out of bread and there were no complaints. 7

Department of Corrections  
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

Subject: RAY, James, #00416-J  
To: B.J. POIRY, MAJOR

Date April 24, 1967

PAGE III *DH*

CONCLUSIONS:

Guard Officer Johnnie Petree was negligent of his duty in not trying to locate Inmate Ray when he did not report for work at 11:00 A.M. and in not reporting the absence of Inmate Ray to Control Center and to Officer Harold Schaffer who relieved him at 12:00 P.M.

Guard Officer Harold Schaffer was negligent to a lesser extent in not knowing to whom he spoke to over the telephone on a matter as important as a missing inmate, also for not reporting to Control Center, especially since Inmate Ray is well known as being escape prone.

The daily call sheet for the kitchen is made out by Kitchen office inmates and signed by the guard officer on duty. Whether this procedure is directed by civilian cooks is not clear. The call sheet is delivered in the evening (for the next day) by the inmate-first-cook. This call sheet should be directed by and signed by the civilian cook in charge and countersigned by the guard officer. Inmates should be required to honor the call sheet unless cancelled by the civilian cook.

All off duty kitchen and dock workers are allowed to eat their meals in the kitchen. This creates too much traffic and confusion. The Kitchen Gate Officer would be able to better control the traffic if only duty workers were allowed in the kitchen.

The large number of outside people both inmate and civilian allowed inside the walls on weekends is definitely a security risk, especially when the regularly assigned Round Gate and Front Door officers are not on duty. Definite procedures should be set up.

cc: Warden Swenson  
Mr. Elliott, A.M.C.  
file



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/24/681

On April 21, 1968, Major BERNARD J. POIRY, Custodial Officer, Missouri State Penitentiary, said he has been unable to recall the name of the person who told him about RAY escaping in the bread container from the prison bakery in April of 1967. He said, however, the person who allegedly helped by putting a card board cover over him was not GEORGE OWENS, but GEORGE JONES, who is still in the penitentiary and employed in the bakery. He said there is no doubt in his mind but that RAY escaped via the bread truck.

Major POIRY also said that he received information on April 21, 1967, from the prison "grapevine, no source identifiable, that the talk in the pen is that RAY made contact with WALTER NOLAN, who was released from the penitentiary on a writ, and that probably NOLAN was the "brains" behind the KING murder. He said there was absolutely no information to confirm this report and he has no information that NOLAN and RAY even associated together in the penitentiary.

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On 4/21/68 at Jefferson City, Missouri File# KC 44-760

by SA ROWEN B. AYERS : SS Date dictated 4/22/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/24/681

GEORGE HAROLD JONES, Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP) #45516, who has been in the MSP since 1957 from St. Louis, Missouri advised he is now head baker at the penitentiary. He said he was working in the bakery with JAMES EARL RAY when the latter escaped in April of 1967, but he has never been contacted in connection therewith. He said he also worked in the bakery when RAY was working in the kitchen. He said they were acquainted for six or seven years. He said he never talked to RAY about his plans to escape and did not know how RAY escaped. He said a man could conceal himself in the bread boxes used in 1967. He said they were wooden boxes about 4 1/2' by 2 1/2'.

He said however if a man concealed himself in one of the boxes the officials of the penitentiary would have known about it as soon as the box was delivered without bread. He said after RAY was missing, the officials continued their search for him for about 12 or 13 days on the theory he had "hid out" as he had done before. He said inmates were forbidden to take sandwiches out of the eating areas because officials thought they might take food to RAY. He said he was making a sandwich one afternoon and a lieutenant asked him what he was going to do with it. He said he was going to take it to RAY, in a kidding manner. The officer said "he knew RAY went over the wall". He did not recall the identity of the officer.

JONES said he did not know RAY's friends. He said he never heard of a RAYMOND LEWIS CURTIS. He said RAY is not the type of person who would kill MARTIN LUTHER KING. He said RAY never talked about Negroes or anything else and he believes "they have the wrong guy".

JONES said that he never heard of RAY using drugs and he knew RAY was not a homosexual. He said he could not furnish any information as to the whereabouts of RAY or could he name anyone who could.

On 4/22/68 at Jefferson City, Missouri File # KC 44-760  
 by SA ROWEN B. AYERS : ssc Date dictated 4/23/68

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KC 44-760

The following investigation was conducted by  
Special Agent THOMAS H. WEAVER:

AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI:

On April 23, 1968, Major BERNARD POIRY, Assistant Associate Warden of Custody, Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP), advised that a thorough search of the property room at the MSP failed to reveal any personal effects of JAMES EARL RAY left behind after his escape. He said that he usually goes through any personal effects left behind by an escapee for leads, but he cannot recall whether or not he ever saw anything left behind by RAY. He stated that if other inmates know an inmate has escaped, they will strip his cell of anything worthwhile. Major POIRY advised that he will continue to search for any personal property of RAY and will advise if such is located.

On April 29, 1968, Mr. BERNARD PESCHANG, Route 2, a cook at the Renz Prison Farm, Missouri State Penitentiary, advised that he had worked at the kitchen at the MSP in about 1963-64 when RAY was working there pushing a food cart to the hospital. He recalled at the time that RAY was known as the "hide-out guy" from a previous occasion when he hid inside the prison for some time before being found. He recalls that on a Sunday morning, during April, 1967, the bread truck arrived at the Renz farm when PESCHANG was there as the cook, and the bread was "messed up". RAY had hidden out again once while PESCHANG was at the Renz farm, and when he saw the bread box with the "messed up" bread, he thought then, without knowing why, that "JIMMY RAY must be out again". He did not know at the time, he said, that RAY was working in the bread room at the main prison, and he has no idea who might have helped RAY escape on this occasion. When he heard later that RAY had indeed escaped, he recalled the "messed up" bread and notified his superiors at the Renz farm. The bread box used to transport bread in an open truck from the main prison to the farm had contained sufficient bread to be used on the day it was received, but it was a large enough box that a man in a cramped position could have been hidden under some layers of loaves.

KC 44-760

PESCHANG said that he has no idea who RAY's close friends were, and as he recalled, RAY "got along" but was not close to anyone. He knew RAY was unhappy in prison, from working with him at the kitchen at the main prison, and he had heard RAY say that he would "make it to South America" if he ever got out of prison. He said he never heard RAY make any statements to indicate he was unusually prejudiced against Negroes, and he did not seem to be the type to have it "in" for anyone, but was just "for JIMMY RAY". He said that the bread in the bread box on the day RAY reportedly escaped, was turned around and turned over, and not neatly stacked as it usually was on arrival at the farm. He does not believe any incidents at the time occurred which would indicate any guard had anything to do with helping RAY escape, and he could not be certain that RAY got out in the bread box, but it would have been possible.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/29/68

Mr. HAROLD SCHAEFFER, 630 Adams, Jefferson City, Missouri, employed at the Missouri State Penitentiary from 12:00 PM to 8:00 AM as tower watch on Tower 14, formerly gate guard in the Penitentiary Kitchen (and bakery) said he worked on the latter assignment for about two years in the period between 1965 and 1967, and knew JAMES RAY.

He recalled that he went on duty at 11:00 AM on April 23, 1967. He said RAY worked in back of the kitchen as a bread slicer who packed the bread boxes. He worked alone. He said he did not know RAY well. He said RAY would have had to leave the penitentiary, if he escaped in a bread box, sometime before 11:00 AM, as the bread goes to the farms early in the morning, or at least before 11:00 AM. He said the other guard on duty with him was ROBERT HIGGINS who now lives some place in Arizona.

He recalled that about 3:00 PM he was contacted by Warden SWENSON who told him that RAY had escaped and wanted to know what he knew about it. He said he did not know RAY had left, as he had no occasion to check on him. He said he was "bawled out". He said a search continued inside the walls for RAY for several days.

SCHAEFFER said he did not know any associates of RAY, and had no dealings with him. He denied that he had ever furnished RAY with any amphetamine, or any other type of contraband.

He said he has heard very little talk about RAY, either following his escape or since the allegation appeared in the papers that RAY was being sought for the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. He said he could furnish no information concerning his whereabouts or of anyone who might have such information.

Mr. SCHAEFFER said he knows "WHITEY" DOWDA. He said about eight months ago, DOWDA was in Jefferson City, Missouri with his new wife, and stayed for a couple of nights. He formerly worked in the penitentiary kitchen, and would

On 4/25/68 at Jefferson City, Missouri File# KC 44-760

by SA ROWEN B. AYERS:ENV Date dictated 4/26/68

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have known RAY, according to Mr. SCHAEFFER. He said he was walking on Capitol Avenue and DOWDA came by and asked him if he wanted a ride to his car. He went with DOWDA and another guard by the name of JOHN PETREKE or PETREE, or similar, to a tavern and a few beers. PETREKE asked DOWDA if he and his wife wanted to stay all night at the PETREKE residence. He did not know if the invitation was accepted. He said DOWDA was on his way to California at the time. He was driving a Volkswagen which he said belonged to his wife. He said he was with DOWDA for about 1½ hours. He said he observed DOWDA at the front gate of the penitentiary talking to the door man, but did not see him go in. He said he did not know how well RAY knew DOWDA.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/27/68

Mr. STEPHAN I. KRAL, Elston, Missouri, Officers' Dining Room Supervisor, Missouri State Penitentiary, formerly guard at Renz Farm, said it was his regular job in 1967 to drive the truck to the main prison for bread five days a week, except weekends. He said the truck leaves Renz Farm about 8:00 a.m., and gets the bread no later than about 8:30 a.m. He said the empty box is taken from Renz Farm and taken to the loading dock. At that place the driver gives the order for bread. The inmates take the empty box on an elevator to the bakery and a box is loaded with the order. It is then brought back to the dock. The driver is supposed to check it to be sure it contains nothing but bread. He said the box was about 4 by 3 feet. He said it holds about 100 loaves of bread and they are packed 15 loaves to each layer. He said he always ran his arm down inside the box to count the layers. He said the truck then goes out to the truck tunnel. There a guard again checked to be sure there was nothing under or around the truck, including the box and under the hood. He, if satisfied, signaled the tower and the exit gate was released and the truck went back to the farm. He said the truck made several stops for lights, intersections, etc., en route and one would have no difficulty getting off the truck. He said the box was large enough to hold a man.

Mr. KRAL said that he heard some talk, after RAY escaped, that some officers had seen RAY "practicing a little yogi", that is, curling up in corners, and similar. He said he presumed he was doing this to see if he could fit in the bread box, but he had no personal information in this regard. He also said he "heard" that Renz Farm had been receiving more bread than requested for two or three days prior to April 23, 1967.

Mr. KRAL said the entire delivery trip from Renz to the Penitentiary and back did not continue until after 9:00 a.m.

He said he did not know what procedures of checking were followed on April 23, 1968, as this was a weekend and both the regular driver and regular tunnel checker were off duty.

On 4/26/68 at Jefferson City, Mo. File # KC 44-760  
 by SA ROWEN B. AYERS (lib) Date dictated 4/26/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/27/68

Mr. ALFRED BURKHARDT, 305 Boonville Road, formerly employed by the Missouri State Penitentiary, said he was the relief driver of the "bread truck" for Renz Farm on April 23, 1967. He said he picked up the bread about 8:30 a.m. He noted the box was on the platform (loading dock). He said this was unusual because usually the empty is taken from the truck and the full box returned. He said he recalled it had been there the day before. He said he was supposed to check the box to be sure it contained nothing but bread. He said the box was about 3 by 2-1/2 feet. He said he had heard that someone tried to get into one of these boxes, after RAY's escape, and could not do it with room for bread. He said the box is checked at the dock, and at the tunnel. He said, however, that it was not "probed." He said the check was visual. He said the box was delivered to Renz Farm and he heard no more about it.

However, he "heard" the next day that civilian cook at Renz Farm complained "that the bread had been all messed up." He also "heard" that there was no shortage of bread on April 23, 1968. He said he also "heard" that some of RAY's clothing had been found on the loading dock a week or two after the escape. He said the only thing unusual about this particular trip and perhaps the 22nd, was that the box was on the dock when he arrived there.

On 4/26/68 at Jefferson City, Missouri File# KC 44-760

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KC 44-760

WARRANT OF ARREST

On April 24, 1968, an amended complaint, as authorized, was filed by Special Agent ROWEN B. AYERS before United States Commissioner W. C. SHELEY at Jefferson City, Missouri, charging JAMES EARL RAY with Unlawful Flight to Avoid Confinement in connection with the commission of a crime of Robbery First, in violation of Title 18, Section 1073, United States Code. Bond returnable was set by the United States Attorney at \$5,000.00 to the United States Commissioner at Jefferson City, Missouri.

Mr. SHELEY issued a warrant on the above complaint on April 24, 1968, which has been transmitted to the Office of the United States Marshal at Kansas City, Missouri.

HANDWRITING SAMPLES

On April 20, 1968, one copy of a letter in the handwriting of JAMES E. RAY dated October 24, 1966, was furnished to the FBI Laboratory for comparison purposes. The letter was from RAY to Dr. EARL C. KEPLER, Biggs Building, Fulton, Missouri, and was furnished to Special Agent ROWEN B. AYERS by Dr. G. B. PETERSON, State Hospital No. 1, Fulton, Missouri, on April 19, 1968.

On April 27, 1968, thirty-four pages containing purported handwriting and hand printing of JAMES EARL RAY were forwarded to the FBI Laboratory, also for comparison purposes. These items were contained in the Missouri State Penitentiary file of RAY and were furnished to Special Agent ROWEN B. AYERS on April 26, 1968, by Mr. HARRY LAUF, Records Officer, Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri.

On May 6, 1968, twenty-two pages of handwriting of JAMES EARL RAY as obtained from the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, and one copy of a form dated April 4, 1958, signed by JAMES EARL RAY, obtained from U. S. Probation Officer, Kansas City, Missouri, were forwarded to the FBI Laboratory for comparison purposes. The twenty-two pages of handwriting samples were obtained by Special Agent MAX E. RICHARDSON and the form from the U. S. Probation Officer, Kansas City, Missouri, was obtained by Special Agent THOMAS J. CONNOLLY.