

I. O. 4182
4-20-68

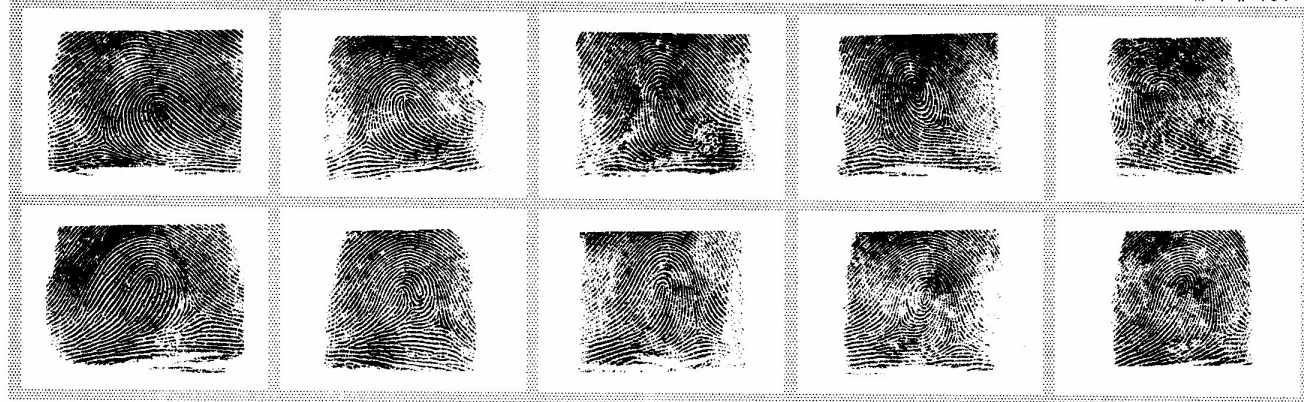
**CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY
INTERSTATE FLIGHT - ROBBERY**

WANTED BY FBI

JAMES EARL RAY

FBI No. 405,942 G
16 M 9 U 000 12
M 4 W 101

ALIASES: Eric Starvo Galt, W. C. Herron, Harvey Lowmyer, James McBride, James O'Conner, James Walton, James Walyon, John Willard, "Jim"



Photographs taken 1960

Photograph taken 1968
(eyes drawn by artist)



James Ray

DESCRIPTION

AGE: 40, born March 10, 1928, Alton, Illinois
HEIGHT: 5' 10" EYES: blue
WEIGHT: 163 to 174 pounds COMPLEXION: medium
BUILD: medium RACE: white
HAIR: brown, possibly cut short NATIONALITY: American
OCCUPATIONS: baker, color matcher, laborer
SCARS AND MARKS: small scar on center of forehead and small scar on palm of right hand
REMARKS: noticeably protruding left ear; reportedly is a lone wolf; allegedly attended dance instruction school; has reportedly completed course in bartending

CRIMINAL RECORD

Ray has been convicted of burglary, robbery, forging U. S. Postal Money Orders, armed robbery, and operating motor vehicle without owner's consent.

CAUTION

RAY IS SOUGHT IN CONNECTION WITH A MURDER WHEREIN THE VICTIM WAS SHOT. CONSIDER ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS.

A Federal warrant was issued on April 17, 1968, at Birmingham, Alabama, charging Ray as Eric Starvo Galt with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a citizen (Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 241). A Federal warrant was also issued on July 20, 1967, at Jefferson City, Missouri, charging Ray with Interstate Flight to Avoid Confinement for the crime of Robbery (Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 1073).

**IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS PERSON, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL FBI OFFICE.
TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES OF ALL FBI OFFICES LISTED ON BACK.**

Identification Order 4182
April 20, 1968

44-203

J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C. 20535

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

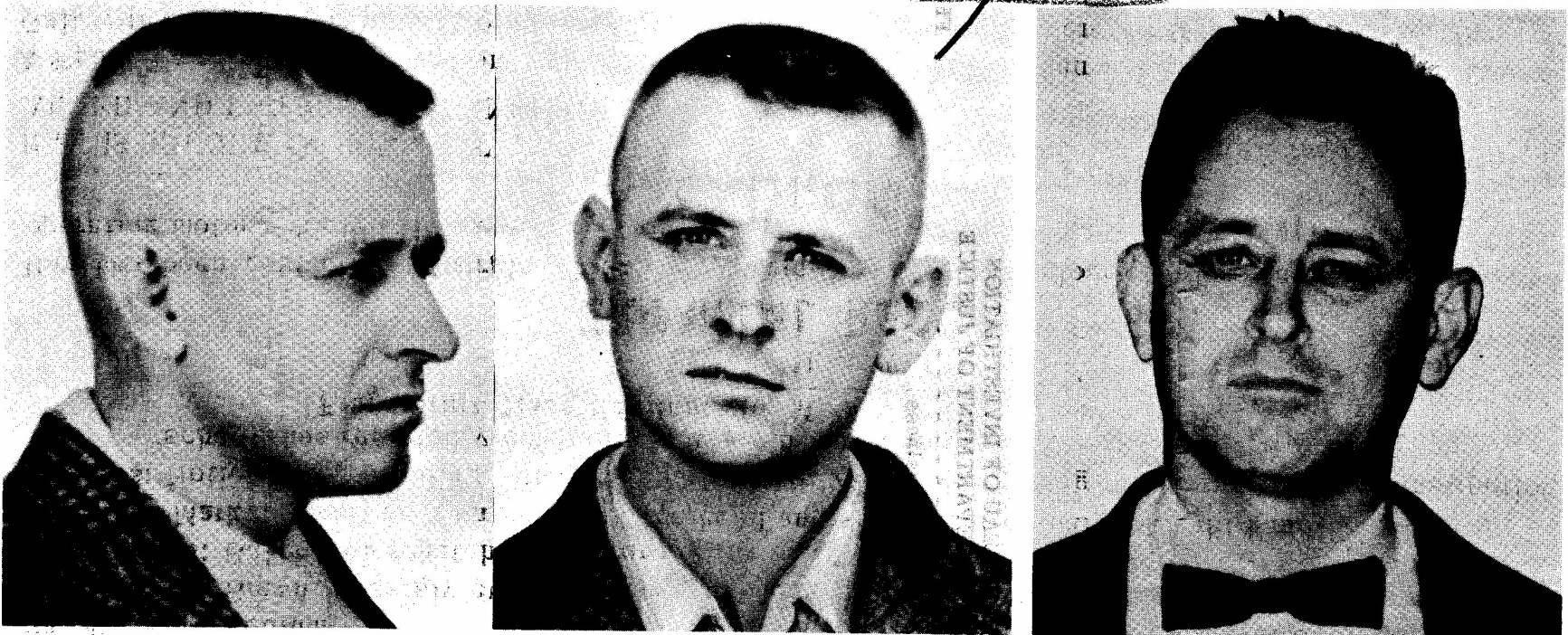
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
(1/12/68)

Located at:	Building	Telephone
ALBANY, New York 12207	502 U. S. Post Office & Ct. House	465-7551
ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico 87101	4303 Federal Office Bldg.	Chapel 7-1555
ANCHORAGE, Alaska 99501	Room 204, Federal Building	272-6414
ATLANTA, Georgia 30303	275 Peachtree St., N. E.	Jackson 1-3800
BALTIMORE, Maryland 21202	408 U. S. Post Office Bldg.	Lexington 9-6700
BIRMINGHAM, Alabama 35203	Room 1400 - 2121 Bldg.	322-7711
BOSTON, Massachusetts 02203	John F. Kennedy Federal Office Building	Richmond 2-5533
BUFFALO, New York 14202	400 U. S. Court House Bldg.	856-7800
BUTTE, Montana 59701	400 Thornton Building	792-2304
CHARLOTTE, North Carolina 28202	1120 Jefferson Standard Life Bldg.	333-4126
CHICAGO, Illinois 60604	Room 905, U. S. Court House & Federal Office Building	431-1333
CINCINNATI, Ohio 45202	415 U. S. Post Office & Court House Building	421-4310
CLEVELAND, Ohio 44139	3005 Federal Office Building	592-1400
COLUMBIA, South Carolina 29201	1529 Hampton Street	252-1911
DALLAS, Texas 75201	Room 200 - 1810 Commerce Street	Riverside 1-1831
DENVER, Colorado 80202	Room 1821B, Federal Office Bldg.	222-5881
DETROIT, Michigan 48226	913 Federal Building & U. S. Court House	Woodward 5-2323
EL PASO, Texas 79901	202 U. S. Court House Bldg.	533-7451
HONOLULU, Hawaii 96813	206 Dillingham Building	59546
HOUSTON, Texas 77002	6015 Federal Building & U. S. Court House	Capitol 8-1414
INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana 46207	1221 North Pennsylvania Street	632-6415
JACKSON, Mississippi 39201	Room 600 - First Federal Savings Building	948-5000
JACKSONVILLE, Florida 32202	414 U. S. Court House & Post Office Building	355-1401
KANSAS CITY, Missouri 64106	707 U. S. Court House Building	Baltimore 1-6100
KNOXVILLE, Tennessee 37902	617 Walnut Street, Southwest	524-2721
LAS VEGAS, Nevada 89101	Room 2-011 Federal Office Bldg.	385-1281
LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas 72201	215 U. S. Post Office Bldg.	FR 2-3157
LOS ANGELES, California 90017	1340 West 6th Street	Hubbard 3-3551
LOUISVILLE, Kentucky 40202	Room 701, Bank of Louisville Bldg.	583-3941
MEMPHIS, Tennessee 38103	841 Federal Office Bldg.	525-7373
MIAMI, Florida 33137	3801 Biscayne Boulevard	379-2421
MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin 53202	735 U. S. Post Office, Customs & Court House Building	276-4684
MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota 55401	392 Federal Building	Federal 9-7861
MOBILE, Alabama 36602	520 Federal Building	438-3674
NEWARK, New Jersey 07101	U. S. Post Office & Court House Building	622-5613
NEW HAVEN, Connecticut 06510	510 The Trust Company Bldg.	787-1217
NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana 70113	701 Loyola Avenue	522-4671
NEW YORK, New York 10021	201 East 69th Street	Lehigh 5-7700
NORFOLK, Virginia 23510	420 U. S. Post Office & Court House Building	625-1631
OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma 73118	5104 N. Francis Street	Victor 2-7471
OMAHA, Nebraska 68102	1010 Federal Office Bldg.	348-1210
PHILADELPHIA, Pennsylvania 19107	500 Widener Building	LOCust 3-5300
PHOENIX, Arizona 85013	244 West Osborn Road	Creswood 9-5511
PITTSBURGH, Pennsylvania 15222	1300 Federal Office Bldg.	471-2000
PORTLAND, Oregon 97205	423 U. S. Court House Bldg.	224-4181
RICHMOND, Virginia 23220	200 West Grace Street	644-2831
SACRAMENTO, California 95814	2020 J Street	441-1275
ST. LOUIS, Missouri 63103	2704 Federal Building	Chestnut 1-5357
SALT LAKE CITY, Utah 84111	3203 Federal Building	Elgin 5-7521
SAN ANTONIO, Texas 78206	433 Federal Building	CA 5-6741
SAN DIEGO, California 92103	3211 Fifth Avenue	287-3361
SAN FRANCISCO, California 94102	450 Golden Gate Avenue, Box 36015	552-2155
SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico 00917	Pan Am Building	765-6000
SAVANNAH, Georgia 31405	255 Ponce de Leon Avenue	354-9911
SEATTLE, Washington 98104	5401 Paulsen Street	Main 2-0460
SPRINGFIELD, Illinois 62701	1015 Second Avenue	522-9675
TAMPA, Florida 33602	421 South Sixth Street	228-7661
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535	Room 610, Federal Office Bldg.	393-7100
	506 Old Post Office Building	

WANTED BY THE FBI

CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY INTERSTATE FLIGHT - ROBBERY JAMES EARL RAY

FBI No. 405,942 G



Photographs taken 1960

Photograph taken 1968
(eyes drawn by artist)

Aliases: Eric Starvo Galt, W. C. Herron, Harvey Lowmyer, James McBride, James O'Conner, James Walton, James Walyon, John Willard, "Jim,"

DESCRIPTION

Age: 40, born March 10, 1928, at Quincy or Alton, Illinois (not supported by birth records)

Height: 5' 10"

Weight: 163 to 174 pounds

Build: Medium

Hair: Brown, possibly cut short

Occupations: Baker, color matcher, laborer

Scars and Marks: Small scar on center of forehead and small scar on palm of right hand

Remarks: Noticeably protruding left ear; reportedly is a lone wolf; allegedly attended dance instruction school; has reportedly completed course in bartending.

Fingerprint Classification: 16 M 9 U 000 12

M 4 W IOI

CRIMINAL RECORD

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CAUTION

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IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS PERSON, PLEASE NOTIFY ME OR CONTACT YOUR LOCAL FBI OFFICE. TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES OF ALL FBI OFFICES LISTED ON BACK.

Wanted Flyer 442-A
April 19, 1968

44-703-257

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 19 1968	
FBI - WASH. F. O.	

J. Edgar Hoover
DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535
TELEPHONE, NATIONAL 8-7117

CITY	BUILDING	TELEPHONE
ALBANY, New York 12207	502 U. S. Post Office and Court House	518 465-7551
ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico 87101	4303 Federal Office Building	505 CH 7-1555
ANCHORAGE, Alaska 99501	Room 204, Federal Building	272-6414
ATLANTA, Georgia 30303	275 Peachtree Street, N. E.	404 JA 1-3900
BALTIMORE, Maryland 21202	408 U. S. Post Office Building	301 LE 9-6700
BIRMINGHAM, Alabama 35203	Room 1400 - 2121 Building	205 322-7711
BOSTON, Massachusetts 02203	John F. Kennedy Federal Office Building	617 RI 2-5533
BUFFALO, New York 14202	400 U. S. Court House Building	716 856-7800
BUTTE, Montana 59701	400 Thornton Building	406 792-2304
CHARLOTTE, North Carolina 28202	1120 Jefferson Standard Life Building	704 333-4126
CHICAGO, Illinois 60604	Room 905, U. S. Court House & Federal Office Bldg	312 431-1333
CINCINNATI, Ohio 45202	415 U. S. Post Office & Court House Building	513 421-4310
CLEVELAND, Ohio 44199	3005 Federal Office Building	216 522-1400
COLUMBIA, South Carolina 29201	1529 Hampton Street	803 252-1911
DALLAS, Texas 75201	Room 200, 1810 Commerce Street	214 RI 1-1851
DENVER, Colorado 80202	Room 18218, Federal Office Building	303 222-5981
DETROIT, Michigan 48226	913 Federal Building & U. S. Court House	313 WO 5-2323
EL PASO, Texas 79901	202 U. S. Court House Building	915 533-7451
HONOLULU, Hawaii 96813	206 Dillingham Building	59546
HOUSTON, Texas 77002	6015 Federal Building & U. S. Court House	713 CA 8-1414
INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana 46207	1221 North Pennsylvania Street	317 632-6415
JACKSON, Mississippi 39201	Room 800 - First Federal Savings Building	601 948-5000
JACKSONVILLE, Florida 32202	414 U. S. Court House & Post Office Building	904 355-1401
KANSAS CITY, Missouri 64106	707 U. S. Court House Building	816 BA 1-6100
KNOXVILLE, Tennessee 37902	617 Walnut Street, Southwest	615 524-2721
LAS VEGAS, Nevada 89101	Room 2-011 Federal Office Building	702 385-1281
LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas 72201	215 U. S. Post Office Building	501 FR 2-3157
LOS ANGELES, California 90017	1340 West 6th Street	213 483-3551
LOUISVILLE, Kentucky 40202	Room 701, Bank of Louisville Building	502 583-3941
MEMPHIS, Tennessee 38103	841 Federal Office Building	901 525-7373
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MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin 53202	735 U. S. Post Office, Cust. & Ct. House Bldg.	414 276-4684
MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota 55401	392 Federal Building	612 FE 9-7861
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NEW HAVEN, Connecticut 06510	510 The Trust Company Building	203 787-1217
NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana 70113	701 Loyola Avenue	504 522-4671
NEW YORK, New York 10021	201 East 69th Street	212 LE 5-7700
NORFOLK, Virginia 23510	420 U. S. Post Office & Court House Building	703 625-1631
OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma 73118	5104 N. Francis Street	405 VI 2-7471
OMAHA, Nebraska 68102	1010 Federal Office Building	402 348-1210
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SACRAMENTO, California 95814	2020 J Street	916 441-1275
ST. LOUIS, Missouri 63103	2704 Federal Building	314 CH 1-5357
SALT LAKE CITY, Utah 84111	3203 Federal Building	801 EL 5-7521
SAN ANTONIO, Texas 78206	433 Federal Building	512 CA 5-6741
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SAN FRANCISCO, California 94102	450 Golden Gate Avenue, Box 36015	415 552-2155
SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico 00917	Pan Am Bldg., 255 Ponce deLeon Ave.	765-6000
SAVANNAH, Georgia 31405	5401 Paulsen Street	912 354-9911
SEATTLE, Washington 98104	1015 Second Avenue	206 MA 2-0460
SPRINGFIELD, Illinois 62701	421 South Sixth Street	217 522-9675
TAMPA, Florida 33602	Room 610, Federal Office Building	813 228-7661
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535	506 Old Post Office Building	202 393-7100

Telephone or telegraph the Special Agent in Charge at the above address.

(4-17-68)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Official Business
POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DO # 4182
WF # 442
442-A

44-703

44-703-257

4/23/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) and SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703)

MURKIN, CR, OO:MEMPHIS

RE MEMPHIS TEL FOUR THIRTEEN LAST.

INTERVIEW OF STERLING TUCKER, URBAN LEAGUE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

TUCKER WAS NOT AVAILABLE UNTIL TODAY. TUCKER HAD ROOM ON SAME FLOOR AS DOCTOR KING. CHECKED OUT ABOUT NOON ON FOUR FOUR AFTER ATTENDING HEARING AT WHICH MEMPHIS POLICE COMMISSIONER STATED THAT THREATS HAD BEEN MADE AGAINST LIFE OF DOCTOR KING. TUCKER COULD FURNISH NO INFORMATION CONCERNING ASSASSINATION.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS

for
2 - Bureau
2 - Teletype Unit
② - WFO'

*See serial 272
+ 201*

JJC:bah
(6) *with*

TELETYPE

TODD *OKC*
Searched _____
Serialized *PPH*
Indexed _____
Filed *PPH*

44-703-258

4/23/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-39861)

FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703)

MURKIN

Re SCOTT NORDAL (Look-A-Like)

Re New Orleans teletypes to WFO 4/22/68 and
4/23/68.

On 4/23/68 W. H. GORDON, Superintendent, U.S. Post
Office, Columbia Heights Station, WDC, advised SA WAYNE R.
GILBERT that 1836 19th St., is a non-existent address in any
section of WDC.

SA GILBERT personally determined that there is no
1836 19th St., in N.W., N.E., or S.E., WDC.

Credit and criminal checks negative re SCOTT NORDAL.

In view of information contained in re teletype dated
4/23/68, WFO is taking no further action re NORDAL UACB.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
- 1 - New Orleans (157-10673)
- 1 - Kansas City (44-760) (Info)
- ① - WFO

WGC:bah
(8)

AIRTEL

TODD *PH*

Searched PH
Serialized PH
Indexed PH
Filed PH

44-703-259

~~FBI~~ WFO

FBI WASH DC

723PM WPK

FBI RICHMOND

720PM URGENT 4/23/68 ECS

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), INDIANAPOLIS, MEMPHIS (44-1987),
PITTSBURGH (44-578), WFO (44-703)
FROM RICHMOND (44-657) 3P

MURKIN - CR (OO:ME)

RE CV TEL TO BUREAU, APRIL TWENTY LAST, AND WFO TEL CALL
TO ALEXANDRIA RA, APRIL TWENTYONE LAST.

RE: CHARLES MOATS - LOOK ALIKE

FOR INFO INDIANAPOLIS: RETEL REFLECTS MANAGER AND CLERK
OF AKERS FOLKMAN TRAVEL AGENCY, CLEVELAND, OHIO, ADVISED WHITE
MALE, BELIEVED TO BE IDENTICAL TO SUBJECT RAY, ENTERED THEIR
OFFICE APRIL EIGHTEEN LAST, USING NAME CHARLES MOATS, BOTH
BELIEVED MOATS TO BE IDENTICAL WITH PHOTO IN NEWSPAPERS AND
THOSE EXHIBITED BY AGENTS. MOATS DESIRED TO FLY TO CLARKSBURG,
WEST VA., IN A HURRY, DID NOT CARE ABOUT STOPS EN ROUTE.
TRAVEL AGENCY ARRANGED TICKETS FOR MOATS FOR NORTHWEST AIRLINES
FLIGHT THREE TWO SIX, FLYING NONSTOP TO WASH. NATL. AIRPORT (WNA)
APRIL EIGHTEEN LAST, AND WAS GIVEN TRANSFER FOR LAKE CENTRAL
AIRLINES FLIGHT FIVE THREE FOUR, FROM WNA TO CLARKSBURG, W VA.
DEPARTING WNA AT ONE FIFTYFIVE P.M., AND ARRIVING CLARKSBURG,
THREE TWELVE P.M.

END PAGE ONE

*See serial 208
288*

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
PPH PPH

APR 23 7 25 PM '68

FBI-WASH. F. O.
Dawson Rmd

44-703-260

PAGE TWO

RH 44-657

MANAGER OF TRAVEL AGENCY ADVISED MOATS INDICATED HE ARRIVED CLEVELAND VIA BUS. SUSPECT DESCRIBED FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SIXTYFIVE TO ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY LBS., DARK HAIR, MEDIUM BUILD, AGE MID THIRTIES, CLEAN SHAVEN, BEARING SCAR APPROXIMATELY ONE-HALF INCH IN MIDDLE OF FOREHEAD, CURVING TOWARDS LEFT EYE AND ENDING APPROXIMATELY ONE INCH ABOVE LEFT EYE. SUSPECT WEARING DARK TWEED SPORTS COAT, SPORT SHIRT OPEN AT NECK, NO HAT. JACKET VERY CRUMPLED AND IN NEED OF CLEANING. SUSPECT SPOKE WITH HILLBILLY ACCENT BUT USED GOOD ENGLISH. APPEARED VERY NERVOUS.

ON APRIL TWENTYFIRST LAST, LAKE CENTRAL AIRLINES EMPLOYEE, MISS KATHY PETRUSKA, ADVISED TICKETS FROM LAKE CENTRAL FLIGHT FIVE THREE FOUR NOT FULLY CLEARED TO DATE. EXPECTED TO BE CLEARED BY APRIL TWENTYTWO LAST.

ON APRIL TWENTYTHREE INSTANT, MISS PETRUSKA ADVISED FINAL TICKETS CLEARED OFFICE AND CONFIRMED PASSENGER CHARLES MOATS ON LAKE CENTRAL FLIGHT FIVE THREE FOUR FROM WNA TO CLARKSBURG, W.VA. END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

RH 44-657

ON APRIL TWENTYTHREE INSTANT, LAKE CENTRAL AIRLINES SUPERVISOR EUGENE L. ADAMS, ADVISED CREW OF LAKE CENTRAL FLIGHT FIVE THREE FOUR STATIONED IN INDIANAPOLIS AND WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW IN INDIANAPOLIS THROUGH LAKE CENTRAL AIRLINES, WEIR COOK AIRPORT. HE ADVISED CAPTAIN OF FLIGHT TO BE JOHN COLESCOTT; FORST OFFICER, M. R. BENNETT; AND STEWARDESS, CHERYL SHAEFER.

INDIANAPOLIS: EXHIBIT PHOTOS OF RAY TO CREW IN ORDER TO EFFECT IDENTIFICATION.

PITTSBURGH: FURTHER IDENTIFY MOATS AT AIRPORT, CLARKSBURG W. VA., THROUGH LAKE CENTRAL AIRLINES.

END

RHS

FBI WFO

@

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, WFO

DATE: 4/24/68

FROM : SA ROGER D. ASHLAND

SUBJECT: MURKIN

RE: JAMES EARL RAY

Mrs. JAY (MARIE HOLLABAUGH) JORDAN, Stenographer, Contact Division, Room 132, Veterans Administration, 15th and Vermont Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. advised on 4/24/68 the following:

JAMES EARL RAY born [redacted] enlisted in the U. S. Army on 2/19/1942 in Chicago, Illinois. He was discharged on 12/23/1948 as a Private. His address at time of enlistment was 538 East Broadway, Alton, Illinois.

JAMES EARL RAY has Claim # 7 661 340. *FILE IS AT REGIONAL OFFICE CHICAGO, ILL.* His Insurance Policy number is N 19868336. The insurance records are maintained in Veterans Administration Insurance Centers in Philadelphia, Pa. and St. Paul, Minn. The location depends on address when insurance was taken out. She said N # policies are usually out of date policies. Current policies have V and K numbers.

She added Veterans Appeals Board hearings are held both in field and in Washington, D. C. The above C file concerning RAY would indicate if appeals have been made to Veterans Administration Appeal Boards. The Appeal Board in Washington, D. C. is located in Universal Building North, Connecticut Avenue, N. W.

①- WFO 44-703

RDA:rda

(1)

*See serial 283 + 293
340
408
407 4/24/68
Bu - Memphis
Phila - St. Paul
Chicago
Memphis
KANSAS CITY, MO*

44-703-261

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1968	
FBI - WASH	

Dawson *rent*



5010-106

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

WFO 44-703

Mrs. MCLURE (PEARL) GALLOWAY, Secretary to
Vice Chairman, Board of Veterans Appeals, Veterans Administration,
Building North, 1875 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.,
Washington, D. C. advised on April 24, 1968 she
was unable to locate any information concerning an
appeal by JAMES EARL RAY. She said her records were
for the current year plus one year and involve appeals
denied in the field and appealed to Washington, D. C.

- 2* -

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, WFO

DATE: 4/24/68

FROM : SA BERNARD A. DE SANTIS

SUBJECT: *MURKIN*
~~JAMES EARL RAY, aka~~

On 4/24/68, Dr. JOHN G. TODD, 8 Rhode Island Ave., N. W., WDC; telephone AD 2 2332; called the WFO and advised the following:

On the 12th or the 13th of April, at about 4:30PM or 5:00PM, while riding on Rhode Island Ave., heading towards the N.E. section of town, he noticed a dark sedan (possibly Plymouth) being driven by a lone white male who resembled the photograph of subject. *JAMES EARL RAY*

TODD further advised that this vehicle had a Florida license; 216693, which he had written down.

TODD could supply no further information.

Call received at 9:45AM, at WFO on 4/24/68.

BAD/

TT
to Jacksonville
4/24/68
Rmd
See serial 263
297

44-703-262

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>PPH</i>	FILED <i>PPH</i>
APR 28 1968	
FBI - WASH. F.	
<i>DANSON</i>	<i>Phd</i>



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

4/24/68

PLAIN

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: SAC, JACKSONVILLE
FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703)

MURKIN.

TODAY, DR. JOHN G. TODD, WDC, ADVISED THAT ON APRIL
TWELFTH OR THIRTEENTH LAST HE OBSERVED INDIVIDUAL RESEMBLING
PHOTO OF JAMES EARL RAY IN WDC, DRIVING DARK SEDAN, POSSIBLY
PLYMOUTH, WITH FLORIDA LICENSE TWO ONE SIX SIX NINE THREE.

JACKSONVILLE DETERMINE REGISTERED OWNER AND DETERMINE
IF DRIVER IDENTICAL WITH RAY.

AIRMAIL COPY BEING SENT TO MEMPHIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. (P)

*See serial 262
297*

- 1- Teletype Unit
- 1- Memphis (By Airmail)
- ② WFO

RWD RWD:bdc
(4) *[signature]*

[signature]

Searched _____
Serialized PPH
Indexed _____
Filed PPH

44-703-263

APR 21 1968

Fading Clues Raise Question of Conspiracy

MEMPHIS—When the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was killed by a rifle shot as he stood on the balcony of a Memphis motel two weeks ago, police at first thought it would be an easy murder to solve. The killer had left behind an unbelievable number of clues.

Witnesses said the shot which killed Dr. King had come from a dilapidated rooming house 205 feet from the motel balcony. On the sidewalk in front of the rooming house, a deputy sheriff found a 30.06 caliber Remington rifle in a box. Beside it was a blue suitcase which contained a pair of pliers, some clothing, and a pair of binoculars.

One witness said a young white man came down the steps from the rooming house and dropped the box and the suitcase.

Two patrons at a bar said they saw the man drop the suitcase and the box and then get into a 1966 white Mustang car and drive away.

With all this evidence, and more, on hand in just a few hours, Attorney General Ramsey Clark predicted that a solution of the murder would be forthcoming almost immediately and the arrest of the assassin made.

Two weeks later, all of the physical evidence seemed to have led practically nowhere, and the alarming word "conspiracy" has begun to sound loudly.

The bullet which killed Dr. King was so smashed that F.B.I. technicians in Washington were able to tell little more than its caliber—a 30.06.

Best Evidence

Fingerprints found in the long-nosed man's room at the flophouse could not be classified.

The rifle seemed to be the best bit of evidence. It was traced to Birmingham, Ala., to the Aero-marine Supply Co., where it had been sold March 30, 1968, to a young white man who bore very little resemblance to the long-nosed man from the flophouse.

On Monday, April 8, F.B.I. agents got a name from the gun store. The search led agents to a \$22 a week boarding house in Birmingham. A former resident of the boarding house, Eric Starvo Galt, fit most of the physical description of John Willard, the name given by the alleged sniper when he had registered at the Memphis flophouse; the main differences appeared to be in the ages and in the noses.

Galt had been gone from the Birmingham boarding house for more than seven months when F.B.I. agents went there looking for him.

On April 11, Galt's white Mustang, for which he had paid \$1,995 cash in Birmingham, was found in Atlanta. It had been abandoned for almost a week. The F.B.I. got no useful fingerprints from it.

On April 18, the F.B.I. asked the public to help look for Galt and a photograph was distributed. And, for the first time,

the F.B.I. agreed that Galt had had some help in the slaying. Agents said an "alleged brother" had conspired with him.

True Identity

Late Friday, the F.B.I. said that it had learned the true identity of Galt.

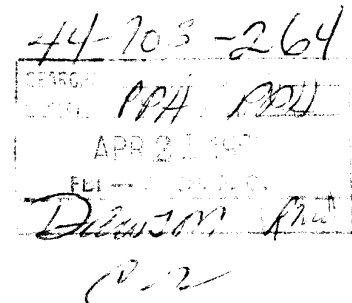
He was, the F.B.I. said, James Earl Ray, a five-time convict who had escaped from a Missouri prison in April, 1967, and who had been sought by the F.B.I. since last July on a fugitive warrant.

The F.B.I. had been unable by Friday night to develop a firmer motive for the slaying, which touched a wild weekend of riots in the United States.

Unnamed F. B. I. sources have been quoted in the Birmingham newspapers as saying that the F.B.I. has considered the possibility that Dr. King was shot by a professional killer.

The F.B.I. itself refused to comment.

—MARTIN WALDRON



F.B.I. Hunt for Ray in Dr. King's Killing Stuns Prison

By DOUGLAS E. KNEELAND
Special to The New York Times

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., April 22 — Prison officials and inmates at the state penitentiary here are still stunned that James Earl Ray, a convict who escaped a year ago, has been accused of conspiring in the slaying of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Last Wednesday the Federal Bureau of Investigation named Eric Starvo Galt, described as a 36-year-old "loner," a neat dresser and avid dancer, as a conspirator in the assassination April 4 of Dr. King in Memphis, Tenn.

Newspapers with pictures and sketches of Galt circulated behind the gray walls of the old penitentiary on the Mississippi River, but no word of recognition was heard along the prison grapevine.

On Friday, the F.B.I. said Galt was Ray, a 40-year-old habitual criminal who escaped from the penitentiary here April 23, 1967, after having served seven years of a 20-year sentence for armed robbery.

Warden Harold R. Swenson said in an interview last night that the F.B.I. had not notified officials here before the announcement. Nor, he added, has any representative of the agency come to Jefferson City to look at Ray's record or interview prisoners who knew him.

'Doesn't Shape Up'

"I was floored," the white-haired warden said. "This guy's penny-ante. It doesn't shape up, does it?"

Thumbing through Ray's records, noting that his work reports in food service here were "pretty good," Mr. Swenson, who has been in prison work nearly 30 years, mostly in the Federal system, shook his head. "He's innocuous," he said. "Pennyante."

Noting that the pictures of Galt had meant nothing to the staff and that there had been no reaction from the inmates, the warden added: "If there's anyone who'd talk, it's the prisoners. Once a guy's gone they'll talk."

An aide strolled into the warden's office and interrupted. "We've got 2,000 prisoners in here," he said, "and none of them recognized him."

Officials and Others Who Knew Him

Continuing with Ray's file, Mr. Swenson said that the prisoner had received permission for four persons to visit him, two brothers, Jerry and John, his mother, Mrs. Lucille Ryan, and his grandmother, Mrs. Mary Maher. All were listed at the same address, 1913 Hickory Street, St. Louis. But the warden said the file did not show whether any of them had visited Ray.

Aside from escape attempts in 1961 and 1966 the warden said, Ray was not a trouble-maker in prison. His file showed only two minor disciplinary reports—one for trying to smuggle cigarettes and other contraband to a hospitalized prisoner and another for refusing to work. That is a highly unusual record, Mr. Swenson explained.

"He wasn't a big dealer," the warden went on. "We know these people. I've got 125 pictures here—he wasn't in that group. I was shocked. It didn't make any sense to me."

Prisoner Nervous

Another prison official, who asked not to be identified, came into the warden's second-floor office.

"This would seem foreign to the nature of the man up to this point," the official said.

Although it is against his policy, Warden Swenson agreed because of national interest in the case, to allow an interview with the prisoner who had been closest to Ray, who was known as a close-mouthed loner without real friends or enemies. A condition of the interview was that the inmate would not be identified.

The prisoner, the work shirt of his faded green uniform open over a stained white T-shirt, entered the warden's office hesitantly. The other prisoners were wondering, he explained nervously, why he was being questioned.

Seated at a table in front of the warden's desk, dragging deeply on a cigarette, he slowly relaxed.

Shown a picture of Galt and asked if that was his friend, Ray, he shook his head vigorously.

"No, sir, not this," he insisted. "I guess I knew him about as well as anybody. He was here when I came here, in 1960. I knew him from about 1962, well, I associated with him right up to 1966 when he tried to escape."

'Just Couldn't Believe It'

Struggled for words as he tried to capture Ray's personality, the prisoner started to talk:

"I just don't know how to explain it," he said. "He was just the type of guy who took a long time, well, if you didn't know anybody he knew, well..."

"The picture with the bow tie on [the F.B.I. photo of Galt], nobody thinks it's him. They think it's a different guy altogether. We think it's two different people altogether."

"Now they [the prisoners] say they're just trying to pin it on him because he escaped from here. They think they've got to lay it on somebody, so they're trying to lay it on him."

"I just couldn't believe it myself. If the man did kill that man, it had to be for money. That would be the onliest thing. He didn't seem like the kind

of guy who would kill anybody. He was the type of guy, you didn't fool with him, but he didn't fool with anybody."

"He wasn't the type of guy to tell you anything about himself. He never actually did come out and tell you what he did when he was outside. Anytime you'd get in a conversation with him it would be about money. A dollar here and a dollar there."

"He talked about money all the time. Trying to figure a way to make a dollar. Just little things. Maybe he'd buy something for a little bit and sell it for a little bit more. If a guy owed him anything, he'd bug him all the time. He didn't get into fights with them, but he'd hound them."

Ray did not smoke, the prisoner said, and "didn't say anything about girls," although he liked to read "sex magazines." Neither, he added, did Ray show any interest in dancing or Western and country music, which the F. B. I. said were favorites of Galt.

In addition to "sex magazines," the prisoner added, Ray liked to read secret agent books.

Puzzling for a minute, thinking, he went on:

"I think the President even liked that book—James Bond—he liked James Bond." [President Kennedy was known as a reader of the late Ian Fleming's spy novels.]

As for politics, the prisoner said:

"He just didn't seem to be interested in it."

Negroes?
"He didn't dislike them. He didn't associate with them one

way or the other. Although I think he did talk with them."

Ray did have another interest. Body building.

"He has a lot better build than a lot of people think he has. He did a lot of physical exercising, a lot of weight lifting and pull-ups and things like that."

Did Ray ever talk about what he would do when he got out?

"Actually, he never talked much about outside anyway," the prisoner said. "He just talked about getting outside. Everyone talks about getting out. He wanted out any way he could get out."

"I think he did say something once about getting in the maritime union," the prisoner added.

The man known as Galt is said to have identified himself at times as an unemployed merchant seaman.

Physically, Ray could fit some descriptions given of the man sought in the slaying of Dr. King. Records show him to be about 5 feet 11 inches tall, weighing between 160 and 170 pounds.

Some questions have been raised about his age, since the suspect described by some persons in Memphis was said to be younger than 40.

"I don't believe he'd look 40," his prisoner friend said. "I don't believe he'd go for the 20's either. I'd say somewhere right around 30."

Warden Swenson agreed.

But taking issue with another description of the man called Galt, the prisoner added:

"He wasn't what you'd call a neat dresser in here."

44-703-265

SEARCHED	PPH	PPH
SERIAL	PPH	PPH
APR 23 1968		
FBI - MEMPHIS		
Tolson		

WFO 44-703

MURKIN

Re AT airtel 4/22/68.

Advise SA DAWSON of any pertinent case.

Initial and pass on . Expedite.

ASHLAND *PDH*
BLAZEK *6*
PETTY *PH*
JAMES *11*
~~WILKINSON~~ *Hew*
PATTERSON *PH*
~~FERGUSON~~
~~KELLY~~ *DE*
NORMENT *JUN*
THOMAS ~~DAWSON~~ *WET*
HINCHCLIFFE *PH*
COGHLAN *PH*
PLESS *PH*
POLACHEK *PH*
ROCHE *SHR*
CREAMER *PH*
SAVAGE *WRS*
GILBERT *WRS*
DAWSON *Rnd*

Keep with serial 266

Routing Slip
FD-4 (Rev. 6-14-66)

Date _____

To:

☐ Director

FILE _____

Att.: _____

Title _____

☐ SAC _____

☐ ASAC _____

☐ Supv. _____

☐ Agent _____

☐ SE _____

☐ IC _____

RE: _____

☐ CC _____

☐ Steno _____

☐ Clerk _____

☐ Rotor #: _____

ACTION DESIRED

☐ Acknowledge

☐ Open Case

☐ Assign _____ Reassign _____

☐ Prepare lead cards

☐ Bring file

☐ Prepare tickler

☐ Call me

☐ Recharge serials

☐ Correct

☐ Return assignment card

☐ Deadline _____

☐ Return file

☐ Deadline passed

☐ Return serials

☐ Delinquent

☐ Search and return

☐ Discontinue

☐ See me

☐ Expedite

☐ Send Serials _____

☐ File

to _____

☐ For information

☐ Submit new charge out

☐ Handle

☐ Submit report by _____

☐ Initial & return

☐ Type

☐ Leads need attention

☐ Return with explanation or notation as to action taken.

SAC _____

____ See reverse side

Office _____

F B I

Date: 4/22/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
(OO: MEMPHIS)

For the information of receiving offices, Subject JAMES EARL RAY, Aka. was last known to be in the Atlanta, Georgia, area on 4/5/68. Intensive investigation by the Atlanta Office to date has not established mode of transportation utilized by RAY after 4/5/68 through checks with transportation companies, car rental agencies, etc.

3 - Bureau	2 - Miami
2 - Baltimore	2 - Mobile
2 - Birmingham	2 - Newark
2 - Charlotte	2 - New Orleans
2 - Chicago	2 - New York City
2 - Cincinnati	2 - Norfolk
2 - Cleveland	2 - Philadelphia
2 - Columbia	2 - Pittsburgh
2 - Houston	2 - Richmond
2 - El Paso	2 - St. Louis
2 - Indianapolis	2 - San Antonio
2 - Jackson	2 - Savannah
2 - Jacksonville	2 - Springfield
2 - Kansas City	2 - Tampa
2 - Little Rock	2 - WFO
2 - Louisville	2 - Atlanta
2 - Memphis	
2 - Miami	

JJL:rjb
(69)

See serial 357

44-703-266

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APR 23 1968	
FBI - WASH. F. O.	
<i>DAWSON</i>	<i>Rm</i>

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via _____
(Priority)

AT 44-2386

All receiving offices are requested to check car recoveries within their respective divisions of cars stolen from the State of Georgia subsequent to 4/4/68, and consider same to have been possible mode of transportation for Subject RAY. The same consideration should be given to any cars recovered in the near future that were stolen from the State of Georgia after 4/4/68. In those instances where cars were stolen from Georgia and where the transporter of same cannot otherwise be accounted for, investigation should be conducted to determine if RAY was person who may have stolen and transported same.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- 2 -

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

Washington, D. C. 20537

REPORT

of the

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION**LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION**

YOUR FILE NO. 44-703
FBI FILE NO. 44-38861
LATENT CASE NO. 91075

April 23, 1968

TO: SAC, WFO

RE: MURKIN

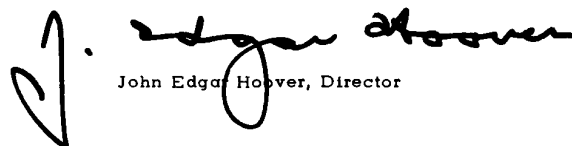
REFERENCE: Evidence personally delivered by SA Wayne R. Gilbert,
WFO, 4/22/68
EXAMINATION REQUESTED BY: WFO
SPECIMENS: Four seaman's certificates bearing inked thumb prints

This report confirms and supplements the report
given SA Gilbert on 4/22/68.

The four inked prints appearing on the certificates
are of value for identification purposes and are not identical with
the fingerprints of James Earl Ray, FBI #405942G.

These four inked prints are identical with the left
thumb print of James Earl Ray, FBI #4238108, Army service
#16242515, born [redacted] in Zion, Illinois.

The four certificates were returned to SA Gilbert
on 4/22/68.


John Edgar Hoover, Director

THIS REPORT IS FURNISHED FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

44-703-267



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Washington, D. C. 20537

REPORT

of the

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION

YOUR FILE NO. **44-703**
 FBI FILE NO. **44-38861**
 LATENT CASE NO. **91075**

April 23, 1968

TO: **SAC, WFO**

RE: **MURKIN**

REFERENCE: **Evidence personally delivered by SA Wayne R. Gilbert, WFO, 4/22/68**
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*See serials
237 + 315*

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John Edgar Hoover, Director, F. B. I.	

Dawson

THIS REPORT IS FURNISHED FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Hunt Spreads for King's Killer

'Galt' Identified as Escapee

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., April 20 (UPI) — The FBI Friday identified a habitual criminal and escapee from the Missouri State Prison as the mysterious Eric Starvo Galt, object of an international manhunt in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Agents said James Earl Ray, 40, who fled prison 51 weeks ago by hiding in a bread truck, was identified through fingerprints after a 15-day check of the prints of more than 53,000 wanted criminals in FBI files.

The prints, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said in Washington, proved "that Galt and Ray are identical."

Mr. Hoover's announcement came as sources close to the investigation into Dr. King's slaying theorized the name Eric Starvo Galt may have been a code name for the murder at Memphis, Tenn., April 4. The name appears in too many scattered places at about the same time under varying descriptions of its user to be one man, these sources said.

U. S. and Mexican officials were reported Friday to be hunting "unofficially" for Ray in Mexico, where rumors have spread of his presence in the past two weeks. An FBI alert has been issued in Southeast California, near Arizona and Mexico, for a man fitting Ray's description.

The FBI said Ray had assumed such aliases as Galt, Harvey Lowmeyer, John Willard, James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron and James O'Conner.

The man who checked into a rooming house from where Dr. King was shot by a sniper registered as John Willard.

Authorities said Ray, born in Alton, Ill., had a criminal record dating to 1949 and was serving a 20-year, habitual criminal sentence at Jefferson City, Mo., for armed robbery and automobile theft when he escaped April 23, 1967. Ray was working in the food service section of the Missouri State Prison and fled by hiding in a bread truck. A year earlier, he had tried to escape by hiding in the prison's ventilation system, but was discovered.

'EVASIVE TYPE'

Warden Harold Swenson said a 1966 mental examination showed Ray had no personality troubles or adjustment difficulties not common to confined men. "He was an evasive type person," said Swenson. "I don't think anybody either liked him or disliked him."

Probation records in Los Angeles, where he served a county jail term for burglary, showed that Ray, eldest of three sons, quit school in Ewing, Mo., in ninth grade.

"I didn't want to go anymore," he told a probation officer who described Ray as "a Catholic who did not attend church services."

He drifted for several years, once working as a 77-cents-an-hour laborer in a Hartford, Ill., shoe company, and joined the Army in 1946. He spent two years and four months in Germany as an infantryman and military policeman and received a general discharge in 1948 due to ineptness and a lack of adaptability for military service. He received a three months sentence in the Army for being drunk and breaking arrest.

LONG RECORD

He was unemployed until 1949, when he held a job briefly in a Chicago rubber company. He went to Los Angeles and his trouble with the law began. In addition to his jail term, he was convicted of armed robbery in Chicago in 1952 and forging U. S. postal orders in Missouri in 1955.

The FBI said Ray was 5 feet 10 and weighed about 163 to 174 pounds, with blue eyes and brown hair. He has a small scar in the center of his forehead and a scar on the palm of his right hand.

"Ray should be considered armed and extremely dangerous," the FBI said.



1952

1959



1967

1968

The different faces of James Ray.

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RW

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THE WASHINGTON POST & TIMES HERALD

THE WASHINGTON POST

THE WASHINGTON POST

THE WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS

THE WASHINGTON POST

FBI Identifies King Suspect By Fingerprints

Records Reveal
He Escaped Prison
In Missouri in '67

By JEREMIAH O'LEARY
Star Staff Writer

The Federal Bureau of Investigation today disclosed the true name of the suspected assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., identifying him as James Earl Ray, a 40-year-old escapee from the Missouri State Penitentiary.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said Ray used the alias of Eric Starvo Galt and other false names prior to the April 4 murder of the civil rights leader in Memphis, Tenn.

The identification of Galt as Ray by Hoover and Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark was made possible by the systematic comparison of latent fingerprints uncovered in the King case against the fingerprints of more than 53,000 persons on the FBI fugitive list.

The identification was accomplished by experts working around the clock in the files of the FBI's Identification Division here.

Escaped in April '67

The records reveal that Ray, who escaped from the Missouri Penitentiary at Jefferson City April 23, 1967, was sent to that prison March 17, 1960 on a 20-year sentence following conviction in St. Louis for armed robbery.

The FBI released a photograph of Ray, a 1960 prison picture taken at Jefferson City, and said Ray and Galt are the same man. A photograph of Galt was made public earlier this week.

Ray has an arrest record dating back to 1949. He was convicted of burglary in Los Angeles in 1949, armed robbery in Chicago in 1952 and forging United States postal money orders in Missouri in 1955.

The records show, according to Hoover, that Ray has served terms in the Los Angeles County Jail in 1949; in state prisons at Joliet and Pontiac, Ill., in 1952-54, and in the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kans., from 1955 to 1958.

Army Enlisted Man

Ray was an enlisted man in the U.S. Army from February 1946 to December 1948, when he was given a general discharge due to ineptness and lack of adaptability for military service, the FBI said. While in the Army, he received a three-month sentence at hard labor for being drunk and breaking arrest.

During his career, Hoover said Ray also had used the names of Harvey Lowmyer and John Willard, both also linked to the King slaying, and also the aliases James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron and James O'Conner.

He began using the name of Galt after his escape from the Missouri jail and it was under this name that he bought the white Mustang car the FBI has

See GALT, Page A-6

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THE WASHINGTON POST
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Ant

GALT

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connected with the King murder.

In the week before King's slaying, the FBI said Ray also used the name of Harvey Lowmyer to purchase in Birmingham, Ala., the 30.06-caliber Remington Gamemaster rifle the FBI believes was used to fire the fatal shot and registered as John Willard in the Memphis flophouse from which the shot was fired.

The FBI said Ray claims to have been born [redacted] in Illinois, but the location is not known, nor have any records of the birth been located.

Ray is approximately 5 feet 10 inches tall and weighs about 163 to 174 pounds. The FBI said he has blue eyes and brown hair and has a small scar on the center of his forehead and a scar on the palm of his right hand. Both 1960 and 1968 photos of the suspect show that his left ear protrudes further than normal from his head.

Ray has claimed that he attended school through the 10th grade in Alton, Ill. The FBI said he has the reputation of being a "drifter" since leaving school and has worked, among other things, as a baker and laborer.

It was not immediately determined whether the Justice Department would lodge a new civil rights conspiracy charge against Ray, like that issued Wednesday in the name of Galt.

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___ WASHINGTON-AFRO AMERICAN



1954



1959



1966



1968

These are the changing faces of James Earl Ray (Eric Starvo Galt) who is sought in a nationwide manhunt in connection with the killing of Dr. Martin Luther King.

FBI Identifies Galt As an Escaped Con

By the Associated Press

The FBI has pinpointed an ex-convict, high school dropout and Army reject as the phantom fugitive Eric Starvo Galt, target of a massive manhunt in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The FBI said yesterday a "systematic and exhaustive search" of the fingerprints of 53,000 wanted criminals revealed Galt and 40-year-old James Earl Ray—drifter, loner, avid dancer and prison escapee—are the same man.

In its first positive identification of the man sought by the FBI since the April 4 assassination of King in Memphis, Tenn., the bureau further pictured Ray as a 40-year-old white man in trouble with the law since his youth — and one who "should be considered armed and extremely dangerous."

There was no indication the FBI was any closer to catching Ray than it was Wednesday when it put the name Galt on a fugitive warrant charging him "and an individual whom he alleged to be his brother" with conspiring to deprive King of his civil right to travel from state to state.

Escaped Prison in 1967

In addition a warrant charging Galt with first degree murder has been issued by state authorities in Memphis.

Ray fled the Missouri Penitentiary on April 23, 1967. He had been serving the seventh year of a 20-year sentence for a 1959 market holdup and auto theft in St. Louis.

Prison officials, who said a 1966 escape try by Ray was

thwarted when he was discovered in a ventilator shaft, indicated he succeeded the next year by hiding in a truck carrying bread from the penitentiary bakery to its honor farms.

The earlier escape attempt landed Ray in a Fulton, Mo., prison hospital facility for a mental checkup.

Found "No Mental Defect"

"We gave him our Grade A, Class I workup," recalled Dr. Donald B. Peterson, hospital superintendent. "We found no mental disease or defect within the law."

Prison and police records showed Ray was born in Alton, Ill., son of a laborer of the same name.

Records at the Fulton facility indicated both parents were dead, but the penitentiary records listed his mother as Mrs. Lucille Ryan of St. Louis.

The FBI said Eric Starvo Galt was one of a string of aliases favored by Ray in frequent brushes with the law beginning when he was 21 years old — several years after he dropped

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GALT

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out of high school in the 10th grade.

The Other Aliases

In addition to the aliases John Willard and Harvey Lowmyer listed on the FBI fugitive warrant, the bureau said Ray has also called himself James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Heron and James O'Conner.

John Willard was the name used by the man who checked into the Memphis rooming house overlooking the Lorraine Motel, where King was fatally shot as he stood on a balcony and talked with friends.

The portrait sketched by the FBI showed Ray as a rather average-looking ne'er-do-well of conflicting personality traits.

Ray's Description

He was described as 5-foot-10, and 163 to 174 pounds, with brown hair, blue eyes and small scars on his forehead and right palm. He's said to have a habit of tugging on an ear when nervous. His left ear protrudes slightly further than his right ear.

Ray was said by authorities to have worked at various times as a laborer, baker and color-matcher. In addition, persons who came in contact with him while he was outside prison said he spoke of having worked as a merchant seaman and riverboat cook.

The FBI said the fugitive's acquaintances called him a loner who likes beer and vodka, favors country and western music and speaks with a rural twang. The loner tag seemed to conflict with the FBI description of him as an "avid dancer."

A Discrepancy

In more obvious conflict was the FBI's Wednesday statement saying Galt "took dancing lessons" in New Orleans in 1964 and 1965—a time when Ray was still imprisoned in Missouri.

A bureau spokesman said the earlier Galt description should have said he "reportedly" took the dancing lessons, rather than stating flatly that he had.

The FBI said Ray was first arrested in 1949 in Los Angeles, where he drew an eight-month jail term for burglary.

Subsequent convictions came in Chicago, 1952, robbery; in Missouri, 1955, for breaking into a Kansas City post office and forging postal orders; 1959, the St. Louis market holdup and car theft.

4-20-68

A-2

FBI Grumbles

Attorney General Aggravated Bureau By Glowing Report on King Case

By Rowland Evans and Robert Novak

THE DEEP-seated unhappiness of J. Edgar Hoover's Federal Bureau of Investigation with its boss, Attorney General Ramsey Clark, was aggravated by Clark's misleading public optimism about a quick solution of the murder of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

FBI agents working on the King case grumbled privately that Clark's repeated statements hinting at imminent capture of the assassin were not justified by the actual progress of the investigation. On the contrary, some agents complained that what legitimate information the Attorney General did let drop risked drying up the killer's trail.

In Justice Department conferences, Clark justified his contribution to the credibility gap on the grounds that optimistic talk about closing the case "would help morale"—that is, calm down Negro anger in the turbulent days immediately following the murder.

Simultaneously, there is considerable skepticism inside the Justice Department and FBI that the present renewed investigation of Black Power extremist Stokely Carmichael will result in any action.

FBI agents are making detailed probes into Carmichael's role in formenting the Washington, D.C., riots of April 4-6 following Dr. King's death, but many feel Clark will never push for a Carmichael prosecution. The Justice Department staff overwhelmingly recommended a year ago that the Government seek an indictment of Carmichael, but the Attorney General vetoed the advice on grounds that it would only make him a martyr.

DATE 4/21/68

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R. H. T.

King Suspect on Most

Wanted List

By John P. MacKenzie
Washington Post Staff Writer

James Earl Ray, the accused assassin of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was placed on the FBI's list of "Most Wanted" men yesterday as the FBI enlisted citizen cooperation in the Nationwide manhunt.

Ray, 40-year-old escapee from the Missouri State Prison, became the 11th man to the list of 10 most wanted fugitives in an effort to give widest circulation to his picture and identifying features.

The action came a day after the Justice Department revealed it had identified Ray, alias Eric Starvo Galt, from latent fingerprints found at the scene of the April 4 sniper murder of Dr. King in Memphis.

None of the information released by the FBI appeared to shed light on the motive for the slaying that touched off a

period of serious civil disturbances in Washington and other cities. The FBI declined comment on the progress of the search.

It was the second time in the 18-year history of the "Most Wanted" list that an 11th name was added. In June, 1961, when the FBI added the name of the suspect in the butcher knife slaying of a Portland, Ore. housewife, the suspect was picked up the following day.

More than 200,000 flyers will be distributed throughout the country over the weekend, the Bureau said.

Police in the Los Angeles suburb of Baldwin Park, Calif., picked up a man said to resemble Ray yesterday, but he was released when his fingerprints proved to be of an altogether different category from Rays.

In Atlanta—where a car possibly used in the assassin's get-

away was found last week—a landlady said a man bearing a striking resemblance to Ray had lived with a young lady in her apartment complex in January and February and that the woman had moved away on April 1. The landlady, who declined to be named, said the FBI had questioned her and shown her pictures of Ray. But the young woman, located later by UPI, said the picture of Ray was not the man she knew. She also said the FBI had not contacted her.

[The Los Angeles Times reported a new facet of Ray's family background was disclosed yesterday by an uncle, William E. Maher of Alton, Ill., who said that three of the nine Ray children were taken away from their mother and placed in orphanages or foster

homes. The suspect was not one of these children.

[Maher said that Ray was always a "trouble-maker" but said he knew of no racial influence on Ray's life that might have provided a motive for the alleged slaying. He said he last saw Ray about 12 years ago.]

Ray, a drifter with a robbery and burglary record dating back to 1949, is sought on a Tennessee murder charge, a Federal warrant based on his escape nearly one year ago from the Missouri prison and another Federal charge labeled "civil rights conspiracy."

The conspiracy charge was the only basis for Federal intervention when it was filed Wednesday.

The FBI's appeal to the public included the customary warning that the man on the street should not attempt any capture since Ray is considered armed and "extremely dangerous."

He was described as a native of Alton, Ill., and a man with a "rural" accent and a taste for country music. The FBI said Ray is about 5 feet, 10 inches tall, weighing between 163 and 174 pounds, with blue eyes and brown hair and scars on the forehead and right palm.

Ray's most conspicuous feature was said to be a protruding left ear and his most noticeable characteristic was said to be the nervous habit of tugging on his left ear lobe.

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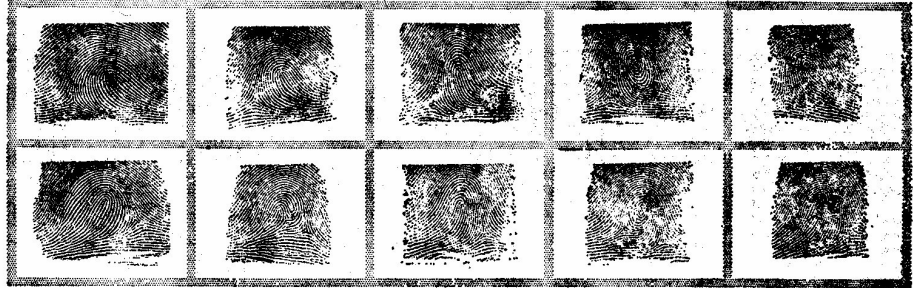
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I.O. 4182

CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY
INTERSTATE FLIGHT - ROBBERY**WANTED BY FBI****JAMES EARL RAY**FBI No. 405,942 G
16 M 9 U 000 12
M 4 W 101

ALIASES: Eric Starvo Galt, W. C. Herron, Harvey Lowmyer, James McBride, James O'Conner, James Walton, James Rayson, John Willard, "Jim"



Photographs taken 1960

Photograph taken 1968
(eyes drawn by artist)**DESCRIPTION**

AGE: 40, born March 10, 1928, Alton, Illinois
 HEIGHT: 5'10" EYES: blue
 WEIGHT: 165 to 174 pounds COMPLEXION: medium
 BUILD: medium RACE: white
 HAIR: brown, possibly cut short NATIONALITY: American
 OCCUPATIONS: baker, color matcher, laborer
 SCARS AND MARKS: small scar on center of forehead and small scar on palm of right hand
 REMARKS: noticeably protruding left ear; reportedly is a lone wolf; allegedly attended dance instruction school; has reportedly completed course in bartending

CRIMINAL RECORD

Ray has been convicted of burglary, robbery, forging U. S. Postal Money Orders, armed robbery, and operating motor vehicle without owner's consent.

CAUTION

RAY IS SOUGHT IN CONNECTION WITH A MURDER WHEREIN THE VICTIM WAS SHOT. CONSIDER ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS.

A Federal warrant was issued on April 17, 1968, at Birmingham, Alabama, charging Ray as Eric Starvo Galt with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a citizen (Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 241). A Federal warrant was also issued on July 20, 1967, at Jefferson City, Missouri, charging Ray with Interstate Flight to Avoid Containment for the crime of Robbery (Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 1073).

IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS PERSON, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL FBI OFFICE.
 TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES OF ALL FBI OFFICES LISTED ON BACK.

Identification Order 4182
 April 20, 1968

J. Edgar Hoover
 Director
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 Washington, D. C. 20535

The latest FBI flyer on James E. Ray, alias Eric Starvo Galt.

PRINT-BY-PRINT PROCESS**FBI Assembles an Identity**

By JEREMIAH O'LEARY
 Star Staff Writer

The FBI's identification of James Earl Ray as a suspect in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a sort of needle-in-the-haystack operation combining intuition with highly advanced scientific criminology techniques.

The key decision was to concentrate the resources of the FBI Identification Division on the existing files of known fugitives. These contain complete sets of fingerprints of 53,000 fugitives among 187 million sets of prints in the FBI files.

Possessing only latent and partial prints left behind in various places by the suspect, it was necessary for the ID experts to begin checking the 530,000 single fingerprints in the fugitive file against the incomplete traces left behind by the murder suspect.

The FBI will not say how many prints in its possession are considered as solid evi-

dence, but in no case was there a complete impression of a hand and many of the prints were of palms or blurred single fingers. The number of useful prints probably did not exceed 10, including those recovered from the suspected murder weapon and other items the killer is believed to have touched.

Experts explained that if they had had the prints of all Ray's fingers, it would have been possible to classify and identify them quickly. With the partial prints it had obtained, the FBI decided it had to focus first on the fugitive file.

By use of a standard electronic sorting device, he fugitive prints were flushed out of the 187 million sets of points and the painstaking search began.

Complicating the task was the fact that the suspect's prints did not reach the FBI all at once.

Dr. King was shot to death

on April 4. The suspected rifle was found almost immediately and was flown from Memphis, Tenn. to the FBI crime laboratory here along with 68 other items of evidence. Only partial latent prints of a few fingers and a palm were found on the rifle. More were found on a pair of binoculars believed to have been used by the sniper. Additional prints were found later on other undisclosed items.

New evidence continued to turn up, including more fingerprints as late as April 12. By noon of April 19 the FBI had identified the suspect previously identified as Eric Starvo Galt, alias John Willard and Harvey Lowmyer as in reality an escaped convict named James Earl Ray.

This quickly led to Ray's entire criminal and military record, his birthplace, his relatives and much information about his habits, past occupations and leads about places where he might take refuge.

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Massive Manhunt Continues For King Slaying Suspect

By the Associated Press

What may be the nation's most intensive manhunt gained fresh pressure yesterday when the FBI placed on its "most wanted" list a fugitive convict accused of murder in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

James Earl Ray, a 40-year-old habitual criminal, is being hunted by police from border to border and beyond for the April 4 sniper slaying in Memphis, Tenn., of the Negro civil rights leader from Atlanta.

The FBI always has limited its list of most wanted criminals to 10 names but it lengthened this roll of dishonor to 11 by adding Ray, a white loner known also by the name of Eric Starvo Galt and by six other aliases.

In addition to a state first-degree murder warrant issued in Memphis, Ray is wanted on federal charges of conspiracy to deny Dr. King his civil rights and of flight to escape confinement. The latter stems from April 1967 escape from the Missouri Penitentiary at Jefferson City where he was starting his eighth year on a 20-year sentence for armed robbery.

In announcing the unprecedented step of adding an 11th name to the "10 most wanted" list, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover announced it was done "to insure the widest possible dissemination of Ray's photograph and description to help effect his earliest possible location."

As usual, the FBI is appealing to the public for help in spotting its man and—as usual—gives implied warning against any effort by a plain citizen to apprehend the criminal unaided.

"Ray should be considered armed and extremely dangerous. Anyone with information concerning this fugitive is requested to immediately contact the nearest office of the FBI, the telephone number of which may be found on the first page of local telephone directories."

Reportedly a native of Illinois, Ray is described as about 5 feet, 10 inches tall, weighing from 163

MAN 'RESEMBLING RAY' LIVED IN ATLANTA EARLY IN 1968

ATLANTA (UPI) — A man bearing "a very striking resemblance" to FBI pictures of the prison escapee sought in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. lived with a woman in an apartment here during January and February, a landlady said yesterday.

"From what I saw of him, he bore a very striking resemblance to the FBI pictures," said the landlady, who asked to remain unidentified.

The woman said FBI agents questioned her Friday and showed her pictures of James Earl Ray, a 40-year-old escapee from the Missouri State Penitentiary who has been identified by the FBI as the elusive Eric Starvo Galt, wanted for the slaying of King.

She said that the young woman with whom the man stayed moved out of her apartments April 1 but left a forwarding address. The woman told the landlady that her husband was in the Navy and that her visitor was her brother.

The young woman, shown pictures of Ray by UPI reporters, said he was not the man she knew. She said the FBI had not contacted her.

to 174 pounds. He has blue eyes and brown hair usually worn short. Forehead and right palm bear small scars. His nose is narrow and straight, teeth even. And he has a noticeably protruding left ear, the lobe of which he reportedly tugs when nervous.

In addition to armed robbery, Ray has been convicted of burglary, forgery of a postal money order and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. He has been confined in the Los Angeles County jail, two state prisons in Illinois and the U. S. Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan.

During nearly three years in the Army he received a three-month sentence for drunkenness and breaking arrest. He was dis-

charged in December 1949 for ineptness and lack of adaptability to military service.

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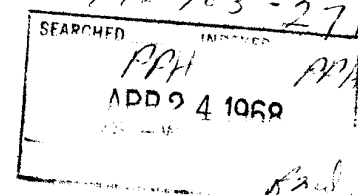
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Phone Call On Shooting Is Unverified

A Somerville, Tenn. man has reported overhearing part of a Memphis telephone conversation in which a white man spoke of shooting someone on a balcony a few hours before the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was slain, but sources close to the investigation of the King slaying incident cannot be verified and is believed to be without foundation.

John McFerren, a Negro civil rights worker and owner of a store in Somerville, reported to authorities that he overheard the conversation in a produce market in Memphis on April 4 but attached no significance to it at the time.

According to McFerren, he saw a heavy-set white man with a scar on his right cheek using the telephone in the market several hours before a sniper fatally wounded King. His account of conversation is that the man said:

"Shoot the S.O.B. on the balcony. Don't worry about the money. You'll get your \$5,000. Don't come here. Your brother will get it (the money) in New Orleans."

The Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Justice today refused to comment on McFerren's story but authoritative sources said the incident cannot be substantiated.

The proprietors of the produce store indicated that it is normal for them to call New Orleans from Memphis to order food shipments. It is common for them to mention fairly large sums of money in these calls.

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FBI Silent

The ~~FBI~~ ^{A7} had a lid on any public progress reports in the hunt for James Earl Ray, the accused sniper slayer of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The agency also had no comment on a Time magazine report that a Memphis man overheard a Memphis businessman giving orders to shoot Dr. King.

Without identifying the tipster, Time said: "A Memphian told Time and later the FBI that he had overheard a local businessman giving an unknown triggerman urgent orders to kill King on the balcony of his motel, and even specifying the price for the job (\$5000) and the pick-up point for his fee (New Orleans)."

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Ray-Galt Descriptions Vary, Cause Confusion

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — A ranking Memphis police officer acknowledges there are "a whole lot of discrepancies" in official descriptions of the man sought as the sniper slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Asst. Chief Bill Price referred to statements that James Earl Ray, 40, an escaped Missouri convict, and Eric Starvo Galt, first sought in connection with King's April 4 assassination in Memphis, are the same person.

"You don't know what to look for," Price said yesterday as officers here and elsewhere continued their investigation of the slaying. The nationwide manhunt continues.

The FBI issued a conspiracy warrant Wednesday for Galt, then updated its case Friday by saying a fingerprint comparison showed Galt was really Ray.

The naming of Ray in the case caused confusion, primarily be-

cause earlier official statements indicate that Galt and Ray were in different places at the same time.

When Galt was charged as a conspirator in King's death by rifle bullet, the FBI said the man had taken dancing lessons in New Orleans in 1964-65. The FBI said later the earlier description should have said Galt reportedly took dancing lessons rather than stating so flatly.

During that time, Ray was in the Missouri State Prison at Jefferson City, serving a 20-year sentence for a 1959 supermarket robbery.

The age of the man also was in conflict.

Witnesses who saw a man in a Memphis rooming house from where the fatal bullet was fired estimated his age as in the late 20s. The FBI, in issuing its warrant for Galt, said he had given his birthdate [redacted] That would make him 36. The FBI said Friday Ray is 40.

The personalities of the two men are sometimes at odds. A prison pal described Ray as virtually a nondrinker. The FBI describes Galt as a fancier of beer and vodka.

There were other differences: Galt: neat appearance. Ray: careless appearance.

Galt: Southern accent. Ray: born in Alton, Ill. No Southern accent.

Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark, who came to Memphis after King was slain, at first ruled out a conspiracy, but then the FBI issued its warrant for Galt on a conspiracy charge.

Police here have their own investigation of the slaying under way.

One theory within the Memphis department is that Eric Starvo Galt is a myth, painstakingly created by the conspirators as a smoke screen.

"Somebody has muddied the waters," Price said.

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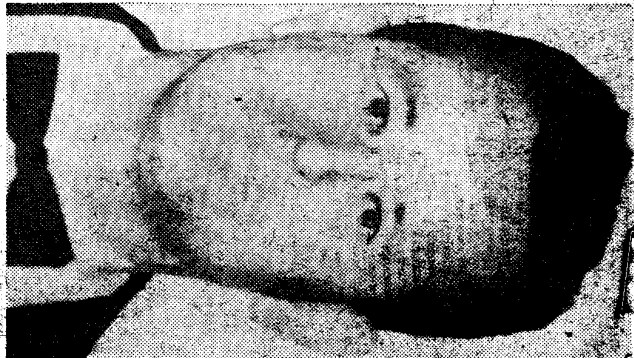
1952—Suspect James Earl Ray when he served 2-year sentence in Joliet, Ill., state prison.



1959—Ray when arrested for robbery in St. Louis. For this he got 20-year term.



1966—Another photo of Ray taken at Missouri State Penitentiary, where he escaped last April.



1968—Ray photo used by FBI seeking "Eric Starvo Galt." (Eyes were drawn by artist).

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King Suspect Is Escapee From Prison

By Paul W. Valentine
Washington Post Staff Writer

A Missouri State Penitentiary escapee named James Earl Ray was identified by the FBI yesterday as the man masquerading as Eric Starvo Galt, sought throughout the Nation in connection with the murder of the Rev. Dr. Martin-Luther King Jr.

The announcement, made here by Attorney General Ramsey Clark, marked the first time in the two weeks since Dr. King's death in Memphis that the FBI disclosed a positive identification of a suspect.

Ray, 40, escaped last April 23 from the Missouri State Penitentiary in Jefferson City, Mo., where he was in his seventh year of a 20-year armed-robbery sentence.

FBI director J. Edgar Hoover said agents linked the case to Ray through latent fingerprints. Hoover's formal announcement did not say where the prints were found, but several prints were known to have been taken by the FBI in the rooming house from which the assassin shot Dr. King as the civil rights leader stood on a motel balcony.

FBI spokesmen said the prints were traced to Ray after a painstaking, page-by-page search of fingerprints filed against more than 53,000 persons for whom "wanted notices" have been published.

Ray, who has an extensive criminal record, has used not only the Eric Galt alias but also the names Harvey Lowmeyer, John Willard, James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron and James O'Conner, the FBI said.

His whereabouts from April, 1967, when he escaped, until August, 1967, when he reportedly surfaced as Eric Starvo Galt, a tenant of a rooming house in Birmingham, Ala., are apparently unclear.

The seeming discrepancies earlier accounts that "Galt" was in New Orleans in 1965

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King Suspect is an Escaper

SEARCH, From A1

when Ray was in prison—were based on stories that he himself fabricated, Federal sources said.

It also has never been explained how Ray acquired the money to purchase the white Mustang that was found abandoned in Atlanta the day after the assassination.

Missouri Penitentiary records show Ray was born in Alton, Ill., an industrial town of 43,000 persons located north of and across the Mississippi River from St. Louis, Mo.

He achieved a 10th grade education, penitentiary officials said, and began developing an arrest record in 1949. He worked as a baker and laborer.

He served prison terms for burglary in California, armed robbery in Illinois and forgery of money orders in Missouri during the 1950s.

In 1960, he was convicted of armed robbery in a \$150 grocery store holdup in St. Louis, and began a 20-year term on March 17, 1960.

Penitentiary records clerk Harry Lauf said Ray made two abortive jailbreaks, in 1961 and 1966, before he was successful last April when he was believed to have hidden in a wooden crate used for transporting loaves of bread from the Penitentiary to the Renz penitentiary farm five miles away.

"There is evidence—we never did find conspirators—that he was hidden with the bread on top of his body," Reuters news agency quotes Warden Harold Swenson as saying. "The bread arrived in bad condition at the farm."

"He was caught going over the wall in 1961," said Lauf, "and they found him hiding in a ventilator in 1966."

Aside from his escape habits, said Lauf, Ray was a "fairly good" prisoner.

After the 1966 jailbreak attempt, Ray was sent to the state mental hospital in Fulton, Mo., for observation, but was returned to the penitentiary without any finding of mental disorder, hospital officials said.

FBI director Hoover said Ray was an enlisted man in the U.S. Army from February, 1946, to December, 1948, and was given a general discharge because of "lack of adaptability" to military service. While in service, he also served a three-month sentence at hard labor for being drunk and breaking arrest, Hoover said.

He described Ray as 5 feet 10 inches tall, weighing 163 to 174 pounds with blue eyes, brown hair and a small scar on his forehead and another on the palm of his right hand.

Penitentiary officials said Ray was a "loner," which matches descriptions by persons who knew the man who called himself Galt in the Birmingham rooming house.

In a "wanted" poster for Ray, when he escaped last year, the pamphlet reportedly listed two brothers, John Ray, of St. Louis, and Jerry W. Ray, of Wheeling, Ill., United Press International reported.

The FBI has denied reports that it has a brother of Eric Starvo Galt in custody and that the brother is aiding the search for the assassin.

When the FBI obtained a conspiracy warrant against Galt earlier this week, it charged that Galt "and an individual who he alleged to be his brother" entered into a conspiracy to deprive Dr. King of his civil rights. The FBI refused to give details on the "brother" yesterday.

UPI also reported that an FBI alert was issued Thursday to all law enforcement agencies in Imperial County, Calif., for a man fitting Galt's description seen near the Mexican border. The alert said the man was seen Monday on a back road four and a half miles west of El Centro, Calif.

Informant Says King Was on Death List

KANSAS CITY, April 19 (AP)—The Federal Government has taken cognizance of a report that the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was among persons marked for assassination if Robert Boliver DePugh ever went to jail.

The U.S. District Attorney's office mailed a motion to the

Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals in St. Louis, urging dismissal of appeals by DePugh and Walter Patrick Peyson because they are now fugitives.

DePugh of Norborne, Mo., is leader of the Minutemen, a militant right wing organization. Peyson is a member. Both are appealing a 1966 conviction for National Firearms violations. The Government says they disappeared in January and may be in Canada.

The District Attorney's office, in its motion, quoted an informant "of apparent reliability" as saying that "DePugh has issued orders to other Minutemen that, if he goes to jail, certain persons connected with his prosecution and others are to be assassinated, including Martin Luther King."

FBI Thought It Had Him

Calif. Combed for Galt

The FBI, reportedly acting on a tip from an informer, apparently thought it had a good chance of catching Eric Starvo Galt, suspected assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in California Wednesday.

On the strength of the tip, the FBI rushed to obtain a conspiracy warrant for Galt. Tennessee authorities at the same time issued a murder warrant.

Tip either was wrong or Galt eluded authorities, sources disclosed yesterday. A good part of the investigation apparently still centers in California, where Galt attended a bartending school in February and March.

MINUTEMEN

Meanwhile an interesting twist in the case comes from Kansas City where the U. S. Attorney's office revealed yesterday that an informant of "apparent reliability" reported some time ago that Minuteman chieftain Robert B. DePugh had ordered the assassination of several persons, including Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., if he ever went to jail.

DePugh disappeared late last year. His right-wing guerilla group believes the government is being taken over by communists.

Anthony P. Nugent Jr., assistant U. S. Attorney, said, however, that "nobody to my knowledge considers DePugh a suspect in the King murder."

The FBI in Washington yesterday said it "has no one in custody in connection with Dr. King's



—UPI Photo

Thomas R. Lau, head of the bartenders' school, attended by the suspect, holds FBI poster on Galt.

slaying," but a reliable source said agents either were in communication with or questioning Galt's

"alleged brother." No co-conspirator was named in the warrants.

The FBI has traced Galt's activities to Birmingham, Memphis, Atlanta and Los Angeles. He lived in a South Birmingham Rooming house in Birmingham, apparently on the theory Galt may have returned to Alabama after the killing.

A picture of Galt, 36, described as "armed and extremely dangerous," was obtained by the FBI from the International School of Bartending in Los Angeles, where Galt graduated March 2.

"He was a nice fellow with a nice personality, very intelligent," said Mr. Lau of Galt. "I don't believe he did this. There must be some mistake somewhere."

There were reports from Los Angeles today that added more dimensions to the profile of Galt.

WALLACE MAN

He is believed to be a strong supporter of the presidential bid of former Alabama governor George C. Wallace. His strong anti-Negro feelings once led to a violent argument with a girl in a Hollywood cocktail lounge.

The FBI seems very interested in the evidence that he made at least one mysterious trip to New Orleans recently.

It's known that he's a steady drinker, alternately moody and quarrelsome in public.

A devotee of hillbilly music and an avid dancer, he took lessons at several dance studios in Los Angeles.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 20, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY, also known as
Eric Starvo Galt, Harvey Lowmyer,
John Willard, James McBride, James
Walton, W. C. Herron and James
O'Conner

FUGITIVE

CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;
INTERSTATE FLIGHT - ARMED ROBBERY

"TEN MOST WANTED FUGITIVES" PROGRAM

James Earl Ray, a Missouri prison escapee who has been sought under the alias Eric Starvo Galt in connection with the gunshot slaying of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., has been added to the FBI's list of "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives."

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover ordered the special addition of Ray to the "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives" list, which already contains ten fugitives, to insure the widest possible dissemination of Ray's photograph and description to help effect his earliest possible location.

Ray has been the subject of a massive and intensive search since the brutal gunshot slaying of Dr. King on April 4, 1968, as he stood on the balcony of a Memphis, Tennessee, motel. One rifle bullet, believed fired from the window of a nearby rooming house, felled the victim.

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DAWSON	Wm

An exhaustive FBI fingerprint search, comparing latent fingerprints uncovered in the Dr. King case against fingerprints of over 53,000 persons on whom wanted notices have been posted in the FBI's Identification Division, succeeded in determining that Galt and Ray are identical.

A Federal warrant, issued at Birmingham, Alabama, on April 17, 1968, charges Ray, under the alias Eric Starvo Galt, with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a United States citizen. Ray is also sought for unlawful interstate flight to avoid confinement after conviction for armed robbery, based on a Federal warrant issued on July 20, 1967, at Jefferson City, Missouri. He had been confined at the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, in March, 1960, with a 20-year sentence following conviction for armed robbery and operating a motor vehicle without permission of the owner. In September, 1966, while serving the sentence, he was confined for a time in the maximum security ward at the State Hospital, Fulton, Missouri. He was reported missing from the Missouri State Penitentiary since April 23, 1967.

Ray, who has an arrest record dating back to 1949 and has been convicted of burglary, armed robbery and forging United States Postal Money Orders, has also been confined in the Los Angeles County Jail, the Joliet and Pontiac, Illinois, State Prisons and the United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas.

He served in the Army between February, 1946, and December, 1948, received a three-month sentence at hard labor for being drunk and breaking arrest and was given a General Discharge due to ineptness and lack of adaptability for military service.

Ray is a 40-year-old white male, reportedly born in Illinois on He is approximately 5'10" inches tall, weighs from 163 to 174 pounds, has blue eyes and brown hair which he has worn cut short. He has a small scar on the center of his forehead and a scar on the palm of his right hand. He has been described as having a straight, narrow nose and straight and even teeth and to have a nervous habit of occasionally tugging at an ear lobe. His left ear protrudes noticeably.

Acquaintances describe him as a "loner" and "drifter" whose language and diction reflect a "rural" quality and indicate he has had limited education.

He is reportedly a fan of western and country music, drinks vodka and beer, dresses neatly and claims past employment as a merchant seaman and cook on Mississippi River vessels. He is known to have worked as a baker, laborer and color matcher.

He is known as an avid dancer who has taken dancing lessons. He also completed a course at a school of bartending in the Los Angeles area early in 1968.

Ray should be considered armed and extremely dangerous. Anyone with information concerning this fugitive is requested to immediately contact the nearest office of the FBI, the telephone number of which may be found on the first page of local telephone directories.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

April 20, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY

James Earl Ray, a Missouri prison escapee who has been sought under the alias Eric Starvo Galt in connection with the gunshot slaying of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is one of the FBI's "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives."

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover ordered the special addition of Ray to the "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives" list, which already contains ten fugitives, to insure the widest possible dissemination of Ray's photograph and description to help effect his prompt location. Ray has been the subject of a massive search since the gunshot slaying of Dr. King on April 4, 1968, as he stood on the balcony of a Memphis, Tennessee, motel.

An exhaustive FBI fingerprint search, comparing latent fingerprints uncovered in the Dr. King case against fingerprints of over 53,000 persons on whom FBI wanted notices have been posted determined that Galt and Ray are identical.

A Federal warrant, issued at Birmingham, Alabama, on April 17, 1968, charges Ray, under the alias Eric Starvo Galt, with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a United States citizen. Ray, who escaped on April 23, 1967, from the Missouri State Penitentiary, is also sought for unlawful interstate flight to avoid confinement after conviction for armed robbery.

Possessing an arrest record dating back to 1949, Ray has been convicted of burglary, armed robbery and forging United States Postal Money Orders.

A 40-year-old white male, reportedly born in Illinois on [redacted] Ray is approximately 5'10" tall, weighs from 163 to 174 pounds, has blue eyes and short brown hair. He has a nervous habit of tugging at an ear lobe and his left ear protrudes noticeably.

Described as a "loner and "drifter," with a "rural" quality in his speech, Ray has worked as a baker, laborer and color matcher. He has taken dancing lessons and completed a course at a school of bartending.

Consider Ray armed and extremely dangerous. Report any information concerning him to the nearest FBI office.

44-703-281

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1968	
FBI - WASH. F. O.	
PAWSON	[Signature]

To: SAC, Washington Field

**FOR APPROPRIATE ACTION
FUGITIVE PUBLICITY**

Enclosed is material on JAMES EARL RAY,
I.O. #4182, who was added to the list of "Ten Most Wanted
Fugitives," Saturday, p.m., April 20, 1968.

You should furnish this material to your
established outlets in accordance with previous arrangements.

In the event the fugitive is captured or process
dismissed, it will be your responsibility to notify the recipients
of the material to preclude publicizing the individual after he
has been removed from a fugitive status.

Proposed transmittal form card:

Attached is material on JAMES EARL RAY
who was added to the FBI's list of "Ten Most
Wanted Fugitives," Saturday, p.m., April 20, 1968.

Enclosures

Memoranda	1
Spot Announcements	1
Identification Orders	2
Photographs, glossy 7x10	1
Photographs, dull 7x10	
Photographs, glossy 5x7	1
Photographs, glossy 3x5	
Photographs, dull 4x6	
Photographs, glossy 2 1/2x4	
Wanted Flyers	
Slides	

44-703-282

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>PPH</i>	<i>PPH</i>
APR 24 1968	
FBI - WASH. F. O.	

Hawson

Total	6
Placards	5
(Under Separate Cover)	

4/24/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND SACS, CHICAGO (44-1114),
MINNEAPOLIS, AND PHILADELPHIA

FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703)

MURKIN.

TODAY VETERANS ADMINISTRATION (VA), HEADQUARTERS, WASHINGTON, D.C., ADVISED JAMES EARL RAY, BORN [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] ENLISTED UNITED STATES ARMY FEBRUARY NINETEEN FORTYTWO, IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, AND DISCHARGED DECEMBER TWENTYTHREE FORTYEIGHT. ADDRESS AT TIME OF ENLISTMENT, FIVE THREE EIGHT EAST BROADWAY, ALTON, ILLINOIS. RAY ASSIGNED VA CLAIM NUMBER SEVEN SIX SIX ONE THREE FOUR ZERO. FILE LOCATED VA REGIONAL OFFICE, CHICAGO. RAY HAD INSURANCE POLICY NUMBER N ONE NINE EIGHT SIX EIGHT THREE THREE SIX. INSURANCE RECORDS MAINTAINED

- 2 - Bureau
- 2 - Teletype Unit
- 1 - Kansas City (44-760) (AM)
- 1 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
- ② - WFO

RWD:psm
(8)

*Sec serial 2614293
340
408
403*

Searched	PPH
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44-703-283

WFO 44-703

PAGE TWO

VA INSURANCE CENTER, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, OR ST. PAUL,
MINNESOTA. NO RECORD FOR RAY AT VA BOARD OF VETERANS APPEALS.

CHICAGO REVIEW VA FILE.

PHILADELPHIA AND ST. PAUL ATTEMPT TO REVIEW INSURANCE
RECORDS.

AIRMAIL COPIES TO MEMPHIS AND KANSAS CITY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

P.

Complaint Form
FD-71 (Rev. 10-26-65)

NOTE: Hand print names legibly; handwriting satisfactory for remainder.

Indices: ☐ Negative ☐ See below

Subject's name and aliases MURKIN				Address of subject		Character of case	
Complainant WAYNE U. DRAPER Reporter for "Army Times" Bus.phone#554-7160				Complainant's address and telephone number Capitol Park Twin Towers Apt. 407B 103 G St., SW, WDC tel# 737-1119		Complaint received ☐ Personal ☒ Telephonic Date <u>4/24/68</u> Time <u>8:25PM</u>	
Subject's Description	Race	Sex ☐ Male ☐ Female	Height	Hair	Build	Birth date and Birthplace	
	Age		Weight	Eyes	Complexion		
	Scars, marks or other data						
Facts of complaint Complainant said he has carefully reviewed the photos of JAMES EARL RAY as reflected on IO # 4182 and has come to the conclusion that the 1960 photo of RAY is <u>not</u> ident with the 1968 photo in this IO. He thinks they are photos of two different persons for the following reasons: (1) 1960 photo (middle photo on IO) of RAY reflects his openings of nostrils are about three times ^{larger than} the openings of nostrils in 1968 photo. (2) 1960 photo shows two extreme depressions of his left ear; and also this left ear has a pronounced ridge. On the other hand, the 1968 photo on this IO depicts no depressions or ridge of his left ear. In view of above nose and ear observations, complainant said he wishes to call to the attention of FBI his conclusion that they are not photos of one and same person. Above for info.							
Action Recommended						44-703-284 SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED APR 24 1968 FBI — WASH. F. O. <i>Dawson</i> <i>Rm</i>	
LOUIS A. CRESCIOLI (Agent)							

FBI WFO

FBI WASH DC

757PM

FBI WASH DC*

FBI NEW YORK

7:48 PM URGENT 4-24-68 AWS

TO DIRECTOR, WFO, AND MEMPHIS
FROM NEW YORK 44-1609

MURKIN

RE: ALLEGED ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR BET ON DR. KING'S LIFE.

ON APRIL TWENTY FOURTH, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT, EDWARD
R. LYNCH, SECURITY REPRESENTATIVE FOR AMERICAN AIRLINES (AA)
COVERING EASTERN REGION OF UNITED STATES, WHO REQUESTED THAT
HIS IDENTITY BE KEPT IN THE STRICTEST CONFIDENCE, FURNISHED
THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

ON APRIL EIGHTH, HE WAS IN OFFICE OF ROBERT ROULSTON,
CITY MANAGER FOR AA, AT WASHINGTON, DC, WHO SHOWED HIM
A CHECK FOR ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS FROM HENRY O'NEILL, CITY
MANAGER FOR AA AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, WHICH WAS PAYMENT
OF BET THEY HAD MADE THAT DR. KING WOULD BE DEAD BY MAY
FIRST, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT. ROULSTON INDICATED BET HAD
BEEN MADE AT A DINNER ATTENDED BY OTHER AA OFFICIALS.

END PAGE ONE

See serial 305
347
411

44-703-285
SEARCHED *PPH* INDEXED *PPH*
SERIALIZED *PPH* FILED *PPH*

APR 24 7 56 PM '68

FBI-WASH. F.O.

Dawson Rnd
Creamer Jle.
Aschland RDR

PAGE TWO

LYNCH DID NOT KNOW ANY FURTHER DETAILS OF DINNER OR BET AS TO DATE OR PLACE OR WHO ELSE KNEW OF BET. HE DID NOT KNOW SIGNIFICANCE OF DATE OF MAY FIRST, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT.

WFO INTERVIEW ROULSTON AND MEMPHIS INTERVIEW O'NEILL CONCERNING ABOVE BET BEARING IN MIND LYNCH'S REQUEST THAT HIS IDENTITY BE CONCEALED.

SUBJECT, RAY, SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

WA...SVW

FBI WASH DC*

@VCH

FBI WFO

P

FBI WFO

FBI WASH DC

750PM URGENT 4-24-68 BJP

TO ALL SACS - RELAY MESSAGE PLAN

FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 2P

MURKIN

CONTACTS SHOULD BE MAINTAINED WITH ALL MASS COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA IN YOUR TERRITORY TO INSURE THAT THERE IS FREQUENT REFERENCE TO RAY AND HIS CONNECTION WITH THIS CASE.

SINCE YOU HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN ADVISED THAT JAMES EARL RAY IS IDENTICAL WITH ERIC STARVO GALT AND YOU HAVE BEEN FURNISHED IO'S AND WANTED FLYERS ON RAY, YOU ARE TO BE CERTAIN THAT ALL APPROPRIATE STOPS HAVE BEEN RENEWED ON JAMES EARL RAY AND UNDER ALL OF HIS KNOWN ALIASES AS SET FORTH ON THE IO'S AND WANTED FLYERS. THIS IS TO INSURE THAT THE BUREAU WILL BE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFIED IF THE SUBJECT IS ARRESTED OR COMES TO THE ATTENTION OF AUTHORITIES WITH WHOM STOPS PLACED.

OFFICES COVERING DEPARTURE OR ARRIVAL OF OVERSEAS FLIGHTS SHOULD HAVE RENEWED STOPS AND SUBJECT'S PHOTOGRAPH SHOULD BE DISPLAYED APPROPRIATELY.

END PAGE ONE

Bureau

*MPD 4/25/68
USPP
cancelled
6/10/68*

44-703-286

SEARCHED *my* INDEXED *PPH*
SERIALIZED *PPH* FILED *PPH*

APR 24 7 46 PM '68

FBI-WASH. D.C.
Dawson Rmd

PAGE TWO

ALL OFFICES SHOULD CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION
AT ALL "HIPPIE" ROOMING HOUSES AND SIMILAR ESTABLISHMENTS TO
OBTAIN ANY INFORMATION WHATSOEVER CONCERNING RAY.

APPROPRIATE LEGATS BEING ADVISED SEPARATELY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

LAC

FBI WFO

P

MPD Pet 347
now as such
in WDC.
Rmd