FBI - CENTRAL RECORDS CENTER HISTORICAL VALUE, **VES BUREAU INVESTIGATION** FILLSERVE FOR SELECT "O THERE ON ASSASSIVATIONS SEE CO COOK SER 45 10 DATED See also Nos.

F B I

Date:	4/	19/	68

Transmit the following in		PLAINTEXT	i
		(Type in plaintext or code)	
Via	TELETYPE	URGENT	
		(Priority)	
			1 0

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), MEMPHIS (44-1987) AND SAN ANTONIO FROM PHILADELPHIA (44-1368)

MURKIN

SENT BY CODED TELETYPE

RE PHILA. TEL TO DIRECTOR AND SACS, MEMPHIS AND SAN ANTONIO, APR EIGHTEEN LAST - SUSPECT WILLIAM D. WILLIS.

WILLIS WAS LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED AT PHILA. INSTANT DATE. WILLIS ACCOUNTED FOR HIS TIME DURING PERTINENT DATES.

WILLIS ADMITTED MAKING THE PHONE CALL AT THE SOUTH
SEVENTEEN TRUCK STOP TO HIS GIRL FRIEND IN PHILA. AND IN
THE CONVERSATION TOLD HER HE WAS BRINGING HIS RIFLE AND
SHOTGUN AND SOME AMMUNITION BACK WITH HIM TO PHILA. HIS
GIRL FRIEND TOLD HIM TO BE CAREFUL BECAUSE OF THE WAY THAT
HIS WIFE HAD BEEN ACTING.

SAN ANTONIO DISCONTINUE LEADS SET FORTH IN RETEL.

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Approved:	,9)	ME-MED 437P SA-CEB 450P SentM Per
	gent in Charge	WA 502P

VA SIX FBI PHILA

502P: 4-19-68 URGENT ERA

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861, SACS MEMPHIS 44-1987 AND SAN ANTONIO

PLAINTEXT:
FROM SAC PHILADELPHIA 44-1368

SENT BY CODED TELETYPE

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SA OLIVER B. REVELL, III

MURKIN

WILLIAM DAVID WILLIS, Machinist Mate First Class, U. S. Navy, SN located aboard "USS SARATOGA" at Philadelphia Naval Base this date.

WILLIS interviewed by SA OLIVER B. REVELL, III, at Headquarters, Naval Investigative Service Office, Philadelphia, beginning 12:15 p.m. WILLIS completely cooperative, and furnished the following information regarding his activities from March 29, 1968 to April 6, 1968.

He began a 30 day leave period at 7:05 a.m., on March 29, 1968, and from that time until 9:00 p.m., April 1, 1968, he was at the residence of GEORGIA JEAN SHIPTON, 1411 Ritner Street, Philadelphia, Pa., telephone number DE4-4951.

WILLIS explained that SHIPTON is his girl friend whom he has been living with for approximately the past two months.

On April 1, 1968, he departed Philadelphia International Airport at 9:00 p.m., on Eastern Airlines flight to Jacksonville, Fla. He arrived in Jacksonville at 12:45 a.m., April 2, 1968. He stayed at his residence at Jacksonville Beach, Fla., address 902 South 14th Avenue, until approximately 9:30 a.m., April 3, 1968, at which time he departed for Philadelphia with his wife, JOYCE MURLEEN BALES WILLIS, and their two children, driving his 1960 Pontiac with Florida License 2W14071.

He drove via Route 17 and 17A to Charlotte, N. C., where he and his family spent the night of April 3, 1968, in a motel located approximately one mile from the South 17 Truck Stop. Before going to the motel he stopped at the South 17 Truck Stop, purchased some food, and made a long-distance telephone call to his girl friend, GEORGIA SHIPTON.

2 44-1368 OBR: LMH (2) SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED ALL FILED ALL FILE

PH 44-1368

During this conversation with his girl friend, she asked if he was bringing his guns back with him. He told her that he had his shotgun and rifle and some ammunition. His girl friend told him to be careful because of the way that his wife had been acting. He then told her that he would be careful, and that he had the guns locked in the trunk of the car.

After spending the night of April 3, 1968, in the motel at Charlotte, he and his family drove to Philadelphia on April 4, 1968, arriving in Philadelphia shortly after midnight, and spent the night at the Melrose Motel, Route 295, near Camden, N. J.

He and his wife stayed at this motel until the morning of April 5, 1968, when he placed his wife and two children on board a Trailways Bus for the residence of his wife's parents at 2913 Nichols Street, Kerrville, Texas. He and his wife had agreed at this time to a separation due to marital problems.

He then moved in with his girl friend, GEORGIA SHIPTON, at the Ritner Street address, where he is presently residing.

The weapons that he brought back were a 30.06 rifle and a 410 gauge shotgun. Both of these weapons are presently in the residence of his girl friend, where he is staying.

WILLIS stated that he belonged to no militant organizations, either right or left wing, and that at no time had he ever even thought of utilizing a weapon to harm anyone.

He has no previous arrests and has never been courtmartialed or subjected to any disciplinary action while in the Naval Service.

WILLIS was requested to submit to being photographed, which he readily agreed to, and two Polaroid photographs were obtained of WILLIS.

PH 44-1368

WILLIS was then returned to Naval Intelligence, where they released him to return to the "USS SARATOGA."

Memorandum

TO :

SAC (44-1368)

DATE:

4/19/68

FROM:

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2 44-1368

OBR:LMH

(2)

PH 44-1368

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Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1368)

DATE: 4-19-68

FROM:

SA JAMES E. CARROLL

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

RE: Newark Airtel to Bu, 4-15-68

Reference airtel requested PH to verify the whereabouts of DONALD CAMERON GAULT, 171 Myrtle Avenue, Millburn, N.J. during the period 3-29/31-68.

On 4-19-68 Commander George Burke, U.S. Navel Air Base, Willow Grove, Penna., advised SA JAMES E. CARROLL as follows:

DONALD CAMERON GAULT, SN is Aircraft Ordnance Chief Senior grade. On 3-29-68 GAULT departed on a training mission to the Patrick Air Force Base, Flordia. This base is located in the vicinity of Coco Beach, Fla. GAULT returned with his crew to Willow Grove, Penna., on 3-31-68

JEC

SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED TO FILED ALL APR 2.1968
FBI—PHILADELPHIA

K.15.





TO: SAC, PHILADELPHIA (44-1368)

DATE: 4/19/68

FROM

SA GEORGE H. KEENAN

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

CR

On 4/9/68 the telephone, criss cross, and city directories covering all of Dauphin, Cumberland, Lebanon, Perry, and Fulton Counties, Pa., were reviewed with negative results for the names GALT, WILLARD, and LOWMEYER and variations, with one exception. RAYMOND P. LOHMEYER, a resident of 701 Henry Street, Mechanics—burg, Pa., telephone 766-5012, wife BRIDGET, was indicated as an employee of American Bridge Company.

On 4/9/68 Mrs. LOUISE KRAUTHEIM, Plant Manager's Office, American Bridge Company, Division of U.S. Steel Corporation, Shiremanstown, Pa., advised that LOHMEIER and his wife and family departed on 3/13/68 in his 1965 Rambler sedan, after selling his house at the above address, on transfer to American Bridge Company, San Francisco, California. They drove straight through, stopping only on a four or five-day layover in his home town somewhere in Nebraska. She talked to him by phone immediately after his arrival there and has since talked to him there on several other occasions. The records of EMV, Harrisburg, Pa., as furnished the same date by Mrs. FAY JUMPER, showed that he was born on 5/30/32 and has Pa. tag OA2-577 for his Rambler. Mrs. KRAUTHEIM furnished his Social Security No. as

On 4/9/68 all Voters Registration lists for the above five counties were checked for the names WILLARD, LOWMEYER, and GALT with negative results, including variations.

On 4/9/68 all credit bureaus at Harrisburg, Carlisle, Lebanon, New Bhommfield, and Dun and Bradstreet, Harrisburg, were checked for the above names with negative results.

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On 4/10/68 a review of the customer records of all laundry establishments within the Harrisburg RA was commenced. This was completed on 4/15/68, results negative. Thermo seal marking machines were also negative.

On 4/10/68 Mrs. KATHERINE SMITH, mother-in-law of KAXXX XMXXXX JOHN D. WILLARD, JR., 24 West Governor Road, Hershey, Pa., advised that WILLARD formerly worked at General Dynamics in California but moved to Philadelphia, Pa., and is now employed by the Dean Witten brokerage firm there on Chestnut Street. He maintains this address as his mailing address for such things as insurance policies because he has moved about so much. His current address is 103 Great Road, Maple Shade, N.J.

On 4/15/68 BVS records at Harrisburg, Pa., were checked with negative results for the above three names and variations.

On 4/15/68 a search of drivers license and auto registration records at BMV was completed with negative results rethe above three names and variations.

On 4/16/68 records of all banking institutions within the Harrisburg RA were checked for the above three names and variations with negative results.

On 4/19/68 Mrs. ALICE ATTICKS, Counter Service, Harold's Valeteria, 3407 Derry Street, Larrisburg, Pa., advised that their Thermo Seal Marking Machine, SN 33766, Model No. H5S4Bl, was purchased about two months ago by WILBUR G. SMITH, the owner, and has not yet been used. No one here except SMITH knows how to operate the machine and present system is to do all marking by hand. They have never used anything similar to code numbers. The composite photo of GALT was displayed to her and the other two counter clerks with negative results.

NEWARK TWO - FBI PHILA

944PM 4-19-68. URGENT ERA

TO SACS NEWARK 44-854 AND PITTSBURGH

PLAINTEXT

FROM SAC PHILADELPHIA 44-1368

Special Agent in Charg

SENT BY CODED TELETYPE

MURKIN

RE NEWARK TEL TO PHILA APR NINETEEN INSTANT.

RETEL STATED THAT ON APR NINETEEN INSTANT, JOHN STENSEL,
TWO SIX SEVEN MICHIGAN AVE, PATERSON, NJ, AT APPROX FIVE FIFTEEN PM,
OBSERVED SIXTY OR SIXTYTWO RED CORVAIR, PENNA LICENSE OB FOUR
ZERO FIVE SIX, PROCEEDING SOUTH ON ROUTE TWO ZERO TOWARD NEWARK, NJ.
THEY APPROACHED TRAFFIC LIGHT AND THE INDIVIDUAL DRIVING CAPTIONED
WEHICLE RESEMBLED SUSPECT IN ABOVE CAPTIONED CASE.

PHILA INVESTIGATION DETERMINED THROUGH DEPT MOTOR VEHICLES,
HARRISBURG, PA, THAT ABOVE PENNA REGISTRATION IS FOR CHEVROLET
COUPE AND REGISTERED TO MICHAEL L. PAHOUNTIS, ONE FOUR EIGHT ZERO
PARK BOULEVARD, PITTSBURGH, PA.

	PITTSB	URGH IMM	EDIATELY I	NTERVIEW	PAHOUNTIS	REGARDING	WHETHER
VEHI	CLE STO	LEN PER	REQUEST OF	RETEL.		44-	1368-119
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FBI PHILA

FBI NEWARK.

7:14PM URGENT 4-19-68 JON
TO PHILADELPHIA
FROM NEWARK (44-854)

MURKIN

INSTANT DATE, JOHN STENGEL, TWO SIX SEVEN MICHIGAN

AVE., PATERSON, NJ, AT APPROXIMATELY FIVE FIFTEEN PM,

OBSERVED NINETEEN SIXTY OR SIXTY TWO RED CORVAIR, PENNA.

LICENSE OB FOUR ZERO FIVE SIX, PROCEEDING SOUTH ON ROUTE

TWO ZERO TOWARD NEWARK, NJ. THEY APPROACHED A TRAFFIC

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PHIOLADELPHIA, AT DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES, HARRISBURG, PA., ASCERTAON TO WHOM PENNA. LICENSE ISSUED, TYPE OF AUTO AND IMMEDIATELY INTERVIEW REGARDING WHETHER VEHICLE STOLEN.

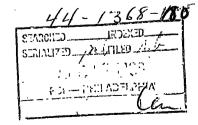
AIRMAIL COPIES TO BIRMINGHAM, MEMPHIS, AND ATLANTA.

THUM SORGAME

FBI PHILA

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I tel sent q:44 pm



FBI PHILA

FBI NEWARK
7:14PM URGENT 4-19-68 JON
TO PHILADELPHIA
FROM NEWARK (44-854)

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END

MMHL

FBI PHILA

P

44-1368-18

NEWARK TWO FBI PHILA

4-19-68 URGINT 944PM

TO SACS NEWARK 44-854 AND PITTSBURGH PLAINTEXT

FROM SAC PHILADELPHIA: 44-1368.

SENT BY CODED TELETYPE

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PITTSBURGH IMMEDIATELY INTERVIEW PAROUNTIS REGARDING WHETHER VEHICLE STOLEN PER REQUEST OF RETEL

END

NK ... JPK

FBI NEWARK

Approved: Special Agent in Charg

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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NEWARK 3

NEW YORK 15

PHILA 5 903 PM EFH

URGENT 4-18-68 EFH

TO ALL SACS (PLAINTEXT)

FROM DIRECTOR IP

MURKIN

SENT BY CODED TELETYPE

CONTACTS SHOULD BE MAINTAINED WITH ALL MASS COMMUNICATIONS
MEDIA IN YOUR TERRITORIES TO INSURE THAT THERE IS FREQUENT
REFERENCE TO PHOTOGRAPH OF GALT AND HIS CONNECTION WITH
THIS CASE. IF NOT ALREADY DONE, PHOTOGRAPHS SHOULD BE
SHOWN OR DISTRIBUTED TO LAW ENFORCEMENT AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
AGENCIES IN YOUR AREAS TO INSURE THE BROADEST POSSIBLE
PUBLICATION OF SUBJECT'S PHOTOGRAPH AND BACKGROUND.

OFFICES COVERING POINTS OF ENTRY OR EXIT FROM COUNTRY
INSURE THAT SUBJECT'S PHOTOGRAPH AND BACKGROUND HAVE BEEN
WIDELY DISTRIBUTED AND/OR APPROPRIATELY DISPLAYED AND
THAT STOPS ARE BEING MAINTAINED.

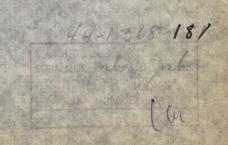
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NEWARK 3

NEW YORK 15

PHILA 5 903 PM EFH

URGENT 4-18-68 EFH

TO ALL SACS (PLAINTEXT)

FROM DIRECTOR 1P

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SENT BY CODED TELETYPE

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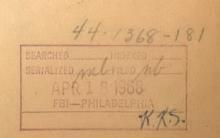
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QURGENT 4-19-68 EXR

TO ALL SACS (PLAINTEXT)

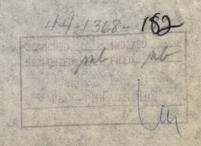
FROM DIRECTOR

MURKIN.

THE FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE HAS JUST BEEN ISSUED AT
WASHINGTON THIS AFTERNOON AND YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE IT
IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE TO THE LEADING NEWSPAPERS AND RADIO
AND TV STATIONS IN YOUR DIVISION. EVERY EFFORT MUST BE MADE
TO INSURE REPEATED AND WIDESPREAD DISTRIBUTION OF THIS
INFORMATION. COPIES OF THE 1968 PHOTOGRAPH OF SUBJECT
ALREADY IN YOUR POSSESSION AND WANTED FLYERS SHOULD ALSO BE
MADE AVAILABLE TO MEDIA CONTACTS. NO ELABORATION
WHATSOEVER MAY BE MADE REGARDING THIS RELEASE. ADDITIONAL
INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING INVESTIGATIVE LEADS WILL FOLLOW
SHORTLY.

END PAGE ONE

SENT BY CODED TELETYPE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE APRIL 19, 1968

ATTORNEY GENERAL RAMSEY CLARK ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE FBI HAS IDENTIFIED JAMES EARL RAY, AN ESCAPEE FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, AS ERIC STARVO GALT, AGAINST WHOM A FEDERAL COMPLAINT WAS FILED LAST WEDNESDAY IN CONNECTION WITH THE FATAL SHOOT-IN OF THE REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING. JR.

DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER SAID THAT A SYSTEMATIC AND EXHAUSTIVE SEARCH OF LATENT FINGERPRINTS UNCOVERED IN THE DR. KING CASE AGINST THE FINGERPRINTS OF THE OVER 53,000 PERSONS FOR WHOM "WANTED NOTICES" HAVE BEEN POSTED IN THE FILES OF THE FBI'S IDENTIFICATION DIVISION LED TO THE DETERMINATION THAT GALT AND RAY ARE IDENTICAL.

MR. HOOVER SAID THAT RAY, WHO IS 40 YEARS OF AGE, WAS REPORTED MISSING FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI, SINCE APRIL 23, 1967. HE HAD BEEN RECEIVED AT THAT INSTITUTION ON MARCH 17, 1960, TO SERVE A 20-YEAR SENTENCE FOLLOWING CONVICTION IN ST. LOUIS FOR ARMED ROBBERY AND FOR OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE OWNER.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

IN SPETEMBER, 1966, WHILE SERVING THIS SENTENCE, HE WAS CONFINED FOR A TIME IN THE MAXIMUM SECURITY WARD AT THE STATE HOSPITAL AT FULTON, MISSOURI.

ACCORDING TO MR. HOOVER, RAY HAS A KNOWN ARREST RECORD

DATING BACK TO 1949. PRIOR TO THE 1960 CONVICTION FOR WHICH HE RECEIVED

THE 20-YEAR TERM, RAY HAD BEEN CONVICTED OF BURGLARY IN LOS ANGELES,

CALIFORNIA, IN 1949; ARMED ROBBERY IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, IN 1952; AND

FORGING UNITED STATES POSTAL MONEY ORDERS IN MISSOURI

IN 1955.

HE HAS SERVED TERMS IN THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY JAIL IN
1949; IN STATE PRISONS AT JOLIET AND PONTIAC, ILLINOIS, IN 1952-54; AND
IN THE FEDERAL PENITENTIARY AT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS, IN 1955-58.

RAY WAS AN ENLISTED MAN IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY FROM
FEBRUARY, 1946, TO DECEMBER, 1948, AT WHICH TIME HE WAS GIVEN A
GENERAL DISCHARGE DUE TO INEPTNESS AND LACK OF ADAPTABILITY FOR MILITARY
SERVICE. WHILE IN THE ARMY, HE RECEIVED A THREE-MONTH SENTENCE AT
HARD LABOR FOR BEING DRUNK AND BREAKING ARREST.

MR. HOOVER SAID THAT DURING HIS CRIMINAL CAREER, RAY
HAS ALSO USED THE NAMES OF JAMES MC BRIDE, JAMES WALTON, W. C.
HERRON AND JAMES O'CONNER. HE IS A UHITE MALE; CLAIMS TO HAVE

PAGE FOUR

BEEN BORN MARCH 10, 1928, IN ILLINOIS; IS APPROXIMATELY 5 FEET 10 INCHES TALL AND WEIGHS ABOUT 163 TO 174 POUNDS. HE HAS BLUE EYES AND BROWN HAIR. THERE IS A SMALL SCAR ON THE CENTER OF HIS FOREHEAD AND A SCAR ON THE PALM OF HIS RIGHT HAND.

RAY HAS CLAIMED THAT HE ATTENDED SCHOOL THROUGH THE 10TH GRADE IN ALTON, ILLINOIS. HE HAS HAD THE REPUTATION OF BEING A "DRIFTER" SINCE LEAVING SCHOOL. HIS VOCATIONAL EXPERIENCE INCLUDES WORKING AS A BAKER, LABORER AND COLOR MATCHER.

IN CONNECTION WITH HIS ESCAPE FROM THE MISSOURI STATE

PENITENTIARY, AN FBI COMPLAINT WAS FILED IN JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI,

ON JULY 20,1967, CHARGING RAY WITH UNLAWFULLY FLEEING FROM THE STATE

OF MISSOURI TO AVOID CONFINEMENT. HE HAS BEEN A FEDERAL FUGITIVE

SINCE THEN.

RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS.

ANYONE HAVING INFORMATION CONCERNING HIM SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT
FBI HEADQUARTERS IN WASHINGTON, D. C., OR THE NEAREST FBI OFFICE.

EMPPESRAGE GA K
,CXP FBI PHILA

NEW YORK 04, BA 02, NK 02, PA 02, 225 PM DNH

QURGENT 4-19-68 EXR

TO ALL SACS (PLAINTEXT)

FROM DIRECTOR

CRASS LANGE WITH 157-2574 **

MURKIN.

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END PAGE ONE

SENT BY CODED TELETYPE

Al Fausting - UPT K.K.S.

Jam Lamb - A.F. K.K.S.

John Retner - WYK- K.K.S.

Loyd Hogrer - KYN - Maybour

John Dovis WIBG.

Harly Flain WPKN ""

John Doyce W CAU "

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SEARCHED POLITICAL SERIALIZATION OF THE PHILADELPHIA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
-APRIL 19, 1968

ATTORNEY GENERAL RAMSEY CLARK ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE FBI HAS IDENTIFIED JAMES EARL RAY, AN ESCAPEE FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, AS ERIC STARVO GALT, AGAINST WHOM A FEDERAL COMPLAINT WAS FILED LAST WEDNESDAY IN CONNECTION WITH THE FATAL SHOOTIN OF THE REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER SAID THAT A SYSTEMATIC AND EXHAUSTIVE SEARCH OF LATENT FINGERPRINTS UNCOVERED IN THE DR. KING CASE AGINST THE FINGERPRINTS OF THE OVER 53,000 PERSONS FOR WHOM "WANTED NOTICES" HAVE BEEN POSTED IN THE FILES OF THE FBI'S IDENTIFICATION DIVISION LED TO THE DETERMINATION THAT GALT AND RAY ARE IDENTICAL.

MR. HOOVER SAID THAT RAY, WHO IS 40 YEARS OF AGE, WAS REPORTED MISSING FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI, SINCE APRIL 23, 1967. HE HAD BEEN RECEIVED AT THAT INSTITUTION ON MARCH 17, 1960, TO SERVE A 20-YEAR SENTENCE FOLLOWING CONVICTION IN ST. LOUIS FOR ARMED ROBBERY AND FOR OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE OWNER.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

IN SPETEMBER, 1966, WHILE SERVING THIS SENTENCE, HE WAS CONFINED FOR A TIME IN THE MAXIMUM SECURITY WARD AT THE STATE HOSPITAL AT FULTON, MISSOURI.

ACCORDING TO MR. HOOVER, RAY HAS A KNOWN ARREST RECORD

DATING BACK TO 1949. PRIOR TO THE 1960 CONVICTION FOR WHICH HE RECEIVED

THE 20-YEAR TERM, RAY HAD BEEN CONVICTED OF BURGLARY IN LOS ANGELES,

CALIFORNIA, IN 1949; ARMED ROBBERY IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, IN 1952; AND

FORGING UNITED STATES POSTAL MONEY ORDERS IN MISSOURI

IN 1955.

HE HAS SERVED TERMS IN THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY JAIL IN
1949; IN STATE PRISONS AT JOLIET AND PONTIAC, ILLINOIS, IN 1952-54; AND
IN THE FEDERAL PENITENTIARY AT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS, IN 1955-58.

RAY WAS AN ENLISTED MAN IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY FROM
FEBRUARY, 1946, TO DECEMBER, 1948, AT WHICH TIME HE WAS GIVEN A
GENERAL DISCHARGE DUE TO INEPTNESS AND LACK OF ADAPTABILITY FOR MILITARY
SERVICE. WHILE IN THE ARMY, HE RECEIVED A THREE-MONTH SENTENCE AT
HARD LABOR FOR BEING DRUNK AND BREAKING ARREST.

MR. HOOVER SAID THAT DURING HIS CRIMINAL CAREER, RAY
HAS ALSO USED THE NAMES OF JAMES MC BRIDE, JAMES WALTON, W. C.
HERRON AND JAMES O'CONNER. HE IS A WHITE MALE; CLAIMS TO HAVE
END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

BEEN BORN MARCH 10, 1928, IN ILLINOIS; IS APPROXIMATELY 5 FEET 10 INCHES TALL AND WEIGHS ABOUT 163 TO 174 POUNDS. HE HAS BLUE EYES AND BROWN HAIR. THERE IS A SMALL SCAR ON THE CENTER OF HIS FOREHEAD AND A SCAR ON THE PALM OF HIS RIGHT HAND.

RAY HAS CLAIMED THAT HE ATTENDED SCHOOL THROUGH THE 10TH GRADE IN ALTON, ILLLNOIS. HE HAS HAD THE REPUTATION OF BEING A "DRIFTER SINCE LEAVING SCHOOL. HIS VOCATIONAL EXPERIENCE INCLUDES WORKING AS A BAKER, LABORER AND COLOR MATCHER.

IN CONNECTION WITH HIS ESCAPE FROM THE MISSOURI STATE
PENITENTIARY, AN FBI COMPLAINT WAS FILED IN JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI,
ON JULY 20,1967, CHARGING RAY WITH UNLAWFULLY FLEEING FROM THE STATE
OF MISSOURI TO AVOID CONFINEMENT. HE HAS BEEN A FEDERAL FUGITIVE
SINCE THEN.

RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS.

ANYONE HAVING INFORMATION CONCERNING HIM SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT.

FBI HEADQUARTERS IN WASHINGTON, D. C., OR THE NEAREST FBI OFFICE.

EMDPRORACK GA K

CXP FBI PHILA

1033PM IMMEDIATE 4-19-68 LLD

TO ALL SACSEXCEPT KANSAS CITY, ANCHORAGE, HONOLULU AND SAN JUAN

MESSAGE RELAY PLAN

FROM DIRECTOR 5P

MURKIN. 00: MEMPHIS.

JAMES EARL RAY, AKA. EARL JAMES RAY, W. C. HERRON, EARL JAMES,

JAMES MC BRIDE, JAMES O'CONNER, JAMES WALTON, JAMES WALYON, JIM

- FUGITIVE; UFAC - ROBBERY FIRST, BUFILE 88-41730. OO: KANSAS

CITY, KC FILE 88-9449; DETERMINED TODAY BY BUREAU TO BE IDENTICAL

WITH ERIC STARVO GALT, AGAINST WHOM FEDERAL COMPLAINT FILED APRIL

SEVENTEEN LAST IN CONNECTION WITH FATAL SHOOTING OF DR. MARTIN

LUTHER KING, JR.

JAMES EARL RAY, INMATE, MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, JEFFERSON CITY, MO., ESCAPED PEN APRIL TWO THREE, SIXTY-SEVEN. INVESTIGATION INDICATED RAY CONCEALED HIMSELF IN A BREAD BOX AND ESCAPED FROM TRUCK MAKING DELIVERY TO AN AUXILIARY FARM. RAY WAS SERVING TWENTY YEARS ON CHARGE OF ARMED ROBBERY - FIRST DEGREE AND FOR OPERATING A VEHICLE WITHOUT OWNER'S CONSENT. ON JULY TWENTY, SIXTY-SEVEN, 44-1368-1

juli sub.

PAGE TWO

FEDERAL COMPLAINT AUTHORIZED BY AUSA WILLIAM A. KITCHEN, WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY, MO., FILED BEFORE USC, JEFFERSON CITY, MO., CHARGING RAY WITH VIOLATION TITLE EIGHTEEN, SECTION ONE ZERO SEVEN THREE. USC. WARRANT ISSUED.

INVESTIGATION HAS BEEN CONDUCTED BY CHICAGO, SPRINGFIELD, ST.
LOUIS, AND KANSAS CITY OFFICES IN UNPRODUCTIVE EFFORT TO LOCATE THIS
FUGITIVE. KANSAS CITY IS INSTITUTING A FULL AND COMPLETE
REINVESTIGATION IN AN EFFORT TO DEVELOP BACKGROUND DATA, RELATIVES,
AND ASSOCIATES OF SUBJECT, WHO MIGHT BE IN A POSITION TO ASSIST IN
HIS LOCATION.

IN THIS CONNECTION, JAMES EARL RAY AND WALTER TERRY RIFE ON MARCH SEVEN, FIFTY-FIVE, BURGLARIZED THE U. S. POST OFFICE AT KELLERVILLE, ILL., AND STOLE SIXTY-SIX BLANK U. S. POSTAL MONEY ORDERS WHICH THEY PASSED DURING MARCH, FIFTY-FIVE, IN NUMEROUS STATES, WITH THE RESULT THAT BOTH WERE SENTENCED IN U.S.D.C., KANSAS CITY, MO., ON JULY ONE, FIFTY-FIVE, TO USP, LEAVENWORTH, END PAGE TWO

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KANSAS. SUBJECT RAY HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS A LONER AND RIFE

APPARENTLY IS ONE OF HIS FEW CLOSE ASSOCIATES, SUGGESTING POSSIBILITY

THEY COULD HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATES IN MURDER OF DR. KING, AND

INVESTIGATION ALSO INSTITUTED IN KANSAS CITY AIRTEL TO SPRINGFIELD

MARCH ELEVEN LAST TO DEVELOP BACKGROUND INFO RE RIFE AND TO LOCATE

HIM FOR INTERVIEW. THIS INVESTIGATION SHOULD ALSO BE RECOVERED AND

EXPEDITED TODAY, IT BEING NOTED RIFE AND RAY HAVE BACKGROUND HISTORY

IN THE QUINCY, ILL., AREA.

PHOTOS OF JAMES EARL RAY AND WALTER TERRY RIFE ARE BEING FORWARDED AMSD TO BUREAU AND ALL OFFICES.

FOLLOWING IS DESCRIPTION OF JAMES EARL RAY AS FURNISHED BY FBI
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION UNDER FBI NO. THREE ZERO SIX FOUR FOUR THREE

A: WHITE MALE, DOB

AT

DECATUR, QUINCY OR ALTON, ILL.; APPROXIMATELY FIVE FEET TEN; ONE

SEVEN FOUR LBS., IN SEPTEMBER SIXTY-SIX; RUDDY COMPLEXION; BLUE EYES;

BROWN HAIR; MEDIUM BUILD; OCCUPATIONS LABORER AND BAKER; SCARS AND

MARKS--SMALL SCAR ON CENTER OF FOREHEAD AND SCAR IN PALM OF RIGHT

HAND. ADDRESSES--ST. LOUIS, MO., MARCH SIXT,Y, TWO ZERO ONE FIVE

PARK, ST. LOUIS, MO., OCTOBER FIFTY-NINE; QUINCY, ILL., JULY

FIFTY-FIVE, MARCH FIFTY-FIVE, AND APRIL FIFTY; HOTEL QUINCY, QUINCY,

END PAGE THREE

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FOLLOWING IS A DESCRIPTION OF WALTER TERRY RIFE, FBI NO. END PAGE FOUR

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FOUR FIVE FIVE EIGHT SEVEN SIX SIX, AS OBTAINED FROM FILES OF USP, LEAVENWORTH: WHITE MALE, AGE FORTY-FOUR, DOB APRIL NINETEEN, TWENTY-FOUR, FIVE FEET NINE AND ONE HALF, ONE SIX ONE LBS., BROWN HAIR, EYES BLUE GRAY.

KANSAS CITY IS SETTING OUT ALL PERTINENT LEADS TODAY BY
TELETYPE AND TELEPHONE FOLLOWED UP BY TELETYPE CONFIRMATION.
ALL LEADS MUST BE COVERED WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS WITH BUREAU,
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COMMUNICATION OF PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS.

SUGGEST BUREAU MAKE IMMEDIATE COMPARISON OF ANY LATENT FINGERPRINTS DEVELOPED DURING KING INVESTIGATION WITH THOSE OF WALTER TERRY RIFE TO DETERMINE IF IDENTICAL.

AIR MAIL COPIES SENT ANCHORAGE, HONOLULU AND SAN JUAN.
LEGAT MEXICO CITY AND OTTAWA ADVISED.

SUBJECT RAY HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF ROBBERY WITH DEADLY WEAPON, HAS BEEN CONFINED IN STATE HOSPITAL, FULTON, MO., IN SIXTY-SIX. AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- P-

END

ERA

FBI PHILA

TU CLRP

RELAYS BY PH TO & (WRJ) 10 5 4 BA (WH) 1106 P RH (DWS) 1125 P. NF (JCP) 1139 P

1033PM IMMEDIATE 4-19-68 LLD

TO ALL SACSEXCEPT KANSAS CITY, ANCHORAGE, HONOLULU AND SAN JUAN MESSAGE RELAY PLAN

FROM DIRECTOR 5P

MURKIN. 00: MEMPHIS.

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MARKS--SMALL SCAR ON CENTER OF FOREHEAD AND SCAR IN PALM OF RIGHT
HAND. ADDRESSES--ST. LOUIS, MO., MARCH SIXT,Y, TWO ZERO ONE FIVE
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FIFTY-FIVE, MARCH FIFTY-FIVE, AND APRIL FIFTY; HOTEL QUINCY, QUINCY,
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END

ERA

FBI PHILA

TU CLRP

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

			Date: 4/19/68	
Transmi	it the following in			
			(Type in plain text or code)	
Via	AIRTEL	AM		

TO: SAC, ALBANY

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN

A T TO A STORE

Special Agent in Charge

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

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

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

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

2 ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES 1 MEMPHIS RGJ:BN SEARCHEDINDEXED	· ALDAN	<u> 44-1368-189</u>
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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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

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

A search of motel records in the Memphis area disclosed that an individual using the name ERIC S. GALT had spent the night of 4/3/68 at the Rebel Motel, Memphis, Tennessee, and was driving a 1966 white Mustang bearing Alabama License 1-38993. Investigation at Birmngham disclosed that this automobile had been purchased by ERIC S. GALT on August 30, 1968, from a private person in response to a newspaper ad. He paid a total of \$1995 cash. While in Birmingham he furnished the address of 2608 South Highland Avenue, Birmingham. This is also the address which appeared on a driver's license issued to him by the State of Alabama. The driver's license identifying data listed his birth date as July 20, 1931, his height as 5'll", his weight as 170 and his eyes blue and hair brown.

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

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

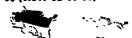
On 4/17/68, AUSA R. MACEY TAYLOR, Birmingham, authorized the filing of a complaint charging ERIC STARVO GALT with a conspiracy to violate Section 241, Title 18, U, S. Code, and

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

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

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ARMED & DANGEROUS.



			Date: 4/1	9/68	. . .
Trans	mit the following in	(Тур	e in plain text or cod	e)	
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	TO: SAC, ALE				
	from: SAC, Men	PHIS (44-1987)	P		
l	MURKIN				
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ARMED & DANGEROUS.

	Do	rte: 4/19 /68
Tra	ransmit the following in	
		in text or code)
Via		ority or Method of Mailing)
-	TO: ALL CONTINENTAL OFF FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-19) SUBJECT: MURKIN CIVIL RIGHTS (OO; ME)	
	Re Albany airtels 4 forth concerns who purchased and Bureau teletype to Memphis	
	The FBI Laboratory abed sheet were found in trunk registered to ERIC STARVO GALMATION Atlanta 4/11/68. These items laundry tapes of approximately items previously recovered, by contain code 20R-3 In open Machine Company, Syracuse, New produced by a different machine first three characters are last two characters are 18 pos	r, which was located at contain Thermo-Seal y same size as tapes on ut are yellow in color and inion of Textile Marking w York, the tapes were he than previous tapes since e 15 point type and the
		Machine Company suggests the the lot number, the R may mean atch of laundry, and the
	LEADS ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES	Decention 26
	Will recontact laund operating Thermo-Seal Marking locate laundry using the code	Machines in an effort to
	2 - All Continental Offices & 2 - Memphis GMR: jms (118)	SERIALIZED A FILED AL APR 2.3 1968
· .	Approved: Special Agent in Charge	M Per
4		77-1260 100

	•	Date: 4/19/68
Tra	nsmit the followi	ng in
		(Type in plain text or code)
Via	AIRTEL	
·		(Priority or Method of Mailing)
	TO FROM SUBJ	
	bed reginate Atlantitem continued the last twen that three LEADS	The FBI Laboratory advised that pillowcase and sheet were found in trunk of 1966 white Mustang stered to ERIC STARVO GALT, which was located at inta 4/11/68. These items contain Thermo-Seal dry tapes of approximately same size as tapes on s previously recovered, but are yellow in color and ain code, "20R-3." In opinion of Textile Marking ine Company, Syracuse, New York, the tapes were used by a different machine than previous tapes since first three characters are 15 point type and the two characters are 18 point type. The Textile Marking Machine Company suggests the ty in above code would be the lot number, the R may mean this was a return of a batch of laundry, and the e is the bundle number. SCONTINENTAL OFFICES
.		Will recontact laundries determined to be

Special Agent in Charge

Sent M Per 1 14

SEARCHED ...

SERIALIZED_

FBI-PHILADELPHIA

operating Thermo-Seal Marking Machines in an effort to locate laundry using the code, "20R-3."

2 - All Continental Offices

2 - Memphis

Approved: -

GMR: jms (118)

		FBI
		Date: 4/19/68
	the following in	(Type in plain text or code)
Via		(Priority or Method of Mailing)
	TO:	SAC, ALBANY
	FROM:	SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)
	SUBJECT:	MURKIN - COST DATA
		ReButel to ME 4/17/68.
	requested	For information of all offices, the Bureau by retel of the Memphis Division as follows:
	matter co	"Please furnish following information on above mpiled or estimated through 4/30/68, and thereafter mulative totals through the end of each month until otice:
	1)	Number of man hours spent on case broken down as to regular hours, overtime hours, and total man hours by following employees (separate figures for each class of employees shown):
		A. Special Agents
		B. Clerical Employees
	2)	Total mileage (estimated or actual) traveled by Bucars used on case. Include mileage for cars traveling to and from other field offices on special assignment and any personally-owned cars.
505	3) wiel \$ 313	Any unusual or out-of-ordinary costs, such as cost of chartering airplane, rental of special office space, leased telephone lines, etc. These should be itemized and cost of each item shown.
٤	1 - Each (2 - Memph: HEG:LF (59)	Office PH London SEARCHED SERIALIZED 2 1968 APP 2 2 1968 FEI - PHILADIC 1961

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1. 18 6 . 6

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

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

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

Memorandum

ro : SAC (坦1-1368)

DATE: 4/19/68

FROM

SA HUGH C.NORTON

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

Rememo SA KENNETH K. SMYTHE dated 4/15/68.

The following investigation was conducted by SA HUGH C.

NORION:

An the dates indicated, the following named proprietors of dancing studios in Schuylkill County, Pa., advised they did not recognize the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, aka, and that they had not had BAY as a student either under his true name or known aliases:

4/19/68 Mrs. DOLLY MARRAZZO
Dolly Marrazzo Dance Studio
21 N. Centre Street
Pottsville, Pa.

4/19/68 THELMA F. HOCK
Hock Dance Studio
310 S. Centre Street
Pottsville, Pa.

4/19/68 Miss JEAN DIXON
Jean Dixon Studio
9 Long Row Street
Girandville, Pa.

4/20/68 Miss MARIE LAND IRWIN Irwin Dance Studio 129 West Main Street Girardville, Pa.

It is noted the above comprise all of the known dancing schools in Schuylkill County, Pa.

HCN (1) 7 44.1

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sul FILED /

-PHILADELPHIA

APR 22 1968



Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1368

DATE: 4/19/68

FROM : SA PHILIP M. MORRIS

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

LEWISBURG RA

The following Agencies were contacted on 4/9/68, in an effort

to identify any individual with the last names of LOWMEYER, LOWMYER,

LOHMEYER, and LOHMYER, with negative results:

Police Departments -Lewisburg, Pa. PD Mifflinburg, Pa. PD Selinsgrove, Pa. PD Sunbury, Pa. PD Milton, Pa. PD Shamokin, Pa. PD Mount Carmel, Pa. PD Bloomsburg, Pa. PD Berwick, Pa. PD Benton, Pa. PD Middleburg, Pa. PD Kulpmont, Pa. PD Pennsylvania State Police -Bloomsburg, Pa. Milton, Pa. Selinsgrove, Pa. Shamokin, Pa. Credit Bureaus -Bloomsburg, Pa. Shamokin, Pa. Sunbury, Pa. Voter Registrations -Columbia County, Pa. Montour County, Pa. Northumberland, County, Pa. Union County, Pa. Snyder County, Pa. Telephone & City Directories Cobering Columbia County Montour County Northumberland County Snyder County Union County

1 - (44-1368)

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PMM/

U.S. Penitentiary, Lewisburg, Pa.

On 4/10/68, the following laundries were contacted concerning a red cloth $\frac{1}{4}$ " X 1 1/16" Thermo Seal tag bearing number, 02B-6 or D2B-6, with negative results:

Lewisburg Cleaners, Lewisburg, Pa.
Dottie's Lanndry, Lewisburg, Pa.
Burrell Unamic Laundry, Mifflinburg, Pa.
Reed's Cleaners, Milton, Pa.
Real French Cleaners, Hummel's Wharf, Pa.
Vogel's Cleaners, Milton, Pa.
Mary Mac Intosh Services, Sunbury, Pa.
New Monarch Launderers and Cleaners, Shamokin, Pa.
Reeds Cleaners, Lewisburg, Pa.
Sunshine Laundry, Inc., Berwick, Pa.
Montour Laundry & Cleanors, Danville, Pa.
Sunshine Laundry, Inc., Bloomsburg, Pa.

On 4/11/68, the following institutions and agencies were contacted in effort to locate a record in name of ERIC STARVO GALT with negative results:

U.S. Penitentiary, Lewisburg, Pa. Lewisburg Brust & Safe Deposit Company, Lewisburg, Pa. Union National Bank, Lewisburg, Pa. Lewisburg National Bank, Lewisburg, Pa. First National Bank, Milton, Pa. Milton Bank & Safe Deposit Company, Milton, Pa. Farmers National Bank, Watsontown, Pa. Watsontown National Bank, Watsontown, Pa. West Milton State Bank, West Milton, Pa. Mifflinburg Bank & Trust Company, Mifflinburg, Pa. Tri-County National Bank, Middleburg, Pa. Swineford National Bank, Middleburg, Pa. Tri-County National Bank, Selinsgrove, Pa. Snyder County Trust Company, Belinsgrove, Pa. First National Bank, Sunbury, Pa. Walley Bank, Sunbury, Pa. Susquehanna Valley Bank & Trust Company, Sunbury, Pa. First National Bank, Kulpmont, Pa. Union National Bank of Mount Carmel, Mount Carmel, Pa. First National Bank of Mount Carmel, Mount Carmel, Pa. Liberty State Bank, Mount Carmel, Pa. Guarantee Trust & Safe Deposit Company, Shamokin, Pa. Guarantee Trust & Safe Deposit Company, Elysburg, Pa. Market Street National Bank, Shamokin, Pa. National Dime Bank, Shamokin, Pa. Peoples Bank, Shamokin, Pa. West End National Bank, Shamokin, Pa. First National Bank, Berwick, Pa.