

# INVESTIGATION OF THE ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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HEARINGS  
BEFORE THE  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS  
OF THE  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
NINETY-FIFTH CONGRESS  
SECOND SESSION  
—  
DECEMBER 1, 1978  
—  
VOLUME VIII  
—

Printed for the use of the Select Committee on Assassinations



U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

40-258 O

WASHINGTON : 1979

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For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office  
Washington, D.C. 20402

Stock Number 052-070-04878-6

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# INVESTIGATION OF THE ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1978

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS,  
*Washington, D.C.*

The subcommittee met, pursuant to adjournment, at 9:22 a.m., in room 345, Cannon House Office Building, Hon. Walter E. Fauntroy presiding.

Present: Representatives Stokes, Devine, Fauntroy, McKinney, Fithian, Sawyer, and Edgar.

Also present: James Wolf, deputy chief counsel; Mark Speiser, staff counsel; and Elizabeth L. Berning, chief clerk.

Mr. FAUNTROY. The committee will come to order.

This morning the Subcommittee on the King Assassination begins its last day of the committee's public hearings on the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. As Chairman Stokes indicated when the committee opened its public hearings on August 14, 1978, the full committee has identified three main issues to investigate in the King assassination in order to fulfill its legislative mandate which is found in H.R. 222: First, who assassinated Dr. King; second, how well did the agencies perform; and third, did the assassin or assassins act alone; that is, was there a conspiracy.

Obviously, too, the full committee must also consider recommendations, administrative and legislative, and they will be the subject of 2 days of public hearings by the full committee the second week in December.

I want now to yield to Ms. Berning to state for the record who are our members of the subcommittee for today.

Ms. BERNING. Mr. Chairman, you, Mr. McKinney, and Mr. Fithian are regular members of the King subcommittee. Mr. Stokes will be substituting for Mr. Ford. Mr. Devine will be substituting for Mr. Edgar.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Thank you.

The Chair now recognizes Deputy Chief Counsel James Wolf for the opening narration.

## NARRATION BY JAMES WOLF, DEPUTY CHIEF COUNSEL

Mr. WOLF. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

To appreciate the relevance of the testimony in these hearings of John Ray, another brother of James Earl Ray, it is necessary to understand the scope and detail of the evidence the committee has amassed on two incidents and the circumstances surrounding them.

First, James Earl Ray's escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary on April 23, 1967; the suspected supporting role of John Ray in the escape; John Ray's denial of that role; and the possible meaning of that denial.

Second, the robbery of the Bank of Alton, Ill., on July 13, 1967; the striking similarities of the Alton robbery and five others in 1969 and 1970, the last of which led to the arrest, conviction, and imprisonment of John Ray; the other reasons to suspect the Ray brothers were involved in the Alton robbery; and the possible meaning of the denials of the brothers of involvement in these robberies.

In addition, it is instructive to examine the likely significance of these two incidents to the investigation of the assassination itself. That is, why should the committee be interested in the details of two relatively minor crimes, for which the statute of limitations makes it impossible for the perpetrators, whoever they are, to be brought to justice?

The probable answer lies in the resistance of the Ray brothers to acknowledge any association among themselves in these two criminal incidents, while the force of the evidence points to such an association.

It might be also argued quite logically that the resistance of the Ray brothers to admitting a criminal association among themselves in these minor crimes is based on a frank realization that such an admission might well lead to their implication in the higher crime of assassination.

It is appropriate now to turn to an examination of the evidence available to the committee. Records at the Missouri State Penitentiary in Jefferson City, Mo., indicate that James was visited by John on April 22, 1967, the day before he began his 14-month flight that ended with his arrest on June 8, 1968, in London for the assassination. In executive session before this committee, John has denied that he helped his brother escape, or that he knew about the escape beforehand. John even asserted that he did not know James had escaped from prison until he was identified on April 19, 1968, as Erio Starvo Galt, the suspected assassin of Dr. King.

To sum up John's denials: He was totally unaware of his brother's escape until a year later, which means he had no contact with James in person, by telephone or by letter throughout the period.

Prison records show, however, that John established a regular pattern of visits to his brother in the months leading up to James' escape on April 23, 1967. In the latter half of 1966, he came to see James three times. Nevertheless, John has testified that he decided to suspend the visits after April 22, so he failed to learn of James' escape for about a year thereafter.

John Ray has also testified that he cannot recall the April 22 visit, suggesting it might have been made by somebody posing as him.

In interviews with the committee, James Earl Ray has said it certainly was one of his brothers, Jerry or John, who visited him on April 22. And he said it was probably John. Circumstantially, it is unlikely that the visitor was Jerry, since he was working at that time in Chicago, at a job that required his presence 6 days a week, with only Thursdays off.

Further, both Jerry and John were on James' approved visitor list, and Jerry actually visited James six times from 1960 to 1965. Since they had to show identification and a signature sample on each visit, it is unlikely that Jerry would have posed as John.

John Ray's true level of familiarity with the circumstances of James' escape from Missouri State Prison may be inferred from his own statements that can be read to indicate he assisted his brother. In an apparent attempt to veil his own true role, John wrote on March 5, 1973, to George McMillan, the author of "The Making of an Assassin," that, upon his escape, James called "\* \* \* a certain party \* \* \* who went and helped him." He wrote further that the person who helped James "\* \* \* is doing time now in Federal prison for a charge that I suspect is a frameup."

Mr. Chairman, I request at this time that the March 5, 1973, letter from John Ray to George McMillan be inserted into the record as MLK exhibit F-639.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Without objection, it is so ordered.

[The information follows:]

Dear George:

March 5, 1973

Will drop you a letter to let you know that we were on a hunger strike here, and they had us back in our cells. Bad enough going nine days without eating, but I was having back trouble too.

I received the chapter, and twenty-five dollars. Do you want the chapter back? I figured that you of had your book on the market by now.

They have been talking about shipping me to the Federal Zoo in Marion, Ill. for the past two months. If they do I will give you my new address. I want to keep in contact with you, never know when a person needs a character witness.

You did not have to mind in Chapter III, the book that you are writing has a lot of J's, and M's. Frank was that way also, a lot of J's and M's. I don't believe Frank wrote his book on his own thinking. I believe he was paid to write it that way, it wasn't his style.

I don't know whether it was the wealthy East, or the J.B.D. who paid him, but he never strayed from his prior writing ability. It had no mess of J.B.D. propaganda, that the money source could of come from that area.

I really got a laugh going back over Frank's book. While they had me cage up on the strike, Frank said that they was no "Raul" because at no time, was he seen, and this was of poor impossible, with the contacts that Jimmy was supposed to of had made with him.

Then Frank goes on, and on about Jimmy running dogs, Jewels, and Robbins all over the country. Frank at no time knew where he was seen on this judicial crime, but then to show you how dumb Frank was in his book.

He stated also that Jimmy walks for days to get ~~from~~<sup>to</sup> St. Louis from Jefferson City where he escapes, when actual Jimmy had a car, and J.B.D. waiting for him in Jefferson City. In fact he was arrested by the police on the bridge for car trouble at Columbia, Mo. He also had a phone car to a certain party in St. Louis to come down, and get in cars, the person who went and help him, also in doing time now in Federal prison for a charge that I expect in a frame-up. They probably got records of both of them. Some call, and the police talk to?

Have to go -  
Jack.

MLK EXHIBIT F-639

Mr. WOLF. At the time that the letter was written, John Ray was in a Federal penitentiary for a bank robbery conviction, one he has always contended was an FBI frameup. And, while John Ray has claimed to the committee in executive session that he fabricated the admission to Mr. McMillan, he has acknowledged that he was referring to himself when he described a "certain party" imprisoned in a "frameup."

John Ray has also contradicted his denials of an awareness of James' escape from prison in conversations with Walter Rife, a long-time criminal associate of the Ray brothers who was incarcerated with John at Leavenworth in the early 1970's. Mr. Rife has said John admitted that he picked up James on the outskirts of Jefferson City after the escape.

In addition, Jerry Ray has told Mr. McMillan of John's involvement in James' escape, saying he, too, was aware of it beforehand. Jerry Ray has since repudiated that remark.

The final decision on the issue is up to the committee, but the evidence seemingly forces a conclusion that John Ray is lying when he says he did not know in advance of James Earl Ray's plan to escape from Missouri State Prison.

James' elaborate escape scheme, which involved his being hidden in a bread box with enough food and money for sustained flight, suggests he planned the breakout in advance, certainly prior to the April 22 visit by John.

In addition, John was aware that James had made two previous attempts to escape.

Next, it is logical to reason that, given his inclination to attend to details, James would not have left his flight from the vicinity of the prison to chance. It would have been more characteristic of him to have sought assistance, rather than wander aimlessly around Missouri for 6 days, as he claims he did, before arriving in St. Louis.

Further, even if James had escaped the way he says—without assistance from John or anyone else—it is difficult to believe he did not contact John upon his arrival in St. Louis.

That John knew James was a prison escapee before April 1968 is also indicated by his contact with Jerry, who, in turn, had seen James at least three times from May to August 1967, and who had spoken with him by phone. Jerry has told the committee he doesn't recall seeing John before December in 1967, but he does say he saw both John and his sister, Carol Pepper, during a visit to St. Louis for Christmas. Carol Pepper, in an FBI interview, confirmed this family reunion.

There are two other John and Jerry contacts prior to April 1968.

First, John told the FBI he went to Chicago in the summer of 1967 and had seen Jerry.

Second, Jerry told the FBI he had seen John and Carol Pepper in the first week of February 1968.

Further, Carol Pepper told the FBI she learned of James' escape within several weeks of the day it happened, and it is improbable she wouldn't have told John about it, since they were in business together as co-venturers in the Grapevine Tavern in St. Louis. As such, they would have had to be in periodic contact.

While John and James persist in their claims of having had no personal telephone contact during James' flight, the opportunity certainly existed. James was in the St. Louis area, where John was living, at least twice in 1967 and possibly once in 1968. He admits traveling through St. Louis immediately after his prison escape, and he acknowledges returning there in July 1967, after quitting his job in Chicago.

There is additional evidence that James went to Quincy, Ill., between March 17, 1968, when he is known to have left Los Angeles, and March 21, when he arrived in New Orleans. En route from Quincy to New Orleans, he would have passed by St. Louis.

Moreover, James could have been expected to contact John, who was the brother closest to him in age. Their relationship before James' prison escape and after his arrest in London was quite close. Missouri State Prison visitation records show 11 visits with James by John between 1960 and 1967, as opposed to only six by Jerry. Further, while Jerry's last visit occurred on July 1, 1965, John came to the prison four times after that date—on July 10, November 13, and December 20, 1966, and on April 22, 1967.

Following James' arrest on June 8, 1968, correspondence shows that relations between the two brothers continued to be close. In a letter dated July 15 from London, James makes reference to a possible visit by John with James in England, the ability of John to provide \$600 for attorney Arthur Hanes, Sr., an apparent attempt by John to persuade James to hire attorney Percy Foreman, and the need for John not to discuss James' case.

Mr. Chairman, I request at this time that the July 15, 1968, letter be inserted in the record as MLK exhibit F-644.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MLK EXHIBIT F-644

In reply to this letter, please write on the envelope

Number: 059124 Name: SNEYD

H. M. PRISON,  
HEATHFIELD ROAD,  
WANDSWORTH,  
LONDON, S.W. 11

Dear John

I will just write you  
a few lines to let you  
know everything is alright.  
I will probably be back  
shortly. my way don't come  
over for one you couldn't  
get in, along Horst's car  
and two of the expenses  
about Judge Casey wanting  
to reverse my case I  
don't want it reverse I  
will explain later but  
you know these things  
are not doing anything  
to benefit me I would  
I would like for you to  
give the attorney Arthur Horst  
\$6000 you can get some  
of off Jerry and I will be  
over

No. 243 (2515)

Page BB

I might it & drop with  
 you too when I get home  
 You mention Percy Johnson  
 Jones is a good attorney but  
 I will wait until I get home  
 as I want some attorney  
 who can work together.  
 so I will let Honor  
 decide on someone he thinks  
 would be best.  
 I could appeal my extradition  
 hearing but I am getting  
 tired of listening to their  
 lies so I met close  
 it up about Tuesday  
~~and I am not going to~~  
~~do anything more until~~  
~~I get home~~  
~~and I am not going to~~  
~~do anything more until~~  
~~I get home~~  
~~and I am not going to~~  
~~do anything more until~~  
~~I get home~~

Lord R. G. Sneyd.

att. address.

Arthur J. Honor  
 617 Girard Nelson Bldg.  
 Birmingham Alabama 35203  
 TELEPHONE 3244536



Don't discuss any part of this case with anyone until I get back especially the libel part. I think pity will have a good thing. If you see fu manchu or the tongue tell them am O. K. Take it easy.

Mr. WOLF. In view of this apparent close relationship between James and John, it seems remarkable that James would have met at least three times with Jerry and made telephone contact with him numerous times, while not seeing John or speaking with him once over the 14-month period of his flight. In fact, James admitted that the purpose of his trip from Chicago to St. Louis in July 1967 was to visit relatives, although he denies seeing any of his kin on the 600-mile roundtrip.

James affirms that he sought out several old acquaintances in June or July 1967, including Jack Gawron in St. Louis, Mo. Gawron was a close friend of John. Other associates James contacted lived in the Quincy area.

The point is: James goes out of his way to deny contact with John, to whom he was close, while he admits contacting a number of old cronies who lived in the same part of the country as John.

A final point worth noting in establishing a link between James and John Ray—they were both quite active in the 1968 Presidential campaign of the American Independent Party. John, as testimony in these hearings has shown, distributed party paraphernalia at the Grapevine Tavern in St. Louis and assisted in party registration efforts, while James helped secure voter registrations for the American Independent Party in California.

The American Independent Party link is significant in that it connects the brothers in—for them—the unlikely activity of politics, suggesting that their respective engagements in it were not mutually exclusive. In addition, it connects the Ray brothers with an extreme political faction in the St. Louis area, a leader of which has been identified as the offeror of a \$50,000 contract on Dr. King's life.

Evidence of involvement in the Alton Bank robbery by the Ray brothers may be fairly described as substantial, albeit circumstantial. It can be broken down into the following categories: First, the significance of Alton, Ill., James Earl Ray's hometown;

Second, the purpose of Ray's trip to Alton on or about July 13, 1967;

Third, James' financial condition just before and just after the Alton holdup;

Fourth, admissions by Jerry Ray; and

Fifth, a similarity of method between the Alton robbery and holdups of other banks in a subsequent period, for one of which John Ray was arrested and convicted.

James Earl Ray was born in Alton, Ill., on March 10, 1928, and he lived there for 2 years. At the age of 16, he returned to Alton where his grandmother ran a roominghouse. His uncle, William Maher, lived in Alton then, and he still does.

Indeed, physical evidence in the Alton robbery—stocking masks, clothing, et cetera, was found several yards from Mr. Maher's residence.

James again returned to Alton after his discharge from the Army in 1948, and he worked there for several months. In 1954, after release from prison where he served a term for a taxicab robbery, he again returned to Alton, Ill. On August 21, 1959, James Earl Ray and Joseph Austin robbed a supermarket of \$2,200 in Alton, Ill.

By his own admission, James Earl Ray had decided to go to Canada at the time he quit his job at the Indian Trail in Winnetka, Ill., on June 24, 1967. But instead of traveling directly, he made two trips in the opposite direction—to Quincy, Ill., and the St. Louis area.

Ray had only about \$450 at the time, and he was concerned enough about his finances that he returned to the Chicago area from Quincy to pick up his last paycheck from the Indian Trails. He then headed for St. Louis, ostensibly to visit relatives. But there are problems with this story: for one, Quincy is a good deal closer to St. Louis than is Chicago; for another Ray admits he did not visit his relatives after all.

In light of Ray's financial condition, his resolve to go to Canada and the risk of driving to the vicinity of the prison from which he had recently escaped, it is probably unlikely he would have returned to St. Louis unless he was lured there by some substantial benefit.

Ray's presence in the St. Louis area on or about July 13, 1967, is affirmed by his own testimony and corroborated by his purchase of a 1962 Plymouth for \$210 in East St. Louis, Ill., on July 14. July 13 is the date that \$27,230 was taken from the Bank of Alton, Ill., by armed holdup men.

I would ask at this time, Mr. Chairman, that MLK exhibit F-647 be inserted into the record and be appropriately displayed.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Without objection, it is so ordered.

[The information follows:]

**BANK ROBBERY MODUS OPERANDI ANALYSIS**

**WHERE:** Bank of Alton, Ill.

**WHEN:** July 13, 1967, 1:30 p.m.

**TAKE:** \$27,230

**NO. OF SUBJECTS IN BANK:** Two

**WEAPONS:** Sawed-off shotgun; revolver

**DISGUISE APPAREL:** Stocking masks and hats

**ACTIONS DURING HOLDUP:** Subject with shotgun  
stood guard while  
accomplice with revolver  
collected money from  
behind counter

**ACTIONS DURING ESCAPE:** Stocking masks, clothing  
discarded in wooded area;  
attempted burning of  
discarded evidence near  
scene

Mr. WOLF. This exhibit is an analysis of the modus operandi in the Alton bank robbery.

As for John Ray's whereabouts in July 1967, he has acknowledged that he was residing in St. Louis then. And it is not out of the question that Jerry Ray was also in Alton on July 13. He was working at the time near Chicago, but Thursday was his day off. July 13 was a Thursday.

Let us return to our discussion of James Earl Ray's finances and what possible alternatives there are to the fictitious Raoul as a source of his funding. The logical period for this source to have been tapped is between the date of Ray's last paycheck from the Indian Trails in early July and the date of the first appearance of "Raoul" on July 25. If it had been earlier, it is probably doubtful that Ray would have taken menial labor in a restaurant for \$85 a week, nor would he have driven all the way from Quincy to Winnetka to pick up a check for \$77.53. And it is about the time Ray introduces Raoul in his version of his flight that he made a number of relatively large expenditures—for a vacation at a Canadian resort, the purchase of a 1966 Mustang costing \$1,955, and for camera equipment worth \$337.

Since the Alton Bank robbery appears to be a logical alternative to Raoul as Ray's source of funds, it should be useful to take a more detailed look at his financial transactions in July 1967.

By his own calculations, Ray had not more than \$500 to his name when he left Chicago for St. Louis in July 1967. His financial prospects were pretty grim, too, for he had decided to go to Canada, where he had no real reason to expect to earn a legitimate income. Yet, the day after the Alton Bank robbery, he began to spend money quite freely—\$210 on a used automobile on July 14, \$150 for 2 months' rent on arrival in Montreal, \$50 for a prostitute in Montreal, \$200 for new clothes.

Ray tries to explain his new-found funding with a claim that he netted \$1,700 by holding up the manager of a brothel, but there are inconsistencies in this story, and Ray has been able to produce nothing to corroborate it.

Ray had a history of criminal activity in areas familiar to him. What is more, his escape from prison shows he was a criminal capable of elaborate planning and effective execution. We also know he planned his trip to Canada in advance. It seems highly unlikely that he would have gone to a strange city in a foreign country when he was financially destitute. It makes much more sense that he would have returned to the St. Louis area briefly and committed a crime with one or two trusted associates.

In the period right after his escape from prison and through July 1967, Ray's only trusted associates were his brothers, Jerry and John. And, as we have seen, Alton was a town he knew like the palm of his hand.

Indications that John Ray obtained a substantial sum of money in the summer of 1967 can be found in his abrupt departure from St. Louis for California in about August. He apparently intended to open a bar with cash he was carrying in his pocket, of which about \$3,000 was deposited in two St. Louis bank accounts on his return.

John has claimed that he saved the money prior to leaving for California, but his work habits do not lend themselves to a theory that he earned the money at honest labor.

James Earl Ray's brother Jerry has admitted to at least one committee witness, who has asked for anonymity, that James and John did indeed commit the Alton holdup.

That the Ray brothers had the opportunity to commit the Alton Bank robbery has been established by their whereabouts at the time it occurred.

Motive is readily provided by their need for money. James was especially hard pressed as a fugitive from justice, for whom taking a job constituted considerable risk.

The means to commit the crime can be deduced from their respective pasts—all three had been involved in armed robberies.

Beyond opportunity, motive and means, there is compelling evidence in the method and pattern of activities of the bank robbers in Alton and the similarity of the Alton modus operandi with that of other bank robberies that followed.

Although the Ray brothers have denied participating in the subsequent robberies, there is substantial proof that Jerry or John or both are lying. James himself was, of course, in prison for the King assassination at the times of the subsequent robberies.

I would again call attention, Mr. Chairman, to MLK exhibit F-647, the modus operandi chart for the Alton Bank robbery.<sup>1</sup>

At approximately 1:30 p.m. on July 13, 1967, two gunmen wearing stocking masks and hats entered the bank of Alton. The one referred to in FBI reports as suspect No. 1 was carrying a handgun. He is described by witnesses as a middle-aged, white male, 5 feet 10 inches, 150 to 160 pounds. Suspect No. 2 was carrying a shotgun. He was described as a middle-aged white male, 5 feet 8 inches, 170 to 180 pounds.

Neither of these descriptions would eliminate the Ray brothers.

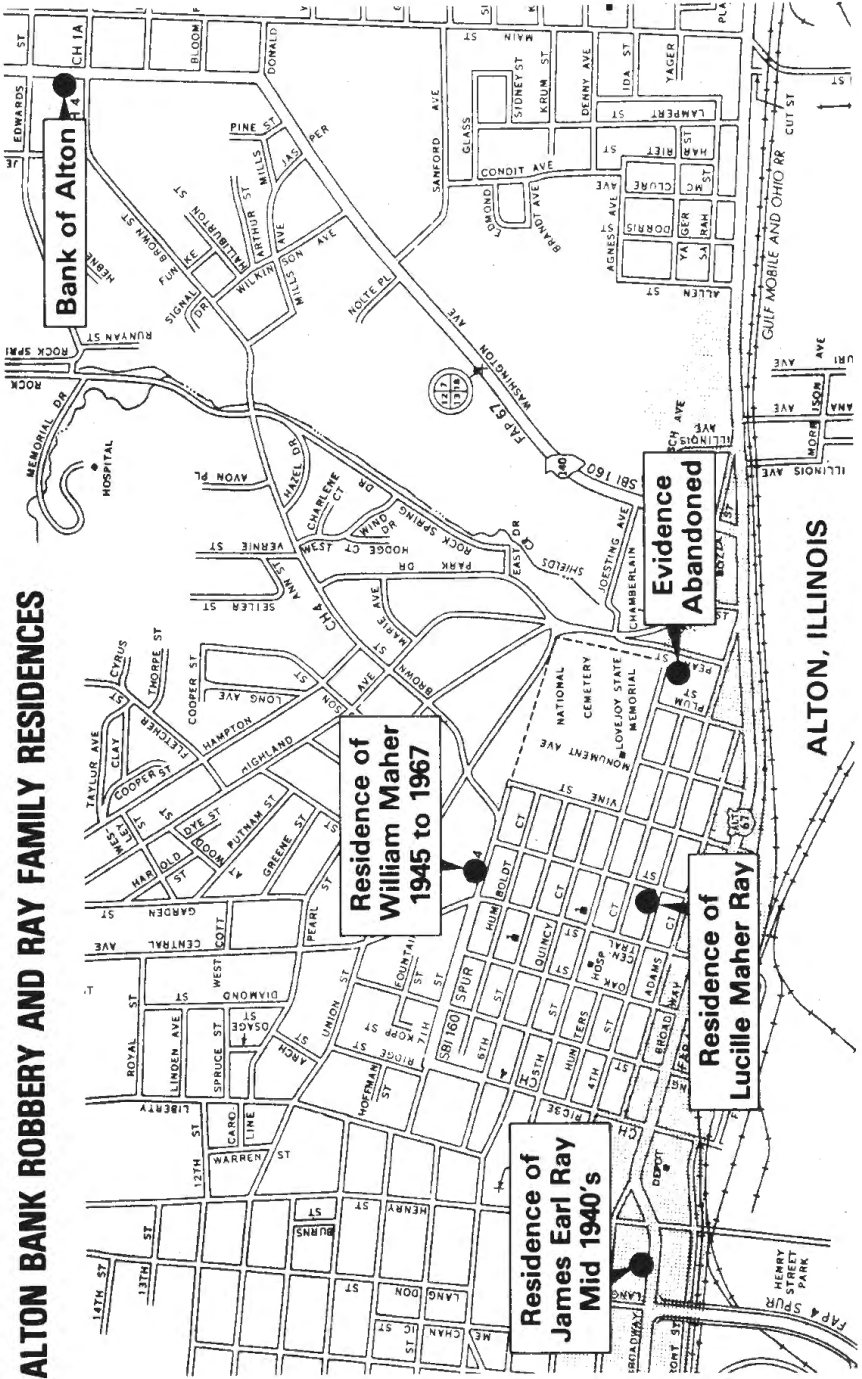
I would ask, Mr. Chairman, that MLK exhibit F-646 be inserted into the record and displayed at this time.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Without objection, it is so ordered.

[The information follows:]

<sup>1</sup> See text, supra, at p. 11.

**ALTON BANK ROBBERY AND RAY FAMILY RESIDENCES**



**ALTON, ILLINOIS**

MLK EXHIBIT F-646

Mr. WOLF. This exhibit is a map of Alton, Ill.

As can be seen on the map, the bank is at the corner of Brown and Washington Streets.

Upon exiting the bank, the two robbers crossed Brown Street and headed west to a church parking lot, presumably where a getaway car was waiting. There is no witness evidence of the route of escape from that point, nor is there a description of the car. Nevertheless, the shotgun and clothing worn by the robbers were found in a wooded area near the National Cemetery of Alton, one that was only several hundred yards from the home of William Maher, an uncle of the Ray brothers. Mr. Maher's home was—and still is—at 1118 7th Street. Also nearby is a former home of the Ray brothers' mother at 1209 East 4th Street, and one of James himself at 538 East Broadway.

The point where the evidence was abandoned and Mr. Maher's home are about 1 mile from the bank, a 3-minute drive at normal speed. In addition, the location of the abandonment site indicates the robbers were familiar with the area, since it is situated at the dead end of Fifth Street.

It can also be reasoned from the location of the evidence abandonment site that the robbers did not take the most direct route out of town, which would have been in the opposite direction. Indeed, the robbers headed in the direction of the Alton Police Department. It would appear, then, that the robbers had confidence in their ability to elude police while not leaving town. This confidence might well have been based on a familiarity with the area where the evidence was abandoned.

It is worth noting that following a supermarket robbery in 1959, James Earl Ray successfully escaped from police in a car and on foot, while his accomplice was caught.

It would be useful at this time to compare the modus operandi of the Alton robbery with those of five subsequent holdups. While John Ray has been convicted of only one of them—the robbery of the Bank of St. Peters, Mo.—there is solid evidence from which to argue that he participated in the other four. Jerry Ray has been identified as having been involved in at least one of the five.

I would ask at this time, Mr. Chairman, that MLK exhibit F-648, F-649, F-650, F-651, and F-652 be inserted into the record and be displayed.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Without objection, it is so ordered.

[The information follows:]

## **BANK ROBBERY MODUS OPERANDI ANALYSIS**

**WHERE:** Farmers Bank of Liberty, Ill.

**WHEN:** October 17, 1969, 10:45 a.m.

**TAKE:** \$10,995

**NO. OF SUBJECTS IN BANK:** Two

**WEAPONS:** Sawed-off shotgun; revolver

**DISGUISE APPAREL:** Stocking masks and hats

**ACTIONS DURING HOLDUP:** Subject with shotgun  
stood guard while  
accomplice with revolver  
collected money from  
behind counter

**ACTIONS DURING ESCAPE:** Stocking masks discarded;  
attempted burning of  
evidence, including auto-  
mobile, near crime scene



**BANK ROBBERY MODUS OPERANDI ANALYSIS**

**WHERE:** Farmers & Traders State Bank of Meredosia, Ill.

**WHEN:** January 28, 1970, 1:05 p.m.

**TAKE:** \$5,038

**NO. OF SUBJECTS IN BANK:** Two

**WEAPONS:** Sawed-off shotgun; revolver

**DISGUISE APPAREL:** Stocking masks and hats

**ACTIONS DURING HOLDUP:** Subject with shotgun  
stood guard while  
accomplice with revolver  
collected money from  
behind counter

**ACTIONS DURING ESCAPE:** Stocking masks, clothing  
discarded in wooded area

**BANK ROBBERY MODUS OPERANDI ANALYSIS**

**WHERE:** Laddonia State Bank, Laddonia, Mo.

**WHEN:** June 11, 1970, 1:00 p.m.

**TAKE:** \$13,975

**NO. OF SUBJECTS IN BANK:** Two

**WEAPONS:** Sawed-off shotgun; revolver

**DISGUISE APPAREL:** Stocking masks and hats

**ACTIONS DURING HOLDUP:** Subject with shotgun  
stood guard while  
accomplice with revolver  
collected money from  
behind counter

**ACTIONS DURING ESCAPE:** Stocking masks discarded;  
attempted burning of  
evidence, including auto-  
mobile, near crime scene

**BANK ROBBERY MODUS OPERANDI ANALYSIS**

**WHERE:** Bank of Hawthorne, Florida

**WHEN:** July 29, 1970, 2:00 p.m.

**TAKE:** \$4,514

**NO. OF SUBJECTS IN BANK:** Two

**WEAPONS:** Two revolvers

**DISGUISE APPAREL:** Stocking masks and hats

**ACTIONS DURING HOLDUP:** One armed subject stood guard while the other went into the vault and collected the money

**ACTIONS DURING ESCAPE:** Stocking masks were discarded after the crime

# **BANK ROBBERY MODUS OPERANDI ANALYSIS**

**WHERE:** Bank of St. Peters, Mo.

**WHEN:** October 26, 1970; 1:20 p.m.

**TAKE:** \$53,128

**NO. OF SUBJECTS:** Three

**WEAPONS:** Revolvers

**DISGUISE APPAREL:** Stocking masks and hats

**ACTIONS DURING HOLDUP:** All subjects had  
revolvers - - two stood  
guard while their  
accomplice collected  
money from behind  
counter

**ACTIONS DURING ESCAPE:** Stocking masks and  
clothing discarded in  
wooded area

Mr. WOLF. These exhibits consist of one modus operandi chart for each of the five bank robberies: The Farmers Bank of Liberty, Ill., the Farmers & Traders Bank of Meredosia, Ill., the Laddonia State Bank of Laddonia, Mo., the Bank of Hawthorne, Fla., and the Bank of St. Peters, Mo.

The participation of John Ray in all five bank robberies is supported by evidence, even though he was only convicted of the St. Peters, Mo., holdup.

It would be appropriate at this time, Mr. Chairman, to introduce the statement of James Rogers to the committee as MLK F-662. Mr. Rogers has testified that he was involved in four of the robberies, each of which was planned and participated in by John.

It would be appropriate at this time, Mr. Chairman, to introduce the statement of Ronald Goldenstein as MLK F-663. He has acknowledged to the committee that he participated in the robberies in Meredosia, Ill., and St. Peters, Mo.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Without objection, both the documents referenced to are admitted.

Mr. WOLF. It would be appropriate at this time, Mr. Chairman to introduce the statement of Clarence Haynes who has admitted participating with John Ray in the robbery of the Laddonia, Mo. bank as MLK exhibit F-664.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Without objection, it is so ordered.

[The information follows:]

## MLK EXHIBIT F-662

DATE INTERVIEWED: August 13, 1978 TIME INTERVIEWED: 9:25 p.m.PLACE INTERVIEWED: Telephone InterviewNAME: James Rogers

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS: 1867 W. Chateau, Anaheim, California

BUSINESS ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME TELEPHONE: (714) 635-4636

BUSINESS TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ASSOCIATES: \_\_\_\_\_

MLK INVESTIGATION  
CONNECTION: \_\_\_\_\_INTERVIEW STATEMENT:Interview conducted by Michael Eberhardt and Mark Speiser

Rogers stated in his telephone interview that no one else besides himself, John Ray and Clarence Haynes, was involved in the State Bank of Laddonia, Missouri bank robbery(6/11/70). He stated that he had never heard of Ernest Turley.

As to the robbery in Meredosia, Illinois, (Farmers and Traders State Bank, 1/28/70), Rogers stated that the getaway car in which he, John Ray and Ronald Goldenstein were driving broke down a few miles from the scene of the crime. Rogers stated that Jerry Ray was called and he came and picked up Rogers, Goldenstein and John Ray and drove them to St. Louis. Rogers indicated that Jerry may have been given some of the bank robbery money. He stated that Jerry definitely knew that the other three had committed the bank robbery.

With respect to the Bank of Hawthorne, Florida robbery,(7/29/70), Haynes

stated that John Ray met him and Carl Kent in Jacksonville, Florida before the robbery. John was alone. Rogers did not know if John had just come from New Orleans. The night of July 29th was spent by Rogers, Ray and Kent in a two story non-chain motel just outside of New Orleans. Rogers indicated that the motel was next to a bar and probably not more than a mile from the Governor's bridge. He indicated it was about a \$12.00 cabfare from the motel to the airport. Rogers left New Orleans, probably that night or early the next morning, for California by plane. Before leaving, Rogers and Kent engaged some prostitutes while John Ray stayed in his motel room.

Rogers stated that he was never in New Orleans with Jerry Ray. Rogers further denied ever being involved with Jerry Ray in any crime, besides the Meredosia bank robbery. He reiterated that the only robberies in which he was involved with John Ray were the four bank robberies.

Signed: Michael C. Eberhart

Date: 8/14/78

## MLK EXHIBIT F-663

INTERVIEW FORMDATE INTERVIEWED: JUNE 13, 1978 TIME INTERVIEWED 3PMPLACE INTERVIEWED Via Telephone from Minneapolis, Minn.NAME: GOLDENSTEIN, Ronald SiebeltDATE OF BIRTH: 05/19/39 SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_HOME ADDRESS: Apt 100, 116 Oak Grove, Minneapolis, MinnBUSINESS TELEPHONE: 612-339-8214 HOME TELEPHONE 612-870-8605ASSOCIATES: (Former) John Larry Ray, Jerry William Ray,James Russell Rogers, Jerry Lee MillerMLK INVESTIGATION CONNECTION: Admitted participation inbank robberies with John Larry Ray 1970.INTERVIEW STATEMENT:

NOTE: This interview supplements original interview report filed by Investigators Waxman and Baetz on subject Ronald S. GOLDENSTEIN.

GOLDENSTEIN was contacted by Staff Investigator Baetz by telephone at his place of employment, Community Hospital, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

GOLDENSTEIN advised that in addition to his participation in the robbery of the Bank of St. Peters, Mo., which he reported in original interview report, GOLDENSTEIN had also participated in the robbery of the Bank of Meredosia, Ill., on January 28, 1970.

GOLDENSTEIN stated that he was solicited to participate in the Bank of Meredosia robbery by John Larry Ray and Jerry William Ray while in St. Louis in December, 1969. He agreed to participate and preliminary plans were made by both Ray brothers, GOLDENSTEIN, and James Russell ROGERS.

On or about January 24, 1970, GOLDENSTEIN met with the RAY brothers and ROGERS in Quincy, Ill. and final plans were made to rob the bank.



GOLDENSTEIN stated that John and Jerry RAY had worked out most of the plans which consisted of 2 men entering the bank, committing the robbery, and exiting to a waiting automobile. The automobile would be driven to a spot 2 to 3 miles outside of town where it would be dropped and they would be picked up by another auto and taken further out to a wooded area and dropped off. They would be picked up at the wooded area several hours later.

GOLDENSTEIN advised that he and James ROGERS entered the bank and held it up, using handguns supplied by John RAY. They exited the bank and were picked up by John RAY who was also armed. RAY, GOLDENSTEIN AND ROGERS were then driven to a prearranged spot where they left that vehicle and were picked up by an auto driven by Jerry RAY. (GOLDENSTEIN states that Jerry RAY was NOT armed) They were then driven to a wooded area and dropped off with Jerry RAY driving away from the immediate area. Jerry RAY returned after dark and picked up all three subjects.

GOLDENSTEIN advised that to the best of his recollection the weapons were disposed of by throwing same in a river. The other articles used in the robbery, such as the womens stockings used as masks, were disposed of by burning.

GOLDENSTEIN reported that to the best of his recollection they proceeded to St. Louis where the money was split up, with equal shares going to GOLDENSTEIN, ROGERS, JERRY RAY and JOHN RAY.

GOLDENSTEIN had no further information to offer.

INTERVIEWER SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPED SIGNATURE Conrad E. Baetz

## MLK EXHIBIT F-664

"INTERVIEW FORM"

220174

DATE INTERVIEWED: APRIL 25, 1972 TIME INTERVIEWED: 5 PM

PLACE INTERVIEWED: VENICE POLICE DEPT VENICE ILL

NAME: CLARENCE HAYNES

DATE OF BIRTH: 6-13-15 SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: 498 05 33

HOME ADDRESS:

BUSINESS ADDRESS:

HOME TELEPHONE: BUSINESS TELEPHONE:

ASSOCIATES: JOHN RAY

MLK INVESTIGATION CONNECTION: BANK ROBBER

## INTERVIEW STATEMENT:

THIS INTERVIEW WAS CONDUCTED BY STAFF INVESTIGATORS WAXMAN AND BAETZ. HE STATED THE FOLLOWING:

REGARDING THE LADONNA MO. BANK ROBBERY JIMMY ROGERS AND HE (HAYNES) WERE INSIDE THE BANK, JOHN RAY WAS OUTSIDE IN AN AUTO, DRIVING, HAYNES FURTHER STATED THAT THE BANK ROBBERY WAS JOHN RAY'S IDEA, WAS SUPPLIED THE GUNS BY JOHN RAY AND ALSO THE STOCKING MASKS THAT WERE USED. HE STATED THAT JOHN RAY TOLD THEM TO SHOT IF FORM #4-A

ANYONE SHOT AT THEM

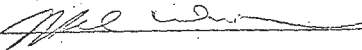
JOHN'S CAR WAS IN FRONT OF THE BANK,  
AND HAYNES AUTO WAS ABOUT 1 MILE  
AWAY

WHEN THEY DROVE TO HAYNES AUTO  
THEY BURNED JOHN'S CAR  
THE MONEY WAS DIVIDED IN A HOTEL  
ROOM SOMETIME LATER, AT WHICH  
TIME THEY EACH GOT \$6,000

HAYNES SEEMS TO KNOW JOHN RAY  
VERY WELL, AND STATED THAT HE WORKS  
FOR HIM AT RAY'S TAVERN ON ARSONAL  
STREET IN ST. LOUIS -

HE SAYS THERE IS NO BAD BLOOD BETWEEN  
HIM OR THE RAY FAMILY AND HAS NO AXE  
TO GRIND. BUT ALSO STATED THAT HE  
HAS NO DOUBT HE WOULD BE KILLED IF  
THIS INFORMATION GETS OUT -

Interviewer Signature



Typed Signature

MEL MAXMAN

Date Transcribed

CONRAD BAETZ

Both Mr. Goldenstein and Mr. Haynes have characterized John Ray as the mastermind of the robberies they participated in. He was the one who provided the weapons and the getaway car or cars. In Haynes' case, John Ray gave lessons in how to shoot, if necessary.

In addition, the committee located another witness, one who has requested anonymity. This witness has said that John Ray admitted his involvement in the Meredosia, Ill. holdup. At the same time, the committee has evidence that Jerry Ray has admitted the Meredosia robbery.

Finally, the committee has evidence of other crimes committed by the Ray brothers for which the method was strikingly similar to those mentioned to this point:

One, according to a witness, John and Jerry held up the Sportsman's Club near Chicago, Jerry's former place of employment, on July 6, 1969. The gunmen were wearing stocking masks.

Two, on June 4, 1968, the Trustee Savings Bank of Fulham, London was held up for \$200. James Earl Ray's fingerprint was found on the robbery note left at the scene.

Mr. Chairman, at this time it would be appropriate to recall Mr. John Ray before the subcommittee.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Thank you.

Prior to recalling Mr. Ray, let me remind all persons in the hearing room, both the press and citizens, of the fact that security requirements insisted upon by the U.S. Marshal's office requires that we ask all persons to remain in your seats whenever the witness is entering or exiting the room.

Let me note for the record that you, Mr. John Ray, are appearing pursuant to a continuing subpoena, and by direction of the Chair. And, Mr. Ray, you recognize that you are still under oath.

**TESTIMONY OF JOHN LARRY RAY, ACCOMPANIED BY JAMES H. LESAR, COUNSEL, AND HAROLD WEISBERG, INVESTIGATOR**

Mr. RAY. Yes, sir.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Let me also note for the record that the chairman of the full committee, Mr. Stokes, is present, and as a matter of due deference to him, I now yield the Chair to the chairman to preside over continuing questioning.

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman, I have a few preliminary matters I would like to raise.

Chairman Stokes. Would the gentleman speaking please identify himself for the record.

Mr. LESAR. Yes. I am James H. Lesar, attorney for John Larry Ray.

Chairman Stokes. And you have some preliminary matters in the nature of what?

Mr. LESAR. Yes. The first one is that I would like to make a brief statement.

Chairman Stokes. Would you also identify the other individual at the witness table with you?

Mr. LESAR. Yes.

To my right is Mr. Harold Weisberg who is serving as my investigator on this case. I regard him as the leading authority on the assassination of Dr. King, and he has extensive familiarity also

with John Ray and the circumstances of John Ray's existence over the past several years.

Chairman Stokes. Is his presence at the witness table necessary in order for you to be able to advise your client on his constitutional rights?

Mr. LESAR. It is necessary for me to be able to effectively represent Mr. Ray. We have come here under extremely difficult circumstances.

For example, earlier this week my client was arrested when he wandered into a house by mistake. I was notified that he had been arrested by his sister at about 12:15 or 12:30 a.m., Tuesday morning. I repeatedly made attempts by phone calls to the police and to prison officials in St. Louis, Mo., to be allowed to speak with him. It was denied that permission.

By the same token, Mr. Ray—Mr. Ray's sister, Carol Pepper, was denied permission to visit him, and the marshals denied Mr. Ray permission to retrieve some documents which he had obtained recently to represent himself at this hearing.

Some time ago, in fact, one of the more recent instances was on November 2 of this year, when I requested that this committee provide me with a number of materials that I thought essential in order to be able to represent Mr. Ray properly, to advise him properly. The committee made no response to my request.

The materials that are relevant to Mr. Ray's situation are voluminous. They include more than 50,000 pages of FBI documents. These documents have been obtained by Mr. Weisberg under the Freedom of Information Act. He has read them. He is aware of details that few people are aware of.

To give one example of just how important and how pertinent his assistance can be, the committee will recall that one of the most devastating testimony against James Earl Ray came from Mr. Anthony Eist—Alexander Eist I guess his name is—a Scotland Yard warder.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Lesar—

Mr. LESAR. I have a specific example and I want to—

Chairman STOKES. Just a moment. I haven't recognized you for that purpose. Just a moment. You asked for the right to make a preliminary statement. There is no provision under our rules for any preliminary statement to be made on behalf of witnesses before this committee.

I attempted, in a sense of being fair to you, to extend you a few moments to make whatever comments you had in the nature of preliminary remarks. You have gone far afield, and the Chair is not going to permit it at this time.

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman, you are distorting what has happened. I requested—

Chairman STOKES. I am not. You are out of order.

Mr. LESAR. Let me explain—

Chairman STOKES. You are out of order, Mr. Lesar. And you will cease at this point being out of order.

Mr. LESAR. I want the record to reflect that I have not made an opening statement that I requested to make. I was responding to a question—

Chairman STOKES. I am not going to permit you to continue. If you continue to persist in this way, then we will have no alternative except to see that you are out of these proceedings.

Now, if you want to remain in here and represent your client, then you are going to conduct yourself in an orderly way before a congressional committee.

Mr. LESAR. I am attempting to—

Chairman STOKES. Are you going to cease or not? Are you going to cease or not?

Now, at this time the Chair is going to recognize Mr. Mark Speiser, counsel for this committee, to proceed with this witness.

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman, before we proceed—

Chairman STOKES. You are not recognized.

Mr. Speiser, you will proceed.

Mr. LESAR. I wish to object to the manner in which the Chair is attempting to railroad—

Chairman STOKES. Your objection is noted. If I have any further comment from you, then you will be out of these proceedings.

Proceed, Mr. Speiser.

Mr. SPEISER. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. RAY, I would like you to state for the record your address prior to your current arrest. State your present address and your current occupation.

Mr. RAY. Occupation, chauffeur. Address, 3541 Holliday Street, St. Louis, Mo.

Mr. SPEISER. Your present occupation?

Mr. RAY. Chauffeur.

Mr. SPEISER. Mr. Ray, I would like to focus your attention to the period of 1968, and ask you a very direct and specific question that is of concern to this committee. And that pertains to the racial attitudes that you might have possessed and that likewise might have been shared by your brothers John—excuse me—Jerry and James.

Now, specifically with respect to you, John, we are interested in what your attitudes were towards Dr. King and the civil rights movement that he headed in 1968. Were you supportive of his movement, were you indifferent, or were you vehemently opposed to the movement that he led?

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman, I wish to object to the question.

Chairman STOKES. Will counsel state the basis for his objection?

Mr. LESAR. Yes.

First of all, it seeks to inquire into matters of my client's beliefs which are protected by the First Amendment.

Second, it has no relevance to the assassination of Dr. King which is the purpose for which this committee is sitting.

Chairman STOKES. Does counsel for the committee care to be heard?

Mr. LESAR. Excuse me. May I make one further point.

In addition, these questions were addressed to—and questions of a similar nature—were addressed to Mr. Ray in his testimony in executive session. And I would like to move now that those transcripts which have only been provided to me today, after the committee has repeatedly refused over the past several months to provide me with copies, and after the committee staff had confis-

cated my notes that I took on these transcripts, I ask that these transcripts are admitted in evidence.

Chairman STOKES. Isn't it true, Mr. Lesar, that you have always had access to these materials in the committee offices? Isn't that true?

Mr. LESAR. Yes. That is one of the games that this committee has played.

Chairman STOKES. Isn't that true?

Mr. LESAR. Yes, Mr. Chairman, it is true. It is also true that it is meaningless.

Chairman STOKES. That is all I asked you.

Does counsel for the committee have anything further?

Mr. LESAR. I made a motion. Would the chairman rule on my motion?

Chairman STOKES. The Chair is asking counsel for the committee for his comment on your objection.

Mr. SPEISER. Yes, Mr. Chairman.

In response to Mr. Lesar's objection, I would like to note that information that has been made available to this committee leads us to believe that the Ray family was a very close family in 1968, and that the attitudes shared by one of the Ray brothers was an attitude likewise possessed by the others.

And in terms of trying to ascertain the true motive behind the assassination, assuming the admitted assassin is the true assassin, we are interested in determining whether it was a financial motive or racial motive. And we feel that the attitudes shared by John Ray toward Blacks and Dr. King in 1968 might be fairly indicative of the attitudes that James Earl Ray himself possessed at that period of time.

Chairman STOKES. The objection is overruled. And counsel's exceptions are noted.

Mr. LESAR. I have further objection that this whole line of questioning is premised upon a doctrine that is an anathema to the American Constitution and to the way America has in its best moments always tried to proceed. This is sheer guilt by association.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Lesar, you have no way of knowing at this point what counsel's entire line of questioning is. Therefore, your objection is out of order and overruled.

Proceed, counsel.

Mr. SPEISER. I think there's a pending question, Mr. Ray. Do you recall the question or should I repeat it?

Mr. LESAR. Would you please repeat the question?

Mr. SPEISER. Again, Mr. Ray, my question was: What was your racial attitude toward Dr. King and the civil rights movement that he headed in 1968? I am asking you, were you indifferent toward Dr. King, were you supportive of the program that he headed up, or were you vehemently opposed to the movement that he was directing?

Mr. LESAR. May I confer with my client a minute, please.

Before he answers, and he will respond to that, would you please—you have asked him whether or not he was opposed or supportive of the policies of Dr. Martin Luther King. Would you identify what those policies are?

Chairman STOKES. I think counsel can let his question stand. If the witness understands the question, he may answer.

Mr. RAY. I would guess you would say I was a mild segregationist, I guess.

Mr. SPEISER. Excuse me.

Mr. RAY. I guess you could say I would be a mild segregationist.

Mr. SPEISER. Can I properly interpret your response to mean that you were opposed to Dr. King and the movement that he was leading?

Mr. RAY. I was opposed to a lot of different movements. I was opposed to the J. Edgar Hoover movement. You interpret that—I would say I was opposed, maybe, to a certain extent.

Mr. SPEISER. Mr. Chairman, at this time I would move that MLK exhibit F-632 be marked into evidence and be introduced into the record, and that the clerk furnish Mr. Ray with a copy of this document. This document is an FBI report dated April 23, 1968, based on an April 22, 1968 interview with the witness, John Larry Ray.

Chairman STOKES. Without objection, it may be entered into the record at this point.

[The information follows:]



## MLK EXHIBIT F-632

FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date April 23, 1968

JOHN LARRY RAY, also known as JACK, was located at the Grapevine Bar, 1982 Arsenal Street, St. Louis, Missouri, telephone Prospect 6-9417. RAY readily admitted his identity and also admitted that he is the brother of JAMES EARL RAY. He said that he had not spoken with anyone concerning the charges against his brother, and this includes other members of his family.

RAY stated that he last saw JAMES two to four years ago, when he visited his brother at the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri. Prior to this visit, he had not seen his brother for approximately fifteen years. On that occasion, JAMES EARL RAY had just been discharged from the United States Army and visited members of the family in Quincy, Illinois. RAY said that he has had no other contacts with his brother over these many years and has no knowledge of his whereabouts. He insisted that he has not been contacted by his brother since the latter's escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary in 1967 and, as a matter of fact, did not know of the escape.

JOHN RAY stated that he is commonly known as JACK. He said that his sister, CAROL ANN PEPPER, owns the Grapevine Bar and has operated the establishment since the fall of 1967. He claimed that he did not have any interest in the business other than to assist his sister. He said that she had had some trouble with patrons fighting and since that time he has tried to assist her in the operation of the bar.

JOHN RAY stated that the last time he was outside the City of St. Louis was three, four or possibly five months ago, when he went to Quincy, Illinois, to visit his sister.

During the interview, the following descriptive and background information was obtained:

Name	JOHN LARRY RAY, also known as JACK RAY
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of Birth	February 14, 1933
Place of Birth	Alton, Illinois

288

On 4/22/68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL: 44-775  
 by SA HARRY C. JUNG and SA ROBERT A. HESS HCJ:klr Date dictated 4/23/68

2  
SL: 44-775

Height	5'10" to 5'11"
Weight	160 to 170 pounds
Build	Medium
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Complexion	Medium
Peculiarities	Slight speech impediment
Residence	1900a Cherokee Street, St. Louis, Missouri (rents two rooms above Cherokee Buffet)
Marital Status	Single
Military Service	None
Criminal Record	None admitted
Automobile	1960 Ford Thunderbird, two-door, hardtop, white over blue, bearing Missouri license AE2-558
Relatives	
Mother	LUCILLE RAY, nee MAHER Deceased
Father	Refused to identify
Sisters	MELBA RAY, Quincy, Illinois; Mrs. CAROL ANN PEPPER 2025 Bellevue Maplewood, Missouri; SUSAN RAY Current address unknown
Brothers	JERRY RAY Chicago, Illinois; FRANK RAY Deceased (killed in automobile accident in 1964); MAX RAY, Address unknown (MAX was born in 1952 and wa last known by JOHN to be in orphan's home, Quincy, Illi

3  
SL: 44-775

Uncle

WILLIAM MAHER  
1118 East Seventh Street  
Alton, Illinois.

It is noted that RAY was initially uncooperative and said, "What's all the excitement about? He only killed a nigger. If he had killed a white man you wouldn't be here. King should have been killed ten years ago."

Special Agent JUNG informed JOHN RAY of the provisions of the Harboring Statute and cautioned him concerning withholding information concerning a Federal fugitive.

Mr. LESAR. Excuse me.

Mr. SPEISER. Now, Mr. Ray, I am not concerned with the entire document. I am only concerned with page 3, the last page of that document, the first full paragraph. I would like you to read that paragraph out loud, please.

Mr. RAY. Is this the FBI report?

Mr. SPEISER. Yes, sir.

Mr. RAY. Have you got all the FBI reports introduced in evidence?

Mr. SPEISER. No, I am only focusing on this particular FBI report at this time. The other reports that I will introduce into the record will subsequently be introduced when needed. So just focus upon this particular FBI document that is in your hands, and turn to page 3, and I ask you to read the first full paragraph.

Mr. LESAR. Yes. Point of information, please.

Was this document—was Mr. Ray questioned about this document in executive session?

Chairman STOKES. I think that it is irrelevant whether he was questioned about it in executive session.

Mr. LESAR. Well, I think it goes to something about this committee's methods. Because the committee—

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Lesar, maybe you don't understand. But you are going to proceed in these hearings in an orderly way, the same as you would in any courtroom or any other congressional hearing. And I am going—I am admonishing you now. I am not going to tolerate it. Do you understand?

Mr. LESAR. Excuse me. I am simply—

Chairman STOKES. I said, do you understand that?

Mr. LESAR. I have listened to other counsel who were allowed to raise questions and to make objections. Am I to be distinguished from those?

Chairman STOKES. This Chair has bent over backward to let any counsel represent his client. I happen to be a lawyer, and think I am a very good one, and understand the necessity of representation. But I am not going to tolerate any disorderly proceeding in this room. I want you to understand that. Any proper objection will be addressed properly.

Mr. LESAR. Then I would like a ruling on the motion I made earlier to admit these transcripts in evidence.

Mr. SPEISER. Mr. Chairman, if I can respond.

Chairman STOKES. There was no previous motion that the transcripts be entered into the evidence. You made some reference to when they had been furnished to you. That was this morning.

Mr. LESAR. No.

Chairman STOKES. There was no provision for you to make a motion for this committee to accept into evidence in a public hearing executive committee testimony. You are thereby overruled.

Mr. LESAR. Well, you are using some of this testimony today. You've distributed these documents that you intend to use today. I think they probably have been distributed to the press also.

Now, it would seem only fair and proper that the entire matter be put into the record so that people can judge the full context of it.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Lesar, you are overruled, and we will proceed to the next point.

Mr. SPEISER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Ray, again I ask you to read out loud the first full paragraph from the top of page 3.

Mr. LESAR. Excuse me 1 minute.

All right.

Mr. RAY. Ready?

Mr. SPEISER. Yes, sir.

Mr. RAY.

It is noted that Ray was initially uncooperative and said, "What is all the excitement about. He only killed a nigger. If he had killed a white man, you wouldn't be here. King should have been killed 10 years ago."

That is the paragraph.

Mr. SPEISER. Let me re-read that for the benefit of the people who may not have heard you, Mr. Ray.

What is all the excitement about. He only killed a nigger. If he had killed a white man, you wouldn't be here. King should have been killed 10 years ago.

Now, I ask you, Mr. Ray, is that statement reflective of your attitude toward Dr. King in 1968?

Mr. RAY. I would say no. But, see, at the time of the interview I was in a tavern. And I ran a tavern in a racist neighborhood. And everybody makes these statements, similar statements.

Mr. SPEISER. You admit making this statement?

Mr. RAY. I probably was drunk, if I did say it.

Mr. SPEISER. I am sorry.

Mr. RAY. I said I drink all the time. I was probably drunk if I did. I drink. I make statements, just like I wandered into the wrong house coming up here. You see, I get drunk. I don't know what I am doing sometimes. It is possible I made that statement.

Mr. SPEISER. You have just mentioned that you have heard similar statements made in your tavern, is that correct?

Mr. RAY. The whole South St. Louis makes statements like that.

Mr. SPEISER. Let me ask you at this point, Mr. Ray, if you are familiar with what your brother James' attitude was toward Blacks in 1968?

Mr. LESAR. I would object to the form of the question. It presumes that he knew what James Earl Ray's attitude was.

Mr. SPEISER. I will be more than happy to rephrase the question, Mr. Chairman.

The question, Mr. Ray, is were you familiar with your brother James' attitude toward Blacks in 1968?

Mr. RAY. No. No, I—I am not familiar because the last time I, except for prison or jail, I did not see my brother James since 1949 which is 19 years.

Mr. SPEISER. At this time you have no recollection of James ever conveying to you what his attitudes were toward Blacks?

Mr. RAY. No.

Mr. SPEISER. At this time, Mr. Chairman, I would choose to have marked into evidence and introduced into the record MLK exhibit F-633, and have a copy furnished to the witness. MLK exhibit F-633 is a letter written by the witness, John Ray, to author George McMillan and dated May 28, 1972.

Chairman STOKES. Without objection, it may be entered into the record.

[The information follows:]

George McMillan  
12. Elliard St. 1  
Cambridge, Mass. 02138

MLK Ex. # F-633  
MAR 28 1972

Dear Mr. McMillan:

May 28-1972

I will drop you a few lines to let you know in answer your  
letter:

This was a 10 year age gap in the old man and Carl ages, so in 1935  
Carl could not be in his 20<sup>+</sup> and old man abt Early 30<sup>+</sup>.

I was born 2-14-33. The Birth Cert. says James Stacy Jr.  
the Doctor said He wanted the old man to sign the James, old man  
told him already had one with same name, just the Doc. was drunk, and  
he made a mistake. This was found out in 1961 when old man  
applied for S.S. pension.

The old man said Carl took the check, and he did not know it,  
when he went on the same place the next day, the owner called  
the police on him, Carl flew in took the old man, he knows  
that it was Carl but he couldn't say any thing.

I believe Aunt Jackie figured that Carl and the O.M. got  
William 'Dred' 5 years in prison, when he was 16 years of age.  
He was convicted for Robbing a Lighter Howard out in  
Mississippi River, him and another kid boat the gang members

the Sheriff Larry Patton and <sup>and</sup> Aunt Jackie was pretty <sup>afraid</sup> ~~scared~~,  
they tried to run Carl out of town, and the old man said Carl  
decide to hold her up to season for a season.

It was not a frame house we move into over on Evening, but  
a large Log Home, with an Extra large fireplace, you could  
see between the crack of the logs, the smoke could be seen in the  
Summer, and the wind and snow would blow it away in the  
Winter, We had to stay in bed with 10 or 12 blankets on  
some Winter days. The fireplace had a big pot hung over

V. FEB 28 1977

In Center, where we had our camp, and because the fireplace was no good for heat, if you stand in front you see burning up, while your back see fire and the doors.

There was some confusion about the frame of room frame house.

The O.M. paid a guy for it \$5000, it was sitting on land about 3 miles away. He did not <sup>receive</sup> about 2 months later the O.M. paid to have it move next to the log house, the guy he bought it off of had money, his brother came down and demand \$10000 for the house. He said his brother did not own the house, and did not sell the house, the O.M. either had to move it back or paid the \$10000. He paid.

The old man did they set down there for a couple of years wintering this deal up. The O.M. said if this happen to Carl he would go down and kill both of them, and would up in electric chair.

This would be what you call pushing in prison. A few months later one of these brother was missing 3 cows. Cost 60000 then days, the old man had 3 cows for up in prison.

There was more confusion when Carl who had on a white suit, had cow manure all over it. The old man would not drive him across the bridge, but dump him off on the side. He said he did not want to get arrested, said to expect it was the fact he did not want to pay.

III

MAR 28 1977

There was two Police Patrol on each side of path to the House, I believe there was 56 across

The a.m. always told us, if you want to break in jail, then figure out how to break out, don't call on him.

What Betty Breen Jimmy and the rest of Salbin's <sup>of</sup> coming back from Germany was the order that all married couples ride first class and single ride second.

They almost had a riot on ship when the white Indians who did the fighting had to ride second.

The Police Officer who was the kitchen master had all married German men, and rode first class.

The Police would parade around on the deck with a white hat on her arm, sitting the rest service.

White class

P.S. I read Frank Book, I would like he was just agent for the F.B.I. Frank is one of those liberals from the Eastern Establishment who is trying to prove how smart the F.B.I. is, and what about King fuck. He find out how smart the agents are and him also when he talks the stand on the lawsuit. I don't know whether you heard or not but we'd make a fool out of him, what happen when a lawyer hit a field of him?

Jack



Mr. SPEISER. I am not concerned with the entire letter, Mr. Ray, I am concerned with just a portion of the letter, and that is on page 3, the following paragraph, which I shall read at this time.

What really burns Jimmy and the rest of the soldiers coming back from Germany was the order that all married couples ride first class and single soldiers ride second class. They almost had a riot on the ship when the white soldiers who did the fighting had to ride second. The Black soldiers who were the kitchen workers had all married German girls and rode first class. The Blacks would parade around on the deck with a white girl on his arm getting the best service.

Now, does this statement you made in the letter to author George McMillan serve to refresh your recollection as to any conversations you had with your brother James in which he expressed to you his attitude toward Blacks?

Mr. RAY. You are speaking 30 years ago. You are also speaking, with every soldier onboard in a riot. I expect it would burn anybody up because the whole ship was burned up about it. But, I think this comment was made in, like I say, prior to 1949, which is 20 years—20 years, a different story then.

Mr. SPEISER. Mr. Chairman, at this time I would choose to have marked into evidence and introduced into the record MLK exhibit F-613. I would also ask that a copy be furnished by the clerk to the witness, and that the exhibit be placed in the record at this time.

Chairman STOKES. Without objection, so ordered.

[The information follows:]

Select Committee on Assassinations

U.S. House of Representatives

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

Date 6/28/78

220575

KING Doc. # \_\_\_\_\_

Doc. Index Subject Incoming  
Correspondence

Cross Index Ref.

<u>JEREMY AKERS</u>	<u>ARTHUR HANES</u>	_____
<u>MARLIN RISINBER</u>	<u>RAMON DEL RIO</u>	_____
<u>WM. BRADFORD HUIE</u>	_____	_____
<u>J. B. STONER</u>	<u>MUSTANG</u>	_____
<u>JER</u>	<u>GRACE WARDEN</u>	_____
<u>MONIA RAY</u>	_____	_____
<u>CANIFE</u>	_____	_____
<u>AEROMARINE</u>	_____	_____
<u>C. MC MILLAN</u>	_____	_____

Copy To:

Blakey - Matthews
Wolf - Hutton
Billings

Johnson - Evans
Eberhardt
Hamilton - Hindle

TEAM: # 1

# 2

# 3

# 4

REPORT ON HSCA INTERVIEW WITH WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE  
APRIL 10, 1978, HARTSELLE, ALABAMA

To : Gene Johnson, Mike Eberhardt  
 From : Marlin Risinger  
 Date : April 21, 1978

220575

Jeremy Akers and I interviewed Mr. Huie at his home in Hartselle, Alabama, on April 10, 1978. The interview lasted approximately six hours. The information which Mr. Huie provided is set forth below.

Jerry and John Ray

- JOHN met with Ray the day before the escape from Jeff City and discussed the plan. Huie thinks John may have given Ray some cash. Huie says this was the last time John saw Ray until after the arrest in June, 1968. Huie minimizes any connection between John and James Earl Ray.
- Huie has no knowledge of any relationship between any of the Ray family and J.B. STONER before the assassination.
- JERRY met with Ray only a few days after the escape, before Ray arrived in Chicago, and gave him the pistol which Ray says he got from an unidentified friend just before leaving for Canada. Huie doesn't say where this meeting took place. Ray says he got the pistol from a friend in E. St. Louis. Huie told us several times that he got this story about Jerry and the pistol from JOHN.
- JERRY told Huie that James Earl called him the night before the killing and told him that "Big Nigger" had had it. Huie says Jerry told him this in Huntsville in November, 1968. He recalls that he and Jerry were drinking that evening, but he doesn't think Jerry was drunk or unaware of what he was saying. Huie insists, however, that he did not believe Jerry's story then and does not believe it now. Huie thinks that Jerry will say anything for a few bucks, but that he really doesn't know anything about the case.

(Note, throughout the interview Huie insists that he does not think JERRY knew anything about the killing. It appears from

his earlier and his current remarks that he really does think that Jerry was in close contact with James Earl during this time. His present denials do not seem very convincing.)

- JOHN told Huie in Memphis at the time of the Guilty Plea that James Earl was "crazy about niggers."

- Although he was extremely hesitant, Huie finally acknowledged that FOREMAN told him in 1968-69 that Ray was making all the remarks that Foreman attributes to him in the 1974 deposition. These remarks include -

- Ray left the gun at Canipe's so the boys at Jeffy City would know he had killed King.
- Ray made up Raoul.
- Ray returned to Atlanta after purchasing the rifle in Birmingham.

Huie doesn't remember, however, that Foreman told him that JERRY was with him at Aeromarine.

- Huie says he doesn't have any opinion about MCMILLAN's story that Ray met with JOHN and JERRY in Chicago shortly after the escape and discussed the pornography business. Huie doesn't seem to think too much of the pornography theory.

- Ray did tell Hanes that he stopped in Birmingham for an hour and a half on the way back to Atlanta after the assassination. Hanes did not ask Ray and questions about the stop, and evidently Huie did not instruct Hanes to ask him. Huie tried to locate someone in Birmingham who could substantiate the stopover, but he was unsuccessful.

- Huie never had any proof that Ray met with JERRY in Detroit or Gary, Indiana, after the assassination. He says he told the Grand Jury this only because he figured Ray probably did make such a contact. (Typically, this undermines Huie's claim that he does not think Jerry had any foreknowledge of the crime.)

#### J.B. STONER

Huie acknowledges that he has no evidence that shows STONER had any relationship with a member of the RAY family before the assassination. Huie argues, however, that if anyone were involved in a conspiracy to kill King, it would have been Stoner. He offers three reasons for his feelings.

- Ray spent time in Atlanta, near Stoner's h.q.
- Stoner contacted Ray immediately after the arrest.
- Stoner developed a relationship with Jerry after the arrest.

STONER (cont.)

Huie says that Ray "could" have met with STONER in Birmingham in 1967. Again, he has no evidence.

- Huie says that there are three people who may possibly have had some foreknowledge of the killing: STONER, JERRY, and JOHN.

(It should be noted that Huie freely acknowledges that he and STONER have had a life-long feud over politics and ideology. Huie considers Stoner to be the most dangerous and violent racist in the country.)

ARTHUR HANES

- Huie says that it would be presumptuous of him to assume he knew everything that passed between HANES and Ray. He says, for instance, that he did not know of the change in the contract which Hanes and Ray made in September, 1968. Regarding the "facts of the case," however, Huie figures that he knew everything that Hanes knew, since this full exchange of information was what the contracts signed by Hanes, Huie, and Ray stipulated.

- Huie denies that Ray told HANES the "white sheet story" as a joke. Ray told Hanes this in dead seriousness, and he repeated it to FOREMAN. Huie claims that this was the only story Ray ever gave to his first two attorneys. He does not know when Ray first began to change his story from this version to the gas station version, but he insists it was sometime after the Guilty Plea.

- Huie recalls that the first time Ray ever lied to HANES or him was when he claimed he drove straight from Birmingham to Memphis, instead of returning to Atlanta. Hanes and he knew Ray was lying for several reasons.

- They were unable to locate the motels.
- A reporter (for the Times?) found a laundry slip and a restaurant check which placed Ray in Atlanta after 3/30/68.

- Huie claims that HANES knew that the FBI had tape recordings of some of King's sexual affairs. Although Hanes did not have the tapes in his possession, he intended to get them and use them in the trial to show that a jealous husband may have had a better reason for killing King than Ray had.

- Ray told HANES that he test-fired the 30.06 rifle on the

road to Memphis, somewhere near Corinth, Miss. He says that this doesn't mean that Ray drove to Memphis from Birmingham, since Corinth is on the road from Atlanta as well. As far as Huie knows, Hanes never asked Ray why he fired the rifle if he had no intention of killing King.

- Ray also told HANES that he stopped in Birmingham for an hour and a half during the drive back to Atlanta after the assassination. For some reason, Hanes did not ask Ray why he stopped there, and Huie did not instruct Hanes to ask him. Huie says that he never was able to confirm this stop.

- One of the HANES may have the road maps which Ray filled in for Huie. Huie says that Hanes, Jr., probably has some of his files.

- Huie minimizes the amount of investigating HANES did for the case. Hanes was interested in defending Ray, not in finding the truth.

#### PERCY FOREMAN

- Huie tells us, after persistent questioning, that FOREMAN told him in 1968-69 that Ray was confessing to him the same details that Foreman later outlined in the 1974 Deposition. (see p.2, under "Jerry & John")

- Huie says he told FOREMAN in November, 1968, that Ray was guilty and that there was no money in the case. Huie figures that the reason Foreman made the mistake of accepting the case was that he was extremely busy and did not really think about what he was doing.

- Like HANES, FOREMAN never really conducted any investigation of the case.

- It didn't enter Huie's mind that there might be a Guilty Plea in the case until after FOREMAN became Ray's attorney. Huie suggests that Foreman's friendly relationship with BATTLE facilitated the Plea.

#### RAY AND RACISM

- Huie insists that Ray had a racial motive for killing King.

- Both brothers told Huie that Ray was crazy about blacks.

RAY AND RACISM (cont.)

- Huie talked to two women in St. Francis Hotel about the Rabbit's Foot incident. They told him that Ray was talking about racial attitudes in Alabama and worked himself into a tantrum.
  - Huie located a prostitute in Mexico who remembered a racial incident in a bar (described in Dreamer).
  - Claire Keating told him that Ray made some racist remarks. (described in Dreamer)
  - Ray refused a transfer while at Leavenworth for racial reasons.
- Huie believes that Ray purchased the rifle in Birmingham because he wanted to focus the crime in the South, especially in Alabama. Huie guesses that Ray would have preferred to kill King in Alabama because of Wallace. Ray thought Wallace might be willing to pardon the murderer of a famous civil rights leader.

MISCELLANEOUS INVESTIGATIVE MATTERS

- Huie was never able to disprove the "6-day railroad story" of the escape from Jeff City.
- Huie never had any concrete proof that Ray was smuggling dope in Mexico. Luis Garcia, in Puerto Vallarta, never told him Ray was involved in the trade. Huie just assumed this.
- Huie says he has never heard the story which the Klingemans in Chicago told the FBI Huie had told them: i.e. that Ray had flown from California to Atlanta but had been told that the time was not right; and that Ray had intended to go to Mexico after the assassination and then double back to Canada to throw off the authorities.
- Huie doesn't know why Ray never cashed the Superior Bulk Film. Co. check.
- Huie says that Ray received mail in Birmingham in 1967, but he has no reason to think it was from Jerry. (Huie says in the Grand Jury testimony that this letter was from Jerry.)
- Huie can't explain the three-day gap from 8/21/67, when Ray allegedly crossed the Canadian border back into the U.S., and 8/25/67, when he arrived in Birmingham.
- The two women whom Huie says Ray knew in Birmingham in 1967 (Dreamer) were a dance instructor and someone else whom he

can't remember but who was not very important.

- Huie doesn't know anything about Ramon del Rio or the Mexican police investigation of Ray.

- Huie doesn't remember ever knowing anything about a connection between Ray and Florida. He doesn't remember ever being told by Hanes not to investigate the "Florida addresses."

- Huie writes in the Dreamer that someone other than Ray had a set of keys to the Mustang on April 4, 1968. He is unable to remember whom he had in mind.

- Huie cannot remember the phone call which he told the Grand Jury Ray received on the night of April 2, 1968. He says he doesn't even know where Ray was on that night.

- Huie doesn't think Ray got to Memphis until April 3, 1968, but he can't remember why he settled on that date for Ray's arrival in town.

- In the Dreamer Huie writes that Ray admitted to him that he was stalking King in Selma, Alabama. Huie told us that this "admission" consisted of Ray's neutral response to Huie's charge that he was lying about getting lost in Selma. When Hanes told Ray that Huie didn't believe him, Ray simply responded "O.K."

- For about one week during 1968 or 1969, Huie thought that the FBI might arrest a Greek in New Orleans who frequented the Le Bunny Lounge. As far as he can remember, he doesn't think that the man had anything to do with Liberto or Gulas. The man was never arrested, and Huie cannot remember who he was.

- In his first interview with HSCA (Spring, 1977), Huie said that Ray had contacted some woman in Canada other than Claire Keating. He tells us now that this woman was someone Ray had only corresponded with once or twice through a Lonely Hearts Club. Huie doesn't have any evidence that they ever met. Evidently this is the woman whose address Ray gave to the Canadian police when they stopped him for jaywalking.

- Ray told Kershaw that he agreed with Huie about the story of the fugitive period up to about 48 hours before the assassination.

- Huie was never able to identify a single criminal associate of Ray's during the fugitive period.

- Huie never spoke to anyone who substantiated Curtis' story that Ray expressed an interest in killing King for money while at Jeff City.



- The first artist's conception of the King assassination resembled Gus Prosche. Huie tried to find some connection between Ray and Prosche in Birmingham, but was unsuccessful. He also tried to find some connection between Ray and Ace Carter, Wallace's chief speech writer, but was unsuccessful.
- Huie never did learn the exact route Ray followed on his drive from Memphis to Atlanta after the assassination.
- Huie thinks that there definitely was someone in the Mustang besides Ray. How else explain the cigarette ashes and clothes that were too small for Ray.
- Huie never bothered with Grace Walden or Charlie Stevens, because by the time he got into the case both of them had told at least 5 contradictory stories.
- Huie figures that Ray probably did send money out of Jeff City to his family, but he has no proof.

#### THE HUIE FILES

- Huie doesn't know where his files are - probably with Hanes, Jr., McMillan, Frank, etc.
- Huie admits that some of the quotes in Dreamer were composites of the "20,000 Words" and things that Ray had told Hanes.

#### Miscellaneous

- Charles Edmondson, with the Commercial-Appeal in Memphis, worked for Huie at one time or another. Ray also had a Canadian reporter working for him.

Mr. SPEISER. This exhibit——

Mr. LESAR. Excuse me. Did you say by the court?

Mr. SPEISER. If I did, excuse me.

Mr. LESAR. It is a grievous mistake. Evidence has been admitted here before this body before we even sat at the table. There was no attempt——

Mr. SPEISER. I believe I said by the clerk, excuse me. I stand to be corrected. I believe I said by the clerk.

Mr. LESAR. If I misunderstood you, I apologize. It certainly strained my credulity.

Mr. SPEISER. This exhibit, Mr. Chairman, is a report of an interview that was conducted by this committee with author, William Bradford Huie.

On page 2 of this interview——

Mr. LESAR. Excuse me, counsel, Mr. Speiser. Would you prefer me to refer to you as Mr. Speiser or——

Mr. SPEISER. Either way will suffice.

Mr. LESAR. Fine. I have a preliminary question about this interview. I read it last night. The committee delivered materials to my office about 5 p.m. last night, some 125 pages, apparently so that it would be able to make a pretense of that we had——

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Lesar, perhaps it would be helpful to you if I were to explain to you the role of counsel before a congressional committee.

Under the rules of the House, your sole purpose here is to give advice to your client. The Chair will bend over backward to give you every right to do that. I am not going to permit you to make a running commentary in this congressional hearing.

Now, I admonish you for the reason that I am not going to tolerate this to continue. You have now been advised of your role before a congressional hearing. I am going to ask you to comply with it.

Mr. LESAR. Now, other counsel who have appeared——

Chairman STOKES. I am not interested in other counsel. I am talking about you and this witness in this congressional hearing.

Mr. LESAR. I see. We are a special case.

Chairman STOKES. No; you are not special, sir. You can believe that.

Mr. LESAR. Well, then, let's——

Chairman STOKES. Sir, there is nothing before the Chair. And I am not going to tolerate any further conversation with you.

Mr. LESAR. I am objecting to the admission of this because this is an unsworn statement. It is double hearsay or even more. It appears that this is dated April 21, 1978. It appears that Mr. Huie was not sworn. Apparently Mr. Huie——

Chairman STOKES. Make your objection. Do you know how to make an objection?

Mr. LESAR. Yes.

Chairman STOKES. Make your objection and stop. You have made your objection. And your objection is overruled.

Mr. LESAR. The Chair——

Chairman STOKES. Your objection is overruled.

Proceed, Mr. Speiser.

Mr. SPEISER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Ray, I am concerned with the statement that was made by Mr. Huie to our investigators concerning a statement made by you to Mr. Huie.

According to Mr. Huie, as is reflected in the first full paragraph from the top of the second page of that interview, you told Huie in Memphis at the time of the guilty plea that James Earl Ray was crazy about niggers.

Now, do you have any recollection of making such a statement?

Mr. RAY. Well, I can't interpret that statement. I have no recollection if I can't interpret it anyway. What do you mean by—

Mr. SPEISER. Well, does this statement serve to refresh your recollection—

Mr. RAY. No.

Mr. SPEISER [continuing]. Of any attitude that James Earl Ray expressed toward Blacks that he might have conveyed to you?

Mr. RAY. I don't recall making that statement.

Mr. LESAR. Counsel, could you advise me as to—yesterday it developed during the hearing that Mr. George McMillan, who has been used as a basis for an attack to the credibility of Jerry Ray and James Earl Ray and John Ray, had not ever been put under oath by this committee.

Has Mr. Huie ever been put under oath by this committee?

Chairman STOKES. Counsel, you are not to reply to that.

Mr. Lesar, have you been provided with a copy of the rules of this committee?

Mr. LESAR. Yes.

Chairman STOKES. And let me at this time refer you, sir, to rule 3 entitled "Hearing Procedures" which I am going to read the pertinent parts of so that hereafter the Chair can invoke these procedures in the event that you don't comply.

Section 3 which says: "Witnesses at investigative hearings may be accompanied by their own counsel for the purpose of advising them concerning their constitutional rights."

And 4 which says: "The chairman may punish breaches of order and decorum and professional ethics on the part of counsel by censure and exclusion from the hearings, and the committee may cite the offender to the House for contempt."

Sir, I merely say to you that if you want to test me, that you can try.

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman—

Chairman STOKES. I let you know that now.

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman, I will let you know right now that I do not intend to flinch 1 inch from that threat.

Chairman STOKES. And neither does the Chair intend to flinch 1 inch from the rules of the House of Representatives.

Mr. LESAR. I—

Chairman STOKES. Proceed, Mr. Speiser.

Mr. SPEISER. Thank you very much, Mr. Stokes.

At this time, Mr. Ray, I would like to shift the focus of the inquiry from any attitude that you or your brothers may have possessed toward Dr. King, to the escape of your brother, James Earl Ray, from the Missouri State Prison.

You are aware, are you not, that James was incarcerated at the Missouri State Prison in Jefferson City, Mo., from March 1960 until April 23, 1967. Are you aware of that fact?

Mr. RAY. Correct.

Mr. SPEISER. Where were you primarily residing during that period of time?

Let me be a little more specific. During the period of 1967 and 1968, where was your primary residence then?

Mr. RAY. What years was it?

Mr. SPEISER. 1967 and 1968.

Mr. RAY. St. Louis.

Mr. SPEISER. How were you employed?

Mr. RAY. 1967-68, I had a tavern.

Mr. SPEISER. Prior to the tavern in 1967?

Mr. RAY. I was employed as a—well, I can't actually—I was employed as a bartender for 4 or 5 years at Indian Hills Golf Club in—

Mr. SPEISER. Again, I am trying to focus upon a period of 1967. Your brother James escaped in April 1967. Are you aware of that fact?

Mr. RAY. 1967?

Mr. SPEISER. April 1967.

Mr. RAY. Yes; that is correct.

Mr. SPEISER. And what were you doing on or about that period of time in terms of employment?

Mr. RAY. I can't—I can't—I believe I was a painter.

Mr. SPEISER. Well, when James was incarcerated in Missouri State Prison, did you have occasion to have telephone calls with him?

Mr. RAY. No.

Mr. SPEISER. You never spoke with James by telephone?

Mr. RAY. No; I don't recall.

Mr. SPEISER. Did you ever write to your brother James?

Mr. RAY. Yes; I imagine I had, yes.

Mr. SPEISER. Would you write to him and he write back to you, or was it a one way line of communication?

Mr. RAY. It would be two ways.

Mr. SPEISER. How far was St. Louis from the Missouri State Prison?

Mr. RAY. Oh, I guess, I would say 120 miles.

Mr. SPEISER. 120 miles?

Mr. RAY. Guessing, yes.

Mr. SPEISER. About a 2-hour drive?

Mr. RAY. Three hours I guess.

Mr. SPEISER. Did you have a car at that time?

Mr. RAY. I can't recall whether I did or not. I had so many automobiles I actually don't know.

Mr. SPEISER. I am not asking you what type of car you had. I am asking you if you had a car.

Did you generally have a car?

Mr. RAY. Well, most of the time, but not all the time.

Mr. SPEISER. Did you have the occasion to visit your brother James at any time while he was incarcerated at the Missouri State Prison?

Mr. RAY. Yes.

Mr. SPEISER. At this time, Mr. Chairman, I would choose to have marked into the record and introduced into the evidence MLK exhibit F-634, which exhibit reflects according to the records of the Missouri State Prison the dates that the witness, John Larry Ray, visited his brother James while he was incarcerated at that institution.

[The information follows:]

17/80 Registration No. 00416	Inmate RAY, James Earl (20)
Name of Visitor Mary Maher	Address 1913 Hickory St. St. Louis, Mo. Relation Grandmother
Signature of Visitor	
Name of Visitor John Ray (R) 1/9/62	Relation Brother R 9-14-61
Address 1918 Park Avenue, St. Louis, Mo. (R) Pass 6/8/66	Signature John Ray
1/9/63	
1/13/63	
1/21/63	
2/4/63	
2/11/63	
2/18/63	
2/25/63	
3/4/63	
3/11/63	
3/18/63	

MLK EXHIBIT F-634

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman STOKES. Yes, counsel.

Mr. LESAR. Just prior to the hearing this morning I had a brief conference with, I think, first an assistant counsel for the staff, and then later with Mr. Blakey about the question of immunity for John Ray.

And you probably will not personally recall, because I don't believe you were present, but in the executive sessions, on the executive session of April 18, 1978, immunity was conferred upon John Ray. He has now been—he was resubpenaed in this November, and, however, because of his arrest in St. Louis he is here as a result of a petition for writ of habeas corpus ad testificandum and pursuant to the continuing subpoena rather than the subsequent subpoena.

And I was uncertain, and the counsel for the committee said he always was uncertain as to the—whether or not the immunity previously conferred upon Mr. Ray was continuing under these circumstances.

And we both agreed that in order to resolve any uncertainties, in the interest of my client, that we ought to proceed to immunize him under the new order.

And so I would request that we do that, and I think it would be appropriate that—I think it would be appropriate that we again choose the question which was selected by the committee as an

appropriate one to plead immunity in the executive session. And that was the question regarding prior knowledge of James Earl Ray's escape from the Missouri Penitentiary.

Chairman STOKES. In order for the witness to be able to invoke the immunity order provisions, it will be necessary for him to assert his constitutional rights under the fifth amendment.

Is the witness doing that at this time?

Mr. LESAR. I would so advise him.

Chairman STOKES. All right. The witness will have to answer, Mr. Lesar.

Mr. RAY. On advice of counsel, I now take the fifth amendment.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Speiser, are you prepared to confer immunity upon the witness?

Mr. SPEISER. Yes, Mr. Chairman.

On November 13 this committee went before U.S. District Court Judge Charles Bryant and secured from him an immunity order which will be effective upon the assertion by Mr. Ray of his fifth amendment privilege. And this immunity order, which I would choose to have introduced into the record as MLK exhibit F-630, is before you at this time.

[The information follows:]

## MLK EXHIBIT F-630

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

In the Matter of the Application of  
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

Misc. No. 78-0327

**FILED**

NOV 13 1978

ORDER  
CONFERRING IMMUNITY UPON AND  
COMPELLING TESTIMONY FROM JOHN LARRY RAY

JAMES F. DAVEY, Clerk

The United States House of Representatives Select Committee on Assassinations having made written application, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Sections 6002 and 6005, for an order conferring immunity upon John Larry Ray and compelling him to testify and provide other information before the Subcommittee on the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. of the Select Committee on Assassinations or the full Select Committee, and the court finding that all procedures specified by § 6005 have been duly followed, it is hereby, this ~~13<sup>th</sup>~~ day of November, 1978,

ORDERED, that John Larry Ray in accordance with the provisions of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 6002 and 6005, shall not be excused from testifying or providing other information before the Subcommittee on the Assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. of the Select Committee on Assassinations or the full Select Committee on the grounds that the testimony or other information sought may tend to incriminate him.

ORDERED FURTHER, that John Larry Ray appear when subpoenaed by said Subcommittee or Committee and testify and provide such other information that is sought with respect to matters under inquiry by said Subcommittee or Committee.

AND IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no testimony or other information compelled under this order (or any information directly or indirectly derived from such testimony or other information) may be used against John Larry Ray in any criminal case, except a prosecution for perjury, giving a false statement or otherwise failing to comply with this ORDER.

  
United States District Judge

Dated: <sup>13</sup> NOV 13 1978

United States District Court  
for the District of Columbia  
CIVIL DIVISION

WALTER E. SMITH, CLERK

By   
Sophie Lyman

Mr. SPEISER. I would, therefore, request, Mr. Chairman, that you direct John Larry Ray to answer the question.

Chairman STOKES. The exhibit, without objection, is hereby entered into the record.

Pursuant to the court order conferring immunity upon the witness, you are advised at this time, Mr. Ray, that an immunity has been conferred upon you by a court of law and, accordingly, you are directed to answer the question put to you.

Mr. LESAR. Before he answers, I think there is an exhibit in connection with this we have not yet been given.

May we have it?

Chairman STOKES. Exhibit F-634.

Mr. SPEISER. Yes, Mr. Chairman, just to clear up the record.

Chairman STOKES. Furnish counsel with a copy of that.

Mr. LESAR. May I have a copy of that, too?

Mr. SPEISER. That was the interview of Mr. Huie.

Mr. LESAR. All right, fine. We do have that one.

Chairman STOKES. Any further objection?

Mr. LESAR. No.



Chairman STOKES. All right, sir.

You are directed to answer counsel's question.

Do you recall the question?

Mr. LESAR. Could we have the question repeated, please?

Chairman STOKES. Counsel, repeat the question, please.

Mr. SPEISER. I have at this time introduced into the record MLK exhibit F-634, and I ask you whether this record accurately reflects the dates that you visited your brother, James Earl Ray, while he was incarcerated at the Missouri State Prison?

Mr. RAY. I could not remember any dates.

Mr. LESAR. Let me, for the record, read the dates that appear on this document. There are actually two parts to the document.

The first says "name of visitor, Mary Maher", and it lists her as a grandmother of James Earl Ray, and then below that it says "name of visitor, John Ray, (R) 1/9/62" and lists him as a brother. And the dates appear to be "10/17/62; 7/7/63; 11/3/63; 11/17/63."

The next one is difficult to make out because there is a slash through it, but it appears to be "5/6/65." Following that "7/10/66; 11/13/66; 12/20/66." And then in the next column it appears to be "4/22/67."

Chairman STOKES. Is the answer of the witness the fact that he does not recall those visits?

Mr. RAY. No; I do not recall them.

Chairman STOKES. Proceed, Mr. Speiser.

Mr. SPEISER. Mr. Ray, I am particularly concerned with the last visit that is reflected on that record. That is the visit on April 22, 1967. That was the day prior to the escape of your brother from the Missouri State Prison.

I ask you at this time, do you have any recollection of visiting your brother James the day preceding his escape from the State Prison?

Mr. RAY. I do not have no recollection of that.

Mr. SPEISER. Do you have any reason to offer this committee at this time as to why this record before you would not be accurate?

Mr. RAY. I did not say it wasn't accurate. I just said I don't recall visiting that certain day.

Mr. SPEISER. Well, let me attempt to further refresh your recollection by advising you of the fact that your brother, James, testified under oath in a deposition on December 2, 1977, to this committee that you, John, were probably the brother who visited him on April 22, 1967, the day prior to his escape.

Mr. LESAR. Excuse me, may we have, I believe that has been marked as an exhibit, and I would like to have the reference to it so I can locate it.

Mr. SPEISER. No problem, counsel. That is MLK exhibit F-635, which I shall request be marked into evidence and introduced into the record at this time and that a copy be furnished to the witness.

Chairman STOKES. Without objection, it may be entered into the record at this point.

[MLK exhibit F-635 follows:]

Q. What amounts would that of been?

A. Oh, very, very small.

Q. Like what?

A. During the seven year period?

Q. Yes.

A. It couldn't of been over a hundred, hundred dollars over the seven years. Because I never asked for any money, if I'd of asked for it it would of been different.

Q. How much money did you send out including these checks to the Pepper Stationery Company?

A. At most it must of been 200.

Q. Who visited you before you escaped?

A. Uh, it was John, uh, well it was one of my brothers that visited a couple of days before I escaped.

Q. Which one.

A. John or Jerry, I'm too positive now which one it was. It was, I believe it was John, I'm not certain.

Q. What happened during that meeting?

A. Uh, nothing.

Q. Did you tell him that you were going to come out?

A. No, I didn't tell him anything. That would of been illegal.

Q. Why not?

A. Uh, I don't know. I don't -- I can't remember all what I told him, but I mean they all knew, both Jerry and John knew that I was thinking about escaping. So, it wouldn't of been no revelation if I, if I would of mentioned something

MLK EXHIBIT F-635

Mr. SPEISER. Let me read the pertinent portion of that question and answer segment.

*Question.* Who visited you before you escaped?

*Answer.* Uh, it was John, uh, well, it was one of my brothers that visited a couple of days before I escaped.

*Question.* Which one?

*Answer.* John or Jerry. I'm too positive now which one it was. It was, I believe it was John. I'm not certain.

Mr. LESAR. Excuse me, counsel; it would just appear from the reading of it that there is a typographical error or something left out of that sentence. I would suggest it should read: "John or Jerry, I am not too positive now which one it was." Otherwise, it doesn't seem to make any sense.

Mr. SPEISER. I am willing to go along with your observation.

Mr. LESAR. My construction of it, yes.

Mr. SPEISER. I don't think that changes the import of Mr. James Earl Ray's statement here, that is, "It was, I believe, I believe it was John." Having had this statement—

Mr. LESAR. He adds after that, "I am not certain."

Mr. SPEISER. Thank you. The document speaks for itself.

Mr. Ray, having had an opportunity to have this statement of your brother brought to your attention, does it serve to refresh your recollection of having visited your brother James the day prior to his escape?

Mr. RAY. I don't recall it, no. Actually I don't—his—the—Jerry, my visiting pass, Jerry used it sometimes. I used it sometimes, and a guy named John Gawron, I believe, used it sometimes.

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Speiser, I would like to assist the committee on this matter.

I am advised that there was an FBI investigation of this, and that the result of that FBI investigation would be favorable to my client's testimony, and I would like to request that we be provided with a copy of any FBI documents pertaining to that.

Mr. SPEISER. Mr. Lesar, I am not aware of any particular document that you are alluding to but putting aside your statement I am concerned with the response of your client, not the final product of the FBI's investigation, if there was one. I am concerned with an answer from your client.

Mr. LESAR. Well, I understand that.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Lesar, at this point will you let the witness proceed to reply to counsel's questions?

Mr. LESAR. Well, excuse me.

Chairman STOKES. You are out of order in terms of your request at this point and, accordingly, the Chair would extend to you or your client at the conclusion of his testimony 5 minutes during which time you may explain or amplify any portion of his testimony.

Mr. Ray, will you answer the question?

Mr. RAY. Just a minute, sir.

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Ray has requested that you advise him as to the date of James Earl Ray's escape.

Mr. SPEISER. The date of his escape was April 23, 1967.

Mr. LESAR. All right. No; go ahead.

Mr. RAY. What was the question?

Mr. SPEISER. I have been attempting to try and refresh your recollection both through introducing into evidence a copy of your visitor's record as well as a statement from your brother, James, under oath, both pointing to the fact that you visited your brother, James, on April 22, 1967. I am asking you for the last time; do both these facts serve to refresh your recollection of having visited your brother, James, on that date?

Mr. RAY. I don't recall visiting him on that date.

Mr. SPEISER. Do you deny you visited him on that date?

Mr. RAY. I don't deny it, no. I just said I don't recall it.

Mr. SPEISER. Let's proceed.

Were you aware that your brother, James, had made two prior unsuccessful attempts to escape from the Missouri State Prison in 1961 and in 1966?

Mr. RAY. I expect maybe I did, yes.

Mr. SPEISER. How were those brought to your attention?

Mr. RAY. Well, he told me about them all, all, I guess he must have told me about it. If I did, if I had knowledge of it. You see, he tried—

Mr. LESAR. Never mind; go ahead. Proceed.

Mr. SPEISER. Did you assist James in his efforts to escape from prison in 1961 and 1966?

Mr. RAY. No.

Mr. SPEISER. On both occasions he was unsuccessful?

Mr. RAY. No.

Mr. SPEISER. When was the first time that you learned your brother James Earl Ray had escaped from the Missouri State Prison?

Mr. RAY. Well, I guess when I read about it in the paper.

Mr. SPEISER. You mean—

Mr. RAY. The capture I can't recall; later on, a year later, a year and a half later.

Mr. SPEISER. What do you recall reading in the paper that served to—

Mr. RAY. When he was a suspect of being a fugitive from the King assassination.

Mr. SPEISER. James escaped on April 23, 1967. On April 19, 1968, he was identified as a suspect in the assassination of Dr. King. It's your testimony today that it was not until April 19, 1968, almost a year later that you first became aware that your brother had escaped from the Missouri State Prison?

Mr. RAY. I can't recall being aware. It's possible, but I can't recall of being aware. I can't remember him escaping.

Mr. SPEISER. But it's your testimony you may have been aware of it?

Mr. RAY. It's possible I was aware but I can't recall being aware of it. Someone could have told me and now I have forgot about it, see.

Mr. SPEISER. Following your last visit, assuming that you actually made that visit on April 22, 1967, to your brother, did you make any subsequent attempt to visit your brother at the Missouri State Prison?

Mr. RAY. I don't know.

Mr. SPEISER. Assuming the accuracy of your testimony then, your last visit, according to this record, was on April 22, 1967. James was identified on April 19, 1968. You made no attempt to visit your brother in that entire year period?

Mr. RAY. 1967—

Mr. SPEISER. Mr. Chairman, I sense every time I ask a question to the witness I am getting his counsel's response rather than the witness' response.

Mr. LESAR. No; you are not.

Mr. SPEISER. There is no problem in an attorney conferring with his client, but every time I ask a question I don't know whether I am getting Mr. Ray's response or Mr. Lesar's response.

Mr. LESAR. Let me explain part of the problem, if I will be allowed to finish my statement this time.

Part of the problem is because this committee, contrary to normal practice, has not allowed my client to have a copy of the transcript of his testimony. Therefore, we have these 200 or 300 pages of previous testimony that he has not had a chance to go over. I have had a partial opportunity to go over it but not to retain my notes on it.

Therefore, I must confer with him and remind him of things in a transcript which he has not had any opportunity to review because of the games that this committee has been playing.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Lesar, if you are familiar with the rules of the House and the rules of this committee you would know that it is not contrary to normal procedure. No witness who testifies before an executive session of the Congress is entitled to a copy of that executive transcript. He is entitled to access to it, which has been given to you as counsel for him.

Mr. LESAR. Would you like the copy of a transcript of a witness who testified in executive session?

Chairman STOKES. Sir, you are out of order. I have told you that before. I am not going to continue to admonish you in that respect either.

Mr. SPEISER. I believe I have a pending question, Mr. Ray.

Mr. LESAR. Would you repeat the question, please?

Mr. SPEISER. Again, James Earl Ray escaped on April 22, 1967. He was identified as the assassin on April 19, 1968 which, according to your testimony, may be the first time that you were aware that he had escaped.

My question to you is that in that almost 1 year period you made no effort to go visit your brother, call him or write?

Mr. RAY. Well, what about it? From November 17, 1963, to April 6, 1965, I did not visit him there.

Mr. SPEISER. Just answer my question.

Mr. RAY. I didn't actually hear your question, when you asked me, see.

Mr. SPEISER. During that entire period, almost 1 year, you made no effort to visit, call or write your brother, James, who was only 2 hours away from you?

Mr. RAY. I guess I didn't make the effort. There is nothing unusual about it, because between, between one visit here, it was almost 2 years, from 1963-65. So that wouldn't be unusual.

Mr. SPEISER. Let me ask you this, Mr. Ray. While a resident of the St. Louis area did you ever have occasion to read the newspapers?

Mr. RAY. Well, they are on strike now. So you can't tell, see.

Mr. SPEISER. Well, let's focus on a period of 1967 and 1968. Did you read the newspapers at all?

Mr. RAY. Occasionally.

Mr. SPEISER. At this time, Mr. Chairman, I would choose to have marked into the record MLK exhibit F-637 and that a copy be furnished to the witness.

This is a copy of a news article that appeared in the St. Louis Post Dispatch on April 24, 1967.

Chairman STOKES. Without objection, it may be entered into the record.

[MLK exhibit F-637 follows:]

<sup>#-24-67 DP</sup>  
**CONVICT SOUGHT  
 AFTER HIS THIRD  
 EFFORT TO ESCAPE**

Special to the Post-Dispatch

JEFFERSON CITY, April 24 — James Earl Ray, St. Louis, has made his third attempt to escape from the state penitentiary here, but it still was not clear this morning whether he had finally succeeded.

He has been missing since 5 p.m. yesterday when inmates returned to their cells after the evening meal. 8137

"Frankly we don't know whether he is outside the walls or inside," Warden Harold R. Swenson said. "He is a hide-out guy. Last year, he hid out inside the prison and it took us more than a day to find him."

In that attempt, Ray was found hiding in a ventilation shaft. He tried to escape in 1961, but was discovered hiding in the dry cleaning plant after a makeshift ladder he had built to scale the walls apparently collapsed under his weight.

Ray entered the penitentiary in March 1960 to serve 20 years on a charge of armed robbery in St. Louis. He is 30 years old.

MLK EXHIBIT F-637

Mr. SPEISER. The caption of this news article is "Convict sought after his third effort to escape."

Did you have the occasion to read this article at the time it appeared in the St. Louis Post Dispatch?

Mr. RAY. I can't say whether I was in St. Louis or not at a certain date. I have no, I have never read this paper myself, I have never read this article showing this date here, April 24, to my knowledge, or I would probably remember. But, I am not sure I was in St. Louis April 24. I'm out of town quite a bit.

Mr. SPEISER. It's your testimony you have no recollection of reading this article?

Mr. RAY. No.

Mr. SPEISER. Do you have, did anybody—presumably one of your neighbors—ever bring to your attention the fact that in the newspapers or on the radio there was a report that your brother, James Earl Ray, had escaped?

Mr. RAY. Well, I don't associate with neighbors too much, so even where I live at now, so they wouldn't actually—I didn't actually—they wouldn't have no reason to know that this was my brother anyway, because I don't, you know, advertise my past life to the neighbors or anybody else.

Mr. SPEISER. Do you deny that anybody ever told you that your brother, James, had escaped from the Missouri State Prison?

Mr. RAY. I don't deny it, but I can't recall anybody ever making such a statement.

Mr. SPEISER. Are you aware that your brother, Jerry, testified here yesterday?

Mr. RAY. I heard he did.

Mr. SPEISER. Let me remind you—

Mr. LESAR. Excuse me, let me clarify that response.

He heard that he testified, not that he heard the testimony.

Mr. SPEISER. I understand. Your brother, Jerry, testified yesterday, and his testimony in part confirmed a statement he made in executive session, and that is that he felt very sure that he had told you that James had escaped, and that he had met with James on at least two occasions.

Now, having had this statement brought to your attention, again, I ask you, did anyone advise you that James had escaped prior to the announcement on April 19, 1968, that he was the suspected assassin of Dr. King?

Mr. LESAR. Counsel, could we be provided with a copy of the transcript of that testimony?

Mr. SPEISER. Well, I don't have available a copy of the transcript of his testimony yesterday.

Mr. LESAR. Well, the counsel is put in the position of testifying. You are testifying as to something, and I think that is highly improper. It's elementary.

Chairman STOKES. Objection is sustained.

Mr. LESAR. For the record, it's our recollection that Jerry Ray's testimony was other than counsel has represented it. We do not think that he said that he felt very sure, and that there were other qualifiers put there. But we, too, cannot be sure unless we have a transcript.

Chairman STOKES. Objection has been sustained.

Counsel will proceed to another question.

Mr. SPEISER. One more series of questions in this area, Mr. Ray. Do you know Walter Rife?

Mr. RAY. Yes.

Mr. SPEISER. How do you know Mr. Rife?

Mr. RAY. Oh, association, from prison association.

Mr. SPEISER. Did you serve any time in prison with him?

Mr. RAY. Yes.

Mr. SPEISER. At this time, Mr. Chairman, I would choose to have marked into the record MLK exhibit F-640, and that a copy be furnished by the clerk to Mr. Ray.

This exhibit is a two-page report of an interview with Walter Rife. I would like to direct your attention to page 2, second to the last paragraph on that page.

Chairman STOKES. Without objection, it may be entered and made a part of the record at this point.

[MLK exhibit F-640 follows:]

MLK EXHIBIT F-640

INTERVIEWED: 3/2/78 TIME INTERVIEWED: 12 Noon  
 PLACE INTERVIEWED: Residence RR1 Farmington, Ill. 5C  
 NAME: RIFE, Walter  
 DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
 HOME ADDRESS: RR1 Farmington, Ill.  
 BUSINESS ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 HOME TELEPHONE: 309-245-2616 BUSINESS TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ASSOCIATES: JER, John Ray, Jerry Ray  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 MLK INVESTIGATION CONNECTION: Prior contact with John, Jerry and James Earl Ray  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

INTERVIEW STATEMENT:

RIFE was interviewed at his place of residence near Farmington Illinois by Staff Investigator Baetz. RIFE stated that he was acquainted with JER through both childhood contact and adult activities.

RIFE stated that he knew JER "off and on" until 1955.

RIFE stated that JER did not exhibit racial prejudice during his childhood and that in RIFE's estimation, JER's philosophy towards blacks was one of "the least he had to do with them, the better off he would be" however RIFE states that JER never made statements which would indicate that he had "anything personal against negroes".

RIFE stated that following his imprisonment in USP Leavenworth with JER following their arrest and conviction for theft of postal money orders, he did not have contact with JER until about two weeks before the assassination of MLK. At that time, RIFE states that JER came



to where RIFE was living in Quincy, Illinois, at 218 LIND St.,  
 wanted RIFE to travel to New Orleans with him. RIFE states that  
 JER told him that he (JER) "had a deal down there about some stuff  
 to go into Cuba". RIFE states that he advised JER that he did not want  
 to get involved in anything like that.

RIFE stated that he had been in touch with Jerry Ray prior to that  
 incident and he assumes that Jerry Ray furnished his address in Quincy to

When asked whether RIFE had positive knowledge of any criminal  
 activities that JER may have engaged in during 1967-1968, RIFE replied  
 that "he knew that JER had hit some places", however when pressed on  
 it RIFE advised that he could not or would not name specific robberies.

RIFE advised that he had personal knowledge of who assisted <sup>JAMES</sup> JER in  
 the escape from <sup>Missouri</sup> Jefferson City and when pressed, advised that John  
 Ray had assisted <sup>him</sup> by picking him up on a highway near Jefferson City  
 following the escape. RIFE was asked how he knew this and he advised  
 that he had been incarcerated with John at <sup>USP</sup> Leavenworth after the  
 King assassination and that during the course of conversation with John  
 Ray, Ray had volunteered this information to RIFE. =

RIFE disclaims any other contact with JER during the escape period  
 and with the exception of the conversation with John Ray about the  
 escape of JER, RIFE could furnish no other information of value.

Signed: 

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. SPEISER. Let me read out loud to you, Mr. Ray, the relevant portion, and let me ask you a question on that.

Mr. LESAR. Counsel, I would like to raise an objection to this document on the grounds that it is unsworn hearsay and, second, it is a report by Conrad Baetz, who himself was under investigation by this committee for improper activities, and I think it's highly improper that it be admitted.

Chairman STOKES. Objection is overruled.

Proceed.

Mr. SPEISER. Thank you, Mr. Stokes.

The paragraph I am concerned with reads as follows:

Rife advised that he had personal knowledge of who assisted James Earl Ray in the escape from the Missouri State Prison, Jefferson City, and when pressed advised that John Ray had assisted James Earl Ray by picking him up on a highway near Jefferson City following the escape. Rife was asked how he knew this and he advised that he had been incarcerated with John at the U.S. Penitentiary at Leavenworth after the King assassination and that during the course of conversation with John Ray, Ray had volunteered this information to Rife.

Is this statement accurate?

Mr. RAY. No. I was—it's inaccurate, and I might add that Rife is noted throughout all prison systems as being a more or less a certified liar. He is well known for fabrications and stuff like that.

Mr. LESAR. Counsel, information has been provided to me that a Federal charge against Mr. Rife was dropped.

Do you have any information on that?

Chairman STOKES. The inquiry is out of order.

Proceed, counsel.

Mr. SPEISER. Did you help your brother escape?

Mr. RAY. No.

Mr. SPEISER. Mr. Chairman, at this time I would request that MLK exhibit F-644, previously introduced into the record, be furnished Mr. Ray. This is a letter to John Ray dated July 15, 1968.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. LESAR. Excuse me, may we have the exhibit, please?

Mr. SPEISER. Yes; I have requested the clerk to furnish you a copy.

If you will hold on she will provide it to you shortly.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Lesar, weren't you furnished last night with copies of all of these documents? Has there been any document we have questioned the witness from this morning that you were not furnished last night?

Mr. LESAR. On that I am not certain. I think there is one that I was furnished this morning. But I think it's more pertinent simply to say that I would have—It would—it would occupy a great deal more of the committee's time if I had to search through the mass of documents that was given me to obtain a copy. So I think—

Chairman STOKES. The question is you were furnished with copies?

Mr. LESAR. Oh, yes, I was, after working hours last night.

Now, Mr. Counsel, could you tell me the source of this letter? How was this letter obtained?

Chairman STOKES. Counsel, do you have a question before the witness here?

<sup>1</sup> See text, supra, at 7.

Mr. SPEISER. Yes. I was in the middle of posing a question, Mr. Chairman, and if I can begin again.

Mr. LESAR. I am trying to establish whether or not this was illegally obtained.

Mr. SPEISER. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman STOKES. Would counsel please restate his question and, again, Mr. Lesar, I am going to ask you to refrain from trying the Chair.

Mr. LESAR. Well now, every American citizen has a constitutional right not to have his mail intercepted.

Chairman STOKES. Counsel, you are out of order.

Proceed, Mr. Speiser.

Mr. SPEISER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

This is a two-page letter that is addressed to John Ray and it's dated July 15, 1968, and it is signed by Lord Rolf Sneyd, one of the aliases that your brother James Earl Ray utilized.

Before you are three pages. The Xerox copy of the letter was two pages. The last paragraph of that page was crossed out. This paragraph was deciphered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the three sentences that are crossed out in the last paragraph are restated in type on the third page of the three pages that are before you.

I would like to read that statement at this time. This again is a letter from Lord Rolf Sneyd, who has been identified to this committee as your brother, James Earl Ray, to you.

Don't discuss any part of this case with anyone until I get back especially the libel part. I think pity will have a good thing. If you see Fu Manchu or the Tongue tell them am OK. Take it easy.

My question to you initially, Mr. Ray, is who is Fu Manchu?

Mr. RAY. I don't—I have no recall on who. A movie character, I guess. I heard that name before but I don't know who he is.

Mr. SPEISER. Do you know who the "Tongue" is?

Mr. RAY. No.

Mr. SPEISER. When you received this letter from James did you ever inquire of him who he was alluding to if you did not know who these people were?

Mr. RAY. Well, it was all crossed out. I didn't have no decipher way, because—so, I wouldn't actually know what it said.

Mr. SPEISER. Let me ask you this: Did you cross out that last paragraph?

Mr. RAY. No, not to my knowledge. Not—why would I cross it out?

Mr. SPEISER. I am asking you did you cross that last paragraph out?

Mr. RAY. I don't actually remember this letter. I don't remember all the correspondence I get from certain individuals. I am just guessing. It's my name on it, it's mine.

Mr. SPEISER. I don't believe I received a response from you. Is your answer no? You did not cross out this last paragraph?

Mr. RAY. I can't say I did not cross it out because I don't know. Where did the letter come from? Was it sent to me?

Mr. SPEISER. Yes, Mr. Ray, this letter, in fact, was turned over by you to Mr. McMillan. I am asking you did you cross out this last paragraph?

Mr. RAY. I can't recall crossing this out. I wouldn't see no reason to cross it out myself.

Mr. SPEISER. Let me ask you one more question based on this letter, Mr. Ray. The first sentence says: "Don't discuss any part of this case with anyone until I get back, especially the libel part."

Did you have any information about the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King as of the date of this letter that your brother did not want you to convey to the press or to any law enforcement authorities?

What did he mean by that statement?

Mr. RAY. Well, I was trying to figure out the date on here.

What was your question?

Mr. SPEISER. Again, I ask you, focusing upon this first sentence of this letter, "Don't discuss any part of this case with anyone until I get back, especially the libel part", did you have any information about the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King as of the date of this letter, July 15, 1968, which your brother did not want you to tell anyone about?

Mr. RAY. Well, no. I guess this is the libel part he is talking about. You see, a lot of newspapers and stuff was writing up, like magazines especially—

Mr. SPEISER. I don't want to quibble over words, but I think it says, "especially the libel part", which means there are other portions of the case which your brother did not want you to discuss with anybody.

I am asking you did you have any knowledge about the assassination of Dr. King as of the date of this letter which your brother did not want you to discuss with anybody?

Mr. RAY. Well, no.

Mr. SPEISER. What part of the case did your brother not want you to discuss with anybody?

Mr. RAY. The libel part, I guess. He said, "especially the libel part." I guess that's the part.

Mr. LESAR. May I make a clarification—

Chairman STOKES. The witness has answered the question.

Counsel, move on.

Mr. LESAR. Just for the record, I would point out I think there is a distortion being built into the record due to the fact that this witness does not recall some things that are pertinent to the question.

James Earl Ray was extremely distressed over articles in Life Magazine.

Chairman STOKES. There is no testimony before this committee to that effect.

You are out of order.

Mr. LESAR. You mean you—

Chairman STOKES. There is no testimony to that effect, and you are out of order.

Mr. LESAR. You didn't ask James Earl Ray about this?

Chairman STOKES. You are out of order.

Do you understand that?

Mr. SPEISER. Mr. Ray, let's shift gears and change to another area of concern.

Do you know how your brother, James, funded himself, financed his travels between the period that he escaped from the Missouri State Prison and the date that he was arrested, June 8, 1968, in London?

Mr. RAY. I have no idea.

Mr. SPEISER. Did you ever furnish your brother James with any money during that period of time? Stop and think about it.

Mr. RAY. You mean a period of time—

Mr. SPEISER. During the period of time between April 23, 1967, and June 8, 1968, a period of 1 year, while your brother was a fugitive? Did you fund him with any money?

Mr. RAY. I did not.

Mr. SPEISER. Are you familiar with the Alton Bank in Alton, Ill.?

Mr. RAY. I read about it, yes.

Mr. SPEISER. Did you rob that bank?

Mr. RAY. No; I did not rob it.

Mr. LESAR. I have a point of information.

On November 2 I wrote the counsel and director of this committee a letter in which I requested certain information pertinent to the Alton, Ill., bank robbery, and I explained that this information was necessary in order that we could properly prepare John Ray's testimony on this matter.

I would—

Mr. SPEISER. Mr. Chairman, may I proceed? I think Mr. Lesar's remarks would be appropriate for closing.

Mr. LESAR. No, I don't believe they would be appropriate for closing. There is an FBI document which I have which concerns two people who were considered suspects in the Alton, Ill. bank robbery, and I would request that before there is any further questioning along this line that we be provided with their identities so we can assist the committee in providing full and complete and truthful testimony.

In his previous executive session testimony Mr. Ray proved very helpful to this committee because he testified that a person had committed perjury and in effect framed an innocent man in the Laddonia Missouri Bank robbery.

That, I understand, has now been established. My client's testimony on that point was corroborated, an innocent man spent 7 years in jail because a man named Clarence Haynes who is also now testifying against my client, framed that man.

Recently the committee—

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Lesar, I will extend to you 5 minutes at the end of your client's testimony here. You may state whatever you please within that 5 minutes relative to his testimony. If you have an objection, state your objection.

Mr. LESAR. Your Honor—

Chairman STOKES. Without a speech. I don't need a speech from you.

Mr. LESAR. All right, let me state my objection.

My objection is that this committee has repeatedly postured that it wants the truth, that it wants the assistance—

Chairman STOKES. You obviously don't have an objection. You are out of order.

Mr. LESAR. You are now trying to entrap—

Chairman STOKES. I gave you a chance to state your objection. You don't have one. You are out of order.

Proceed, Mr. Speiser.

Mr. SPEISER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Your testimony, as I understand it then, is you did not partake in the robbery of the Bank of Alton?

Mr. RAY. That's right.

Mr. SPEISER. At this time, Mr. Chairman, I would choose that MLK exhibit F-646<sup>1</sup> which has been introduced earlier be shown at this point.

This is a chart, a blowup of a map of Alton depicting certain specified locations in Alton that are of concern to this committee, namely, the location of the Bank of Alton, the residence of William Maher at the time of the robbery, William Maher being an uncle of the witness and, of course, James Earl Ray. I note that the distance between the Bank of Alton and the residence of William Maher is only 1.1 miles.

A third spot marked on that map is the location where the evidence was recovered; that is, the stocking masks and the weapons that were used in that robbery. This location where the evidence was recovered was a half a mile from the residence of the uncle of the witness.

Now, I want to ask you a question again, but before I do so I want to just bring certain facts out, Mr. Ray.

The Bank of Alton was robbed on July 13, 1967. We know that your brother, James, was in the Alton area, for he testified that prior to going to Canada he was going to the St. Louis area to visit relatives. St. Louis is only 20 miles from Alton.

As a matter of fact, the day after the bank was robbed, that being on July 14, your brother, James, bought a car for \$210 in East St. Louis, Ill., which is only 20 miles from Alton and 20 miles from St. Louis, Mo.

Prior to the purchase of the car, James only had \$450. The car was purchased for \$210. Assuming there was no independent influx of funds, that meant that James Earl Ray, your brother, went to Canada, a foreign country, with only \$240.

Mr. LESAR. Objection. Is counsel testifying?

Mr. SPEISER. No; I am making, laying a foundation for the question I am about to propound to your client.

Mr. LESAR. Then could we have the foundation, could we have the evidence upon which the representations are based?

Chairman STOKES. Counsel is permitted to lay the foundation for his question, the framework of the question he is posing at this time.

Mr. SPEISER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

If I may continue, on the day that the bank was robbed, Jerry had his day off. You testified in executive session that you were in the St. Louis area at the time this bank was robbed. Shortly after this bank was robbed, namely on July 23, 1967, 10 days after the robbery, you were observed in the San Francisco area.

Mr. LESAR. Excuse me. Excuse me. In the form of your question you have represented as a fact that that was Jerry Ray's day off.

<sup>1</sup> See text, *supra*, at 14.

Now, did Jerry Ray testify to that, or did you have the work records which showed that?

Chairman STOKES. Counsel will state his full question.

After the full question has been stated, if you have an objection, the Chair will listen to you.

Mr. LESAR. I have an objection based upon the fact that the question—

Chairman STOKES. I have said to you the procedure here will be that the counsel will state his full question.

Mr. LESAR. All right, no objection.

Mr. SPEISER. As a matter of fact, you testified before this committee, Mr. Ray, that prior to your departure from California you had \$2,500, and your testimony, upon your return, is that when you came back you deposited \$2,500, \$1,300, and \$1,200 respectively in two different banks, meaning that unless you were employed during the period you were in California you didn't spend anything for gas, food, and other amenities.

Mr. LESAR. Objection.

Chairman STOKES. Just a moment.

Mr. LESAR. I thought he was finished. I apologize.

Mr. SPEISER. My question is, again, with all of these factors having been brought to your attention, do they serve to refresh your recollection as to whether or not you partook in the robbery of the Bank of Alton with your brother, James?

Mr. LESAR. Objection to the question, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman STOKES. What is your objection?

Mr. LESAR. The basis to the objection is that the question is based upon statements of fact which appear to be contrary to the evidence before the committee.

It is my recollection that Jerry Ray testified first that he sometimes worked 7 days a week, and that previous FBI records had corroborated his account of his days on and off work, and that those records have now been destroyed.

So, I would object to the question in the form that it was put, on the grounds that it is based upon information or representation of evidence which is simply not so.

Chairman STOKES. Counsel's objections are noted for the record. A simple question put to the witness is whether or not he participated. If the witness understands the question, he may answer it.

Mr. RAY. I did not participate in the Alton bank robbery.

Mr. SPEISER. Did you ever receive any of the proceeds that were obtained from that bank robbery?

Mr. RAY. I did not receive any proceeds, to my knowledge.

Mr. SPEISER. Did your brother James partake in the Bank of Alton bank robbery?

Mr. RAY. I do not know whether James does. I do not—I don't—I have no information whether he did or what.

Mr. SPEISER. At this time, Mr. Chairman, I would choose that MLK exhibit F-647,<sup>1</sup> which has already been introduced into the record, that exhibit being a chart depicting the modus operandi of the Bank of Alton robbery, be set up on the easel for the benefit of Mr. Ray.

<sup>1</sup> See text, *supra*, at 11.

I believe we also have Xerox copies in reduced form of that chart, which I would request the clerk to furnish Mr. Ray at this time.

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman, I would like to move at this time for the admission of an FBI document which is dated November 1, 1968. I will read it just very briefly. It says: "To Director, FBI, File No. 44-38861," which is the headquarters MURKIN file.

From SAC Springfield, Subject MURKIN. Re Springfield Airtel dated 10/25/68. Informants, bank officials and police agencies advise no information has come to their attention in past week pertaining to bank robbery at the Bank of Alton, July 13, 1967, or with regard to James Earl Ray. Considerable speculation concerning the validity of upcoming Look magazine articles which have been publicized in local newspapers in past week. Deleted and deleted arrested St. Louis County, Missouri, on blank. Believed possible bank robbery suspects by officers Alton Police Department. Separate communication being submitted to St. Louis by Springfield to have suspects interviewed.

I would request that this be admitted in evidence. I would again also request that we be provided the names of these persons in order that we can assist this committee in its inquiry.

Chairman STOKES. Pursuant to counsel's request, the document will be marked as exhibit F-665 and entered into the record at this point.

[MLK exhibit F-665 follows:]



FBI

Date: 11/1/68

*6-11-68*

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL                      AIR MAIL  
 (Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
 FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) - P -  
 SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Springfield airtel dated 10/25/68.

Informants, bank officials, and police agencies advise no information has come to their attention in past week pertaining to bank robbery at The Bank of Alton - July 13, 1967, or with regard to JAMES EARL RAY.

Considerable speculation expressed concerning validity of up coming Look magazine articles which have been publicized in local newspapers in past week.

[redacted] and [redacted] arrested St. Louis County, Missouri, on [redacted] believed possible bank robbery suspects by officers Alton Police Department.

Separate communication being submitted St. Louis by Springfield to have suspects interviewed.

REC-95

5305

- ③ - Bureau (44-38861)(RM)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987)(RM)
- 3 - Springfield (44-561)
- (1: 91-3699)

NOV 4 1968

RCH:skr  
(8)

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Agent in Charge

Chairman STOKES. In addition thereto, the Chair will order that all FBI memoranda or documents relating to the Alton bank robbery now in the possession of this committee, exhibits F-670 and F-671, be entered into the record at this point.

MLK EXHIBIT F-670

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

130049

Report of: SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON Office: Springfield  
Date: July 20, 1972  
Field Office File #: SI 91-3699 Bureau File #: 91-27494  
Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2);  
The Bank of Alton  
Alton, Illinois  
July 13, 1967  
Character: BANK ROBBERY

Contact with pertinent law enforcement agencies fails to develop any additional information concerning possible identity of captioned bank robbers. Possible suspect RALPH ROBERT PAGE, currently confined Gallatin County, Illinois Sheriff's Office Jail, on first degree murder charge, interviewed and denied any knowledge of or participation in captioned bank robbery. UNKNOWN SUBJECTS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- C -

DETAILS:

Continuing contact with law enforcement officials fails to develop any information of pertinent value concerning the possible identity of the individuals who robbed captioned bank.

On June 10 and again on June 20, 1972, contact was made with Detective HAROLD "BUD" GALLOWAY. Detective GALLOWAY of the Alton, Illinois Police Department, advised that RALPH ROBERT PAGE was currently confined in Gallatin County, Illinois Sheriff's Office, after being charged with the murder of his uncle in that county. Detective GALLOWAY advised that PAGE had been apprehended by officers of the South Bend, Indiana, Police Department, and was currently facing extradition charges to the State of Illinois from Indiana to face first degree murder charges in Gallatin County.

91-27494-32

SI 91-3699

On June 17, 1972, Detective Sergeant JULES LUBER, Illinois State Police, District 11, Detachment 25, Maryville, Illinois, advised his office could furnish no additional information nor suspects in the robbery of the captioned bank.

Attempts on May 4, 1972, by Special Agents FRANCIS DANIEL BOYD and JEROLD W. DONALDSON to locate and interview RALPH ROBERT PAGE in the McClure, Illinois area were unsuccessful. Information had been developed that PAGE was possibly working in a tavern in that locale.

Contact with DARLENE HIGGS, owner, The Body Shop, a tavern in McClure, Illinois, where PAGE was formerly employed, reflects that she had not seen PAGE in approximately one and one-half months and had no idea of the location of PAGE or PAGE's common law wife.

Also on May 4, 1972, CHARLENE BOSS, Admitting Clerk, St. Francis Hospital, Cape Girardeau, Missouri, advised that RALPH PAGE, formerly employed as a bartender at The Body Shop tavern, McClure, Illinois, was confined at that hospital suffering from sclerosis of the liver for a period of January 9, 1972, to January 14, 1972. Miss BOSS stated however that she had no information concerning the possible whereabouts of PAGE.

On July 3, 1972, and subsequent dates to July 17, 1972, contact was maintained with Chief Deputy HERMAN WATTERS, Gallatin County Sheriff's Office, Shawneetown, Illinois, regarding the extradition proceedings concerning RALPH ROBERT PAGE. During these contacts, Chief Deputy WATTERS advised that PAGE was being extradited from South Bend, Indiana, to Gallatin County, Illinois, to stand charges for a first degree murder of PAGE's uncle of the Shawneetown, Illinois area.

On July 17, 1972, Chief Deputy WATTERS advised that PAGE was currently incarcerated at the Gallatin County Sheriff's Office and that PAGE had retained an attorney from the East Alton, Illinois area named DAVID SWAN.

SI 81-3699

On July 17, 1972, Special Agents J. FRED DAVIS, JR. and JEROLD W. DONALDSON proceeded to Shawneetown, Illinois, to interview suspect PAGE. Upon arrival at the Gallatin County Sheriff's Office, Agents DONALDSON and DAVIS spoke with attorney for PAGE, Mr. DAVID SWAN, who advised that his client had requested a bond be set on first degree murder charges and that a hearing regarding this bond proposal was to be held before Judge FORESTER of Gallatin County on the afternoon of July 17, 1972.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 7/20/72

RALPH ROBERT PAGE, inmate, Gallatin County Sheriff's Office Jail, Shawneetown, was interviewed. Prior to interview PAGE was furnished a Waiver of Rights form, which he read, stated he understood, but declined to sign on the advice of his attorney, DAVID SWAN. PAGE furnished the following information:

PAGE stated that he had no knowledge of who would have robbed The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, on July 13, 1967. PAGE stated that he had no knowledge of any bank robberies in the Alton, Illinois area, including the robbery of the First National Bank of Bunker Hill; The Godfrey State Bank, Godfrey, Illinois; the First National Bank of Brighton; nor the Citizens Bank of Shipman.

PAGE stated that he was not incarcerated in 1967 at the time of the robbery of The Bank of Alton, however, he was probably in the State of California working for JACK SHANE, a septic tank cleaning service located near San Francisco, California. PAGE continued that he had done gardening work in Las Vegas, Nevada, upon leaving the San Francisco, California area and did not return to the Alton area until sometime in 1968.

PAGE emphatically denied any knowledge of or participation in the bank robbery of The Bank of Alton which occurred on July 13, 1967, and added that he did not feel that any local residents from the Alton, Illinois area would be responsible for this robbery inasmuch as he possibly would have heard of it. PAGE continued that he did not feel also that CHARLES WILLIAM BAZE nor JOE SPARROWK, currently confined at the Ohio State Penitentiary on a lengthy sentence, were involved in the perpetration of this bank robbery.

The following descriptive data was obtained through observation and interview: ILL.

Name:	RALPH ROBERT PAGE
Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Date of Birth:	April 21, 1945

Interviewed on 7/17/72 at Shawneetown, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA J. FRED DAVIS, JR.  
SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON JWD/jab Date dictated 7/17/72

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

SI 91-3699

2

Place of Birth: Shawneetown, Illinois  
Height: 6 feet  
Weight: 210 pounds  
Hair: Brown  
Eyes: Blue  
Marital Status: Single  
Military Service: United States Air Force,  
3 years, honorable discharge,  
last served at McCord Air  
Force Base, Washington  
Usual Occupation: Construction worker  
Education: High School equivalency  
diploma obtained while in  
United States Air Force  
Prior Arrests: Admits extensive arrest  
record dating from 1965 to  
current, with charges  
including first degree robbery,  
aggravated battery, aggravated  
assault, burglary, armed  
robbery, and a current  
incarceration on a first  
degree murder charge at  
Shawneetown, Illinois.  
Federal Bureau of  
Investigation  
Number: 244 590 F

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of: SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON Office: SPRINGFIELD  
Date: APRIL 21, 1972  
Field Office File #: SI 91-3699 Bureau File #: 91-27494  
Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2);  
The Bank of Alton  
Alton, Illinois  
July 13, 1967  
Character: BANK ROBBERY

Synopsis: Inmate RONALD LEE OGDEN, Illinois State Penitentiary, Menard, interviewed and denied any knowledge of bank robbery. Suspect GARY DALE VANDERGRUFF, Bethalto, Illinois, interviewed and admitted knowing suspects RALPH PAGE and JOE SPARROWK, but stated he knew of no information concerning captioned bank robbery nor participation by these suspects in this robbery. Continued contact with Detective Division, Alton, Illinois PD fails to develop any additional information concerning suspects. UNSUBS ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

-P-

DETAILS:

On March 3, 1972, March 22, 1972, and April 17, 1972, contact was made with Detective Division, Alton, Illinois Police Department, who advised that they had heard no additional information concerning possible suspects in captioned bank robbery.

On March 13, 1972, and March 29, 1972, attempts were made to interview GARY DALE VANDERGRUFF, Bethalto, Illinois, with negative success.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/72

1

RONALD LEE OGDEN, Inmate #35697, Illinois State Penitentiary, Menard, Illinois, was interviewed. Prior to interview, OGDEN was furnished a Waiver of Rights form which he read, stated he understood, but declined to sign. OGDEN furnished the following information:

OGDEN advised that at one time he had lived in a commonlaw relationship with PATRICIA SOTO and by this relationship has a young daughter. OGDEN stated that at no time during his relationship with SOTO did she mention the Bank of Alton bank robbery which occurred on July 13, 1967, nor was he aware of any possible suspects. OGDEN stated that he, OGDEN, was incarcerated at Menard (ISP) on an escape and theft charge at the time of the robbery and therefore, had no participation in the bank robbery.

OGDEN continued that RALPH PAGE and JOE SPARROWK were known to him and that he had met SPARROWK in the Madison County Jail in Edwardsville, Illinois, in early March, 1967, but had been transferred to Menard shortly thereafter and has had no contact with SPARROWK. OGDEN continued that SPARROWK was currently serving a long sentence in the Ohio State Penitentiary which he believes was of a fifty year duration.

OGDEN stated that he was familiar with petty hoodlums in the Alton - Bethalto - Cottage Hills, Illinois area such as HOMER "The Painter" GRAY and ART PAULE and DON HAZEL, but that he had not heard any of them mention their knowledge of or participation in the robbery of the Bank of Alton or any other banks in the Alton, Illinois area.

The following descriptive data was obtained regarding OGDEN:

Name	RONALD LEE OGDEN
Sex	Male
Race	White
Date of birth	January 14, 1943

On 4/5/72 at Menard, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON /jac Date dictated 4/11/72



SI 91-3699

Place of birth	Peoria, Illinois
Height	5'9"
Weight	150 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Occupation	Roofer

Interview with OGDEN, who emphatically denied any knowledge of or participation in the bank robbery of the Bank of Alton, was then terminated.

SI 91-3699

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON on April 5, 1972:

FRANKIE DECKER, warden's secretary, Illinois State Penitentiary, Menard, Illinois, made available the registry folder on inmate RONALD LEE OGDEN which reflected the following:

The file reflected that OGDEN was received from Madison County, Illinois, March, 1969, on a three to eight year charge for burglary. OGDEN described as:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of birth	January 14, 1943
Place of birth	Peoria, Illinois
Height	5'9"
Weight	150 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Occupation	Roofer
Military service	Army serial number 5427350 Discharged under honorable conditions (unfitness)
FBI Number	414925D

The file reflected the following correspondents:

Aunt	Mrs. BETTY KESSINGER 345 Van Preter Wood River, Illinois
Friend	PEARL EVELYN STAMM Rural Route 2, Airport Road Godfrey, Illinois
Friend	EILENE MARIE DAVIS Hardy Arkansas
Friend	PATRICIA ANN SOTO 1529 Miller Drive Elkhart, Indiana or 210 Cherry Street Alton, Illinois

SI 91-3699

Friend

ESTEFANA DAVILA ALVARADO  
20 South Taylor  
St. Louis, Missouri

Cousin

JAMES EARL KNIBBS  
1152 Walton  
St. Louis, Missouri

The following psychiatric classification was for  
OGDEN and was noted in his file:

"Group III, without need for mental treatment  
and not retarded. Doubtfully improveable offender.  
Remaining emotional immaturity indifference,  
instability, and irresponsibility. With increasing  
sociopathic orientation. Average intellectual  
functioning, AGCT 112."

This examination was signed by LARRY PHILLIPS,  
Sociologist, on March 17, 1969.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/21/721

GARY DALE VANDERGRIF, 517 Bartmer, was interviewed. Prior to interview, VANDERGRIF was furnished a Waiver of Rights form which he read, stated he understood, and declined to sign. VANDERGRIF furnished the following information:

VANDERGRIF advised that he knew RALPH PAGE and JOE SPARROWK but that he had no association with either individual. He stated that his mother had worked at the Sun Ray Restaurant in Cottage Hills, Illinois, and during her employment there, had worked with JOE SPARROWK's sister, but that he had never had any association with the SPARROWK family. VANDERGRIF stated that he had no knowledge of or participation in the bank robbery of the Bank of Alton which occurred on July 13, 1967.

The following descriptive data was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	GARY DALE VANDERGRIF
Sex	Male
Race	White
Date of birth	May 6, 1941
Place of birth	Greenville, Illinois
Height	6'1"
Weight	200 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Employment	Service manager for Contractors Service and Hard Facing Company, Hazelwood, Missouri

VANDERGRIF stated that he has had little contact with his brothers, HARRY J. and ROBERT C. VANDERGRIF, who are currently residing in Thornton, Colorado, and does not know of their knowledge of or association with either RALPH PAGE or JOE SPARROWK.

On 4/17/72 at Bethalto, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA FRANCIS D. BOYD  
SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON JWD/jac Date dictated 4/19/72

SI 91-3699

On March 29, 1972, Chief of Police LOUIS DREATH, Bethaldo, Illinois, was contacted and advised that he had no derogatory information concerning GARY DALE VANDERGRUFF and that he had heard of no association of VANDERGRUFF with any of the hoodlum element in the Alton - Bethaldo, Illinois area. Chief DREATH continued regarding the bank robbery that RALPH PAGE and JOE SPARROWK were certainly capable of committing bank robberies and added, however, that SPARROWK was currently confined for a lengthy sentence at the Ohio State Penitentiary. DREATH stated that he had no other suspects in mind who might have robbed the Bank of Alton.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of: SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON  
Date: February 25, 1972

Office: SPRINGFIELD

Field Office File #: SI 91-3699

Bureau File #: 91-27494

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2);  
The Bank of Alton  
Alton, Illinois  
July 13, 1967

Character: BANK ROBBERY

## Synopsis

Efforts by St. Louis Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation, to locate and interview ROBERT RALPH PAGE, possible suspect, unsuccessful to date. Possible suspects ROBERT CRAIGE VANDERGRUFF and brother HARRY J. VANDERGRUFF interviewed Thornton, Colorado and denied any knowledge of or participation in bank robbery. Contact with law enforcement officers, Alton, Illinois PD fails to develop any new suspects. UNSUBS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

-P-

DETAILS:At St. Louis, Missouri:

Mr. ROBERT TINKHAM, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, St. Louis County, Clayton, Missouri, telephone 889-2597, on January 19, 1972, advised that ROBERT RALPH PAGE has not to date appeared in Court. TINKHAM advised that no definite date has been set but he will attempt to determine as soon as possible a definite court date.

TINKHAM advised the information previously furnished was incorrect regarding PAGE's incarceration. He stated PAGE is not incarcerated and his current whereabouts are unknown. TINKHAM believed that he could determine PAGE's whereabouts in the near future, and would make this information available.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1.

Date of transcription 2/14/72

ROBERT CRAIG VANDERGRUFF, brother of HARRY J. VANDERGRUFF, was contacted at his brother's residence, 8561 Franklin Street, Thornton, Colorado. He was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents and the purpose of the interview. He was immediately thereafter advised of his rights as reflected on Form FD-395, "Interrogation; Advice of Rights," which he stated he understood and executed the same.

VANDERGRUFF stated that he came to Thornton, Colorado, approximately three months ago and is unemployed at the present time, noting he was an insurance agent in Cottage Hills, Illinois, but because of an injury received in an auto accident and the subsequent settlement with the insurance company, he is now relaxing and does not intend to return to Illinois.

He stated that he went to high school with FRANK PAGE and knows JO SPARROWK from the bars in the Cottage Hills area. He recalled that PAGE was always in petty trouble and considers him to be a house burglar. He noted that SPARROWK is the same type adding that he has not seen him in several years. He noted that he saw PAGE approximately three months ago, just prior to coming to Colorado. He also stated that he does not recall PAGE and SPARROWK "running around" together, although they were both in trouble at one time in Cottage Hills and went to Shawneetown, Illinois to work, returning several months later. He also noted that he recalls PAGE fleeing the Cottage Hills area because of a local "want" and coming to the Denver area for awhile where he managed a motel, prior to returning to Illinois.

VANDERGRUFF stated he does not recall a bank robbery in Alton, Illinois, in July, 1967, or does he have any information as to who robbed the bank. He also emphatically denied being involved in the bank robbery.

Interviewed 2/11/72 at Thornton, Colorado

by SA GARY W. RAYBURN  
SA FRANK E. BICKINS GWR:mfr Date

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DM 91-4338  
2.

The following description was obtained through  
interview and observation:

Name	<i>Robert X Wandergriff</i> ROBERT CRAIG WANDERGRIFF
Race	White
Date of Birth	June 1, 1944
Place of Birth	Carrollton, Illinois
Height	Five feet, eleven inches
Weight	230 pounds
Hair	Black
Eyes	Hazel
Marital Status	Single
Characteristics	Fu-Man-Chu <i>Colo</i>



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1.

Date of transcription 2/18/72

HARRY J. VANDERGRIFF, 8561 Franklin Street, Thornton, Colorado, was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents and the purpose of the interview. He was immediately thereafter advised of his rights as reflected on Form FD-395, "Interrogation; Advice of Rights", which he stated he understood and executed the same.

VANDERGRIFF stated that he has resided in Thornton, Colorado, since January, 1971, having moved here from the Cottage Hills, Illinois, area, where he grew up and operated a service station. He stated that he is acquainted with RALPH PAGE and vaguely recalls JO SPARROWK, but that his brother, ROBERT VANDERGRIFF, who is visiting him, knows them much better, inasmuch as he went to high school with PAGE. He added he has not seen PAGE since late 1970.

He added that he never associated with PAGE or SPARROWK, but knew them from the "bars" back home. He stated that PAGE was a house burglar and SPARROWK wrote bad checks, but he does not recall them ever "running" together.

VANDERGRIFF stated that most of the time he would see PAGE was in the Hi-Hat Bar. He stated that several years ago, PAGE was involved in a supermarket robbery in St. Louis, Missouri, and fled the Cottage Hills area with his girl friend, NANCY (Last Name Unknown), and came to the Denver area where he managed a small unknown motel for about six months prior to returning to Cottage Hills.

He added that he also recalls PAGE "jumping bond" and leaving the Cottage Hills area for awhile, three or four years ago. He stated that he knows very little about SPARROWK and cannot recall his description.

VANDERGRIFF stated that he does not recall a bank robbery in Alton, Illinois, in July, 1967, and emphatically denied being involved in any way with any bank robbery.

Interviewed on 1/11/72 at Thornton, Colorado

SA GARY W. RAYBURN and  
SA FRANK E. PICKENS (CHR: mfr) Det

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DM 91-4338

2.

The following description of ~~VANDERGRIF~~ was obtained through interview and observation:

Name	<del>HARRY JOE</del> VANDERGRIF
Race	White
Date of Birth	December 13, 1934
Place of Birth	Jacksonville, Illinois
Height	Six feet, one inch
Weight	350 pounds
Hair	Brown; balding
Eyes	Brown
Social Security	
Account Number	<del>331-28-8292</del>
Employer	Lookout Mountain School for Boys, Golden, Colorado; Guard
Wife	CORA ELIZABETH EASTHAM VANDERGRIF
Place of Birth	Decatur, Illinois
Employer	Crown - Zellerbach Company Denver
Children	None
Arrests	None, other than traffic violations

25.51 - 7-10-1934  
+ HARRY JOE VANDERGRIF

SI 91-3699

At Denver, Colorado:

On January 10, 1972, the records of the following police agencies were caused to be checked by SA GARY W. RAYBURN, with negative results regarding HARRY J. VANDERGRIEF:

Adams County Sheriff's Office

Thornton, Colorado Police Department

Denver, Colorado Police Department

At Alton, Illinois:

Contacts with Lt. DONALD SANDIDGE on January 14, 1972, and February 10, 1972, failed to develop any new information concerning possible suspects by the Alton, Illinois Police Department in captioned bank robbery.

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED  
ARMED AND DANGEROUS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of: SA JOSEPH P. BENSON Office: SPRINGFIELD  
Date: 12/20/71  
Field Office File #: SI 91-3699 Bureau File #: 91-27494  
Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2);  
The Bank of Alton  
Alton, Illinois  
July 13, 1967  
Character: BANK ROBBERY

Synopsis: PATRICIA SOTO interviewed advised she is acquainted with various suspects and stated her former husband was closely associated with them. She advised, however, she had no knowledge regarding bank robbery. UNSUBS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

-P-

DETAILS:At Alton, Illinois

91-27494-29

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/3/71

Miss PATRICIA SOTO, 2006 Hayes, Charleston, Illinois, telephone number 348-8321, appeared at the Alton Resident Agency of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on October 21, 1971, and stated that she understood through her mother, ESTHER SOTO, that the FBI was seeking to interview her.

The nature of the investigation concerning the robbery of the Bank of Alton, together with her knowledge of certain individuals who were patrons of the Pioneer Tavern in Alton, Illinois, was explained to Miss SOTO.

Miss SOTO stated that she was employed as a waitress at the Pioneer Tavern on Broadway in Alton at the time of the robbery of the Bank of Alton. She stated that many unsavory characters hung out at the Pioneer Tavern and particularly recalled RALPH PAGE, HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON, JOHN MC CLINTOCK, CHUCK BAZE, and her ex-husband, RONALD LEE OGDEN.

She stated that while she felt that any of the above named persons could have been involved in the robbery of the Bank of Alton, she does not specifically recall any statements or rumors being circulated at the Pioneer Tavern which would involve any of these individuals. She did say, however, that her ex-husband, RONALD LEE OGDEN, who is currently incarcerated at the Illinois State Penitentiary, Menard Branch, Chester, Illinois, was closely associated with these individuals and could very well be privy to information they had available to him.

Miss SOTO further advised that she felt that RONALD LEE OGDEN at this time might be willing to discuss information available to him which would be of benefit in this matter.

On 10/21/71 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA ROBERT DALE SCHULER  
SA ROBERT C. HAINES RCH/jab Date dictated 10/28/71

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SI 91-3699

RCH:ral

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA  
ROBERT C. HAINES:

Detective Sergeant DONALD SANDIDGE, Alton Police Department, Alton, Illinois, has been contacted on a regular basis concerning captioned matter. On his most recent contact on October 18, 1971, he advised that no current or additional information has come to the attention of the Alton Police Department concerning unknown subjects in this matter. SANDIDGE advised that should any positive information be received, this would promptly be referred to the FBI.

At Cottage Hills, Illinois

A review of current directories failed to disclose any information concerning ROBERT or BOB VANDERGRUFF.

GENE ZIMMERMAN, Manager, Credit Bureau of Alton, advised on October 13, 1971, that the last known address for ROBERT W. VANDERGRUFF was 327 Bowman in East Alton, Illinois, however, inquiry has disclosed that he has moved from this address and his current whereabouts is unknown.

ZIMMERMAN also advised that ROBERT W. VANDERGRUFF has three brothers, HARRY J. VANDERGRUFF, ROGER, who was deceased in a plane crash in June, 1962, and GARY VANDERGRUFF. He stated that HARRY J. VANDERGRUFF, in June, 1971, resided at 8561 Franklin, Thornton, Colorado, and that GARY VANDERGRUFF resided at 517 Bartmer, Bethalto, Illinois.

On 10/14/71, Deputy Sheriff DAVID RENO, Madison County Sheriff's Office, advised that he felt that the VANDERGRUFF who could have allegedly been involved in the robbery of the Bank of Alton, would be HARRY J. VANDERGRUFF whom sources have characterized as "being good for anything". RENO stated that he had attempted to determine the current location of HARRY J. VANDERGRUFF but had been unsuccessful in doing so.

It is to be noted that records of the Credit Bureau of Alton disclosed that HARRY J. VANDERGRUFF, as of June, 1971, resided at 8561 Franklin in Thornton, Colorado.

SI 91-3699

Detective KEN SCHERRER, Fugitive Bureau, St. Louis County Police Department, has advised that ROBERT RALPH PAGE is probably identical to the individual named RALPH PAGE mentioned in referenced letter. According to SCHERRER, PAGE is either currently in the St. Louis County Jail in Clayton, Missouri, or at the County Jail in Gumbo, Missouri.

On November 16, 1971, ROBERT TINKHAM, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, St. Louis County, Clayton, Missouri, 889-2597, advised that PAGE is scheduled to appear in court during the week of November 29, 1971, on a charge of armed robbery. This robbery is in connection with the holdup of the Bettendorf-Rapp Supermarket at Clayton and Hanley Roads, Clayton, Missouri. According to TINKHAM an effort is being made to have PAGE enter a guilty plea and he would appreciate not contacting PAGE until after disposition of this case.

On November 30, 1971, TINKHAM advised PAGE's case is number one on the docket and it is anticipated the case will be disposed of within the next several days. He indicated that PAGE apparently is going to enter a guilty plea to the robbery charge and he will advise when the case is completed.

FD-204 (Rev. 3-3-59)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of: SA JOSEPH P. BENSON Office: SPRINGFIELD  
Date: OCTOBER 27, 1971  
Field Office File #: SI 91-3699 Bureau File #: 91-27494  
Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2);  
The Bank of Alton  
Alton, Illinois  
July 13, 1967  
Character: BANK ROBBERY

Synopsis: JOE MACK SPARROWK interviewed as possible suspect on 10/4/71, denied knowledge regarding captioned bank robbery. Possible suspect RALPH PAGE released from Illinois State Penal Farm, Vandalia, Illinois, 7/31/71, and taken into custody by St. Louis County authorities.

UNSUBS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

-P-

DETAILS:

On July 29, 1971, Los Angeles Division advised that inquiries at the Municipal Court, Traffic Division, Van Nuys, California, determined that in order to ascertain if JOHN MC CLINTOCK was in that court on July 13, 1967, it would be necessary to have specific information relating to his appearance which would include the ticket number and the disposition of the case.

A check with the California Department of Motor Vehicles failed to reflect information in this regard.

On September 23, 1971, E. E. HICKS, Illinois State Penal Farm, Vandalia, Illinois, advised that RALPH PAGE had been released from the State Farm July 31, 1971, and was taken into custody by St. Louis County authorities, Clayton, Missouri, on a charge of robbery, first degree.



SI 91-3699

At Elkhart, Indiana

On August 4, 1971, a check was made of the Elkhart, Indiana 1971 City Directory and area maps of the City of Elkhart, and both failed to reflect a street named Murle Drive. A Merl Street was found, but a physical check of the street failed to reflect any address as high as 1120.

On September 13, 1971, ALEX PEREZ, Detective, Elkhart Police Department, advised he has never heard of a Murle Street in Elkhart, Indiana. He further stated that the name PAT SOTO was not familiar to him.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 10/13/71

1

After being advised of his rights, JOE MACK SPARROWK stated that he understood his rights, but would not sign anything. SPARROWK was interviewed by Special Agents THOMAS B. DECKER and ROBERT J. KIRKLAND, JR. at the Ohio Penitentiary on captioned date and furnished the following information:

SPARROWK advised that he is presently serving a prison sentence at the Ohio Penitentiary under Ohio Penitentiary number 129-713 for armed robbery. He stated that he was sentenced in December of 1969 to the Ohio Penitentiary for 32 to 115 years for an armed robbery in Toledo, Ohio where a shooting took place.

SPARROWK advised that he was unable to furnish any information regarding the bank robbery of the Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois on July 13, 1967. He advised that during the summer of 1967, he frequented the Hi-Hat Tavern in Cottage Hills, Illinois. He advised that he was unable to furnish any information regarding CHUCK BLAZE, RALPH PAGE or BOB VANDERGRIF, inasmuch as he was unfamiliar with these individuals. He stated that he believes he might possibly have been in California at the time of the above mentioned bank robbery. He stated that he went to California sometime during the end of the summer of 1967, and stayed in California until around September of 1968. While in California, he worked as an iron workers apprentice, out of a Local Iron Workers Union in Los Angeles, California. He advised he lived in Van Nuys and North Hollywood, California during his stay in California.

SPARROWK stated that he was unable to furnish any information regarding the above mentioned bank robbery and he wished the interview to be terminated.

The following description was obtained of JOE MACK SPARROWK through observation and interview:

Interviewed on 10/4/71 at Columbus, Ohio File # 91-7166

by SAS ROBERT J. KIRKLAND, JR. and  
THOMAS B. DECKER TBD/kyl Date dictated 10/8/71

CI 91-7166

2

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Age:	33
<u>Date of birth:</u>	<u>June 22, 1938</u>
<u>Place of birth:</u>	<u>Gibeon, Missouri</u>
Height:	5'8"
Weight:	160 pounds
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Blue
Scar:	Over left temple
Parents:	EVERETT and LILLIAN SPARROWK
	475 Sheridan
	Bethlo, <u>Illinois</u>
Ohio Penitentiary #:	129-713
Arrests:	Arrested at age 16 for burglary, placed on probation; arrested in 1962 for burglary, served six years Missouri Penitentiary (released in February or March of 1966); arrested December, 1968, Madison County, Illinois on two counts of forgery, two counts of shooting and one burglary charge. (escaped July 18, 1969, and was again arrested July 22, 1969, in Toledo, Ohio on above mentioned armed robbery charge, which resulted in incarceration at Ohio Penitentiary, Columbus, Ohio)

SI 91-3699

Contacts with Lieutenant DON SANDIDGE and Detective HAROLD "BUD" GALLOWAY, Alton, Illinois Police Department, have developed no pertinent information regarding this case. Both were last contacted on October 14, 1971.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of:	SA JOSEPH P. BENSON	Office:	Springfield
Date:	7/24/71		
Field Office File #:	SI 91-3699	Bureau File #:	91-27494
Title:	UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2); The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, July 13, 1967		
Character:	BANK ROBBERY		

## Synopsis:

Acquaintance of CHUCK BAZE and RALPH PAGE who have been suspects advised she believed that they and an individual named JO SPARROWK may have been involved in robbery of captioned bank. UNSUBS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- P -

DETAILS:

On June 1, 1971, JO ANN JOHNSON nee WILSON, 322 Court Street, Alton, Illinois, advised Special Agent JOSEPH P. BENSON and Special Agent ROBERT C. HAINES that her step-father and her mother have owned the Pioneer Tavern in Alton, Illinois, from about April, 1967, to June, 1967. She stated the tavern to the best of her recollection was closed at the time of the robbery of the Bank of Alton on July 13, 1967. She stated that she would have been working in St. Louis, Missouri, at the time of the bank robbery and had no information as to who may have been responsible for the bank robbery although she is acquainted with HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON and JOHN KENNETH MC CLINTOCK who have been considered suspects in this bank robbery.

91-27494-27

SI 91-3899

On May 27, 1971, ESTHER SOTO, 511 State Street, Alton, Illinois, the mother of PAT SOTO, advised that PAT SOTO is not living or working in the Alton, Illinois area to the best of her knowledge.

Mrs. SOTO stated that the last she knew, her daughter, PAT SOTO, was living at 1120 Murle Drive, Elkhart, Indiana.

Mrs. SOTO further advised that she does not approve of the manner in which her daughter, PAT, has treated her children, nor does she approve of the manner in which she conducts herself. She said therefore that she will not allow PAT SOTO to live with her at 511 State Street, although she will allow her to visit occasionally. Mrs. SOTO stated that she has not seen her daughter, PAT, since approximately Easter, 1971, when PAT visited her briefly while in Alton, Illinois, from Elkhart, Indiana.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date June 10, 1971

HILDA (Mrs. MELVIN) SHAW, 3407 Agnes, advised that at the time the Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, was robbed in 1967, she was working as a cocktail waitress on weekends at the Hi-hat Tavern, Cottage Hills, Illinois. She said that at that time her name was HILDA RHOADES. Mrs. SHAW stated that among habitués of the Hi-hat Tavern were JO SPARROWK, CHUCK BAZE, and RALPH PAGE. She said that PAGE regularly carried a .32 caliber revolver at the Hi-hat Tavern and from the way the above named individuals acted, she suspected that they could have been involved in the robbery of the Bank of Alton, and that in particular RALPH PAGE and JO SPARROWK could have been the ones who entered the bank. She further advised that the rumor at the Hi-hat Tavern that whoever robbed the bank must have lived very close to it and did not use a getaway car. She stated that one of the three mentioned suspects has living quarters relatively close to the bank and that PAGE and SPARROWK could have walked from the bank to these quarters and hidden out until "the heat was off".

Mrs. SHAW further stated that immediately after the bank robbery, RALPH PAGE and JO SPARROWK left the area and did not return for quite some time. She further informed that it was her understanding that the person who set up the bank robbery and other crimes in the greater Alton, Illinois area was one (first name unknown) VANDERGRUFF who is the brother of BOB VANDERGRUFF, an insurance agent in the Cottage Hills, Illinois area.

Mrs. SHAW concluded by stating that while she can not say specifically that RALPH PAGE and JO SPARROWK were involved in the bank robbery in collusion with CHUCK BAZE, and (first name unknown) VANDERGRUFF, she feels that they are definite suspects in this crime based upon their reaction to the crime; their leaving the area immediately thereafter and their propensity for violence.

On 6/2/71 at Alton Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA ROBERT C. HAINES /rkl Date dictated 6/1/71

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 18, 1971

1

VINCENT MYRON RUYLE, inmate, Madison County Jail, was interviewed regarding his possible knowledge of or participation in bank robberies which have occurred in the Madison area in the preceding five years. Prior to interview RUYLE was furnished a Waiver of Rights form which he read, stated he understood and then signed. RUYLE was interviewed as a result of rumors to the effect that he may have knowledge of the bank robbery of the State Bank of Godfrey, Godfrey, Illinois, which occurred in January, 1968.

RUYLE stated that at no time did he participate in nor did he have any knowledge of the robberies of the following institutions:

The First National Bank of Brighton  
Brighton, Illinois  
March 19, 1971

The Bank of Alton  
Alton, Illinois  
August, 1967

The First National Bank of Bunker Hill  
Bunker Hill, Illinois  
September 20, 1967

The Godfrey State Bank  
Godfrey, Illinois  
January 26, 1968

The Citizens State Bank of Shipman  
Shipman, Illinois  
August 6, 1970

RUYLE advised that he had no knowledge of these bank robberies other than information that he had received through news media concerning these bank robberies. RUYLE continued that he had lived in the Alton-Wood River,

On 6/14/71 at Edwardsville, Illinois File # SI 91-5238

SA ROBERT DALE SCHULER

SA HAROLD E. DONALDSON

JED/cs

Date dictated 6/16/71

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SI 91-5238

2

Illinois area, all of his life. RUYLE advised that he sometimes hustles pool for money in various taverns and has frequented a tavern on Dolmar Street in Alton, as well as a pool hall near Brighton, Illinois. RUYLE advised that he is currently driving a 1971 Ford and a 1969 Lincoln Mark III automobile which had been financed in his father's name. RUYLE stated that he does not have steady employment but receives money from his wife, LYNN, who has a sizeable trust fund as a result of an automobile accident which claimed the life of her former husband.

RUYLE stated that he has not associated with nor does he know any of the local hoodlum element in the Alton, Illinois area and has associated only with local citizens whom he went to high school with.

RUYLE continued that he plans to go to work in the near future as a market director with International Supply, 2200 Sunshine Street, Springfield, Missouri. RUYLE stated another source of income for himself is the buying of automobiles, repairing them at nominal cost and the reselling them at a higher amount, thus making a small profit. RUYLE stated that he estimates he has sold approximately 25 cars in a six month period.

The following descriptive data of RUYLE was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	VINCENT MYRON RUYLE	<i>Mo.</i>
Date of Birth	January 9, 1943	
Place of Birth	Alton, Illinois	
Height	6'	
Weight	200 pounds	<i>100 lbs Chetana</i>
Eyes	Blue	<i>Blue</i>
Hair	Brown	<i>Brown</i>
Education	Wood River, Illinois High School, receiving GED certificate while in United States Army	<i>High</i>
Military	United States Army Serial No. RA 17561055, honorably discharged 1963	

SI 91-5238

3

Marital Status	Married
Wife	LYNN GOMER RUYLE
Children	Four
Occupation	Unemployed
Former Employment	McDonnell-Douglas Aircraft St. Louis, Missouri
Prior Arrest	None admitted
Current Incarceration	Driving while intoxicated
Address	166A Rue Chateau de Fluor Bethalto, Illinois
Former Residence	Lake Village Route 1 St. Charles, Missouri

SI 91-3699

Detective RAYMOND GALLOWAY, Alton Police Department, advised that JO SPARROWK is currently confined in the Ohio State Penitentiary at Columbus, Ohio, and that RALPH PAGE is currently confined at the Illinois State Farm, Vandalia, Illinois.

Contacts with area law enforcement agencies have developed no further information regarding captioned matter.

On July 19, 1971, Detective Sergeant DONALD SANDIDGE, Alton Police Department, was contacted by Special Agent JEROLD W. DONALDSON at which time he advised he had developed no information of value pertaining to this case.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of: SA JOSEPH P. BENSON  
Date: May 18, 1971

Office: SPRINGFIELD

Field Office File #: SI 91-3699

Bureau File #: 91-27494

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2);  
The Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois  
July 13, 1967

Character: BANK ROBBERY

## Synopsis

Suspects CHARLES WILLIAM BAZE, HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON, LOUIS EUGENE CARTER and JOHN KENNETH MC CLINTOCK interviewed 3/30/71. Denied involvement in captioned bank robbery. UNSUBS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

-P-

DETAILS:AT ALTON, ILLINOIS

CHARLES WILLIAM BAZE, HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON, LOUIS EUGENE CARTER and JOHN KENNETH MC CLINTOCK have been considered possible suspects in this matter based on information developed shortly after captioned bank robbery indicating that they may have been involved in the bank robbery.

91-27494-26

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date April 12, 1971

CHARLES WILLIAM BAZE, residing Rural Route, South Roxana, Illinois, voluntarily appeared at the Alton, Illinois, FBI Resident Agency. Mr. BAZE was informed that interviewing Agents wished to interview him regarding bank robberies which had occurred in the Alton, Illinois, area in the past. Prior to interview, BAZE was furnished a waiver of rights form and was shown a Voluntary Appearance - Advice of Rights form, which he read, stated he understood but declined to sign both forms.

BAZE stated that he had no knowledge of any bank robberies which had occurred in the Alton, Illinois, area. BAZE was specifically asked as to his whereabouts on July 13, 1967, at the time the robbery occurred at the Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois. BAZE stated that he had left the Alton area approximately three years ago to live in California. BAZE continued that while in California, he had resided in San Bernardino, California, at 214 East Gray Street and was employed with W. F. Maxwell Construction Company, Fontana, California. BAZE related that he was employed as a construction worker and had worked out of Local 97, Fontana, California.

BAZE continued that his eldest son was accidentally killed in the spring of 1970 and that he, BAZE, had returned to the White Hall, Illinois, area where he resided approximately five months. He stated that his former wife and son, who is deceased, resided in Rupert, Idaho, and that the son had been brought back to White Hall, Illinois, for the funeral. BAZE stated that he has been back from the State of California for approximately three months, having left White Hall, Illinois, in September, 1970.

BAZE also advised that he had absolutely no knowledge of nor did he participate in the bank robbery of the Citizen's State Bank of Shipman, Shipman, Illinois, which occurred on August 10, 1970.

The following description was obtained from observation and interview:

On 3/30/71 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699  
SI 91-5012

by SA JOSEPH P. BENSON  
SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON JWD:jad Date dictated 4/6/71

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SI 91-3699

SI 91-5012

2

Name	<u>CHARLES WILLIAM BAZE</u>
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of birth	May 30, 1930
Place of birth	Pittsfield, Illinois
Height	6'11"
Weight	200
Build	Heavy
Eyes	Brown
Hair	Gray
Complexion	Ruddy
Marital status	Married
Wife	PATRICIA BASHAM BAZE, employed Shell Bar, South Roxana, Illinois
Employed	Construction Workers Local 97, Fontana, California

At the conclusion of the interview, BAZE voluntarily agreed to be photographed at which time black and white photographs were taken by SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date April 5, 1971

HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON, Rural Route 1, Alton, Illinois, was interviewed at the Detective Bureau, Alton, Illinois, Police Department. Prior to interview, COVINGTON was furnished a waiver of rights form, which he read, stated he understood and signed.

COVINGTON stated he had absolutely no knowledge of who may have been involved in the robbery of the Bank of Alton, Illinois, which occurred on July 13, 1967. COVINGTON stated that he had not participated in this robbery nor had he participated in the robbery of the Bank of Bunker Hill, Bunker Hill, Illinois, which occurred on September 20, 1967. COVINGTON stated that due to the length of time that had transpired since the bank robbery of the Bank of Alton, he could not recall specifically where he was employed but believed he might have been tending bar at the Pioneer Club, Alton, at this time.

The following descriptive data of HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of birth	July 22, 1937
Place of birth	Alton, Illinois
Height	5'8"
Weight	170
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Hazel
Education	Graduated Alton, Illinois, Senior High School
Military Service	U. S. Army, 1957 (6 months reserve)
Service No.	ER16524366
Occupation	Laborer, Construction Workers Local 218, Alton, Illinois
Marital status	Divorced
Former wife	PATRICIA COVINGTON
Children	Two, ages 11 and 9
Prior arrest record	No felony convictions admitted

On 3/24/71 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA JOSEPH P. BENSON  
SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON JWD:jad Date dictated 3/30/71

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SI 91-3699

2

At the conclusion of the interview, COVINGTON voluntarily agreed to be photographed, at which time black and white photographs were taken by an Alton, Illinois, Police Department technician.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date April 5, 1971

LOUIS EUGENE CARTER, 786 State Street, Wood River, Illinois, was interviewed at the Detective Bureau, Alton, Illinois, Police Department. Prior to interview, CARTER was furnished a waiver of rights form, which he read and then signed. CARTER furnished the following information:

CARTER advised that he had no knowledge of who perpetrated the bank robbery of the Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, which occurred on July 13, 1967. CARTER stated that he recalled reading about this bank robbery and also recalls that he, CARTER, was working for General Services Administration (GSA) as an Assistant General Mechanic at the Federal Building, East St. Louis, Illinois, under the supervision of EUGENE HARDER. CARTER continued that as a mechanic that he was responsible for the upkeep of the air-conditioning and heating units in the building and was so employed in this capacity from January 2, 1967, until September 19, 1969. CARTER continued that he does know DELMAR GRINSTAFF but does not associate with him. CARTER continued that during this period of time in mid 1967 that he was working on weekends as a bartender at the Pioneer Club for ROGER ALLEN in Alton, Illinois.

The following descriptive data regarding CARTER was taken from observation and interview:

name	LOUIS EUGENE CARTER
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of birth	April 7, 1931
Place of birth	Carrollton, Illinois
Height	6'1"
Weight	200 pounds
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Brown
Education	8th grade with a GED certificate obtained at Granite City, Illinois
Military service	U. S. Army, Honorable Discharge, served April, 1948, through May, 1950
Army Serial No.	RA17235944
Marital status	Married

On 3/24/71 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA JOSEPH P. BENSON  
SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON JWD:jad Date dictated 3/30/71

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SI 91-3699

2

Wife	RITA BRAMLETT CARTER
Employed (Wife)	Police Dispatcher, Wood River, Illinois, Police Department
Occupation	Construction worker, Construction Workers Local 218, Alton, Illinois
Children	Three children, ages 15, 14, and 5
Prior arrest record	Admits minor traffic violations, no felony convictions

At the conclusion of the interview, CARTER voluntarily agreed to be photographed, at which time black and white photographs were taken by an Alton, Illinois, Police Department technician.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

April 5, 1971

Date

JOHN KENNETH MC CLINTOCK, residing on Yaeger Street, Alton, Illinois, was interviewed at the Detective Bureau, Alton, Illinois, Rice Department. Prior to interview, MC CLINTOCK signed a waiver of rights form. MC CLINTOCK furnished the following information:

MC CLINTOCK stated that he had no knowledge nor did he participate in the robbery of the Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, which occurred on July 13, 1967. MC CLINTOCK related that at that time he had left three days before the bank robbery in the company of his wife, PAM, and one GERALD SMITH, and had gone to the Los Angeles, California, area. MC CLINTOCK continued that he believed that on the day of the bank robbery that he had appeared in Los Angeles County Traffic Court, Van Nuys, California, on a speeding violation. He stated that while residing in California that he had lived at 6403 Gentry in North Hollywood, California. The following description of MC CLINTOCK was taken through observation and interview:

Name	JOHN KENNETH MC CLINTOCK
Race	White
Sex	Male
<u>Date of birth</u>	April 29, 1944
<u>Place of birth</u>	Alton, Illinois
<u>Height</u>	5'9½"
<u>Weight</u>	160 pounds
<u>Hair</u>	Brown (long sideburns)
<u>Eyes</u>	Brown
<u>Complexion</u>	Medium
<u>Marital status</u>	Married
<u>Wife</u>	PAMELA WEBB MC CLINTOCK
<u>Children</u>	JOHN KENNETH MC CLINTOCK, JR., age 6
<u>Parents</u>	HELEN GRABLE (mother), residing with MC CLINTOCK; LARRY MC CLINTOCK (father) Jefferson Avenue, Alton, Illinois
<u>Prior arrest record</u>	Admitted two years incarceration Wayside, California, approximately 3 years ago on first degree burglary

On 3/24/71 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA JOSEPH P. BENSON  
SA JEROME W. DONALDSON JWD:ad Date dictated 3/30/71

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SI 91-3699

2**Tattoos**

convicted, charge later reduced to second degree burglary, served two years.

"USMC" left upper outer forearm,  
bird on lower outer left forearm,  
two entwining hearts with word  
"Love" on upper outer right arm.

After interview, MC CLINTOCK consented to have photographs taken which were down by Alton, Illinois, Police Department technician.

SI 91-3699

On May 6, 1971, Detective Sgt. DONALD SANDIDGE, Alton, Illinois Police Department, was contacted by SAS JEROLD W. DONALDSON and JOSEPH P. BENSON, at which time he advised that he had developed no information of value pertaining to this case.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of: SA JOSEPH P. BENSON Office: SPRINGFIELD  
Date: MARCH 22, 1971  
Field Office File #: SI 91-3699 Bureau File #: 91-27494  
Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2);  
The Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois  
July 13, 1967  
Character: BANK ROBBERY

Synopsis: Interview with individuals familiar with criminal activities in Alton, Illinois, area developed no pertinent information regarding a bank robbery.

UNSUB SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

-P-

DETAILS:At Alton, Illinois

On January 11, 1971, JOHN BARRY MARTIN, White Hall, Illinois, who is an ex-convict and associate of various hoodlums in the Alton, Illinois, area, advised SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON and SA JOSEPH P. BENSON that he was familiar with the details of the robbery of the Bank of Alton on July 13, 1967, but has no specific information as to who may have been involved in this robbery. He advised that CHARLES WILLIAM BAZE, who has been considered as a possible suspect in this robbery, had been in the White Hall, Illinois, area during the summer of 1970 and had left the area about August, 1970, to go to California. He stated that BAZE was working for the W. F. MAXWELL Construction Company in Holtsville, California.

On January 23, 1971, JOHN SIDNEY CANADAY, inmate of the Illinois State Penitentiary, Menard Branch, Chester, Illinois, who was serving a sentence for burglary and who is acquainted with various members of the hoodlum element in the Alton, Illinois area, advised he had no information regarding the robbery of the Bank of Alton in July, 1967.

SI 91-3699

On February 9, 1971, JAMES POE, an inmate of the Illinois State Penitentiary, Menard Branch, Chester, Illinois, who is from the area of Granite City, Illinois, and who has been associated with the hoodlum element in the Granite City area and the Alton area, advised that he had no information concerning the robbery of the Bank of Alton in July, 1967.

On February 26, 1971, MICHAEL WYAN COOL, also known as TOMMY SUMMERS, 654 North 6th Street, Wood River, Illinois, who has been convicted of being in possession of counterfeit money and who was awaiting sentence, advised that he has no information concerning the robbery of the Bank of Alton in July, 1967. COOL is closely associated with the hoodlum elements in the St. Louis, Missouri, area.

On February 25, 1971, DIANE POE, 2815 Myrtle Avenue, Granite City, Illinois, advised SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON and SA JOSEPH P. BENSON that she had no information regarding the robbery of the Bank of Alton in July, 1967. DIANE POE, who is presently on probation for burglary and who has recently been charged with forging prescriptions to obtain drugs, is closely associated with the hoodlum elements in the Granite City area and is also acquainted with the hoodlum element in St. Louis, Missouri, and the Alton, Illinois area.

On February 24, 1971, Detective Sergeant DON SANDIDGE, Alton Police Department, Alton, Illinois, was contacted by SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON and SA JOSEPH P. BENSON to determine if he had received any information regarding the whereabouts of FAT SOTO, JO ANN JOHNSON, or HILDA RHOADES who allegedly have knowledge regarding the robbery of the Bank of Alton. He advised that he had no information regarding the whereabouts of JO ANN JOHNSON or HILDA RHOADES other than the fact that he heard JOHNSON was working as a go-go dancer in St. Louis, Missouri. He stated that PAT SOTO was supposed to have returned to the Alton area and to be living with her mother, ESTHER SOTO, at 511 State Street in Alton.

AT St. Louis, Missouri

On February 23, 1971, JOE MESSANA, Owner, Trolley Lounge, 1100 Pine, St. Louis, Missouri, advised that a white female by the name of JO ANN JOHNSON had worked for him as a go-go dancer for three or four days. She worked

SI 91-3699

for MESSANA approximately three months ago. MESSANA had an address for JOHNSON of 714 Elfgan, Granite City, Illinois. Her Social Security Number is 333-38-0766. MESSANA was unable to furnish any additional information concerning JOHNSON or her whereabouts. He has not seen her since she quit working for him.

Contact was made with Granite City Police Department and the Granite City Post Office, and it was determined there is no Elfgan in the Granite City area.

An attempt was made to locate SOTO at that address on February 24, 1971, with negative results.

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA ROBERT C. HAINES:

At Alton, Illinois

Detective Sergeant DONALD SANDIDGE and Detective RAYMOND GALLOWAY, Alton Police Department, were contacted on January 22, 1971, concerning the whereabouts of PAT SOTO and HILDA RHOADES. Information was developed that HILDA RHOADES was believed to be working as a go-go dancer or waitress at the Red Garter Lounge on Broadway in Alton. Alton Police Department information indicated further that PAT SOTO had left the Alton area but that her current whereabouts were unknown. Inquiry at the Red Garter Lounge, East Broadway, Alton, Illinois, on January 22, 1971, disclosed that HILDA RHOADES had worked there as a waitress, however, had terminated her employment about two weeks prior to interview.

Subsequent contacts at the Red Garter Lounge and through interview of police officers mentioned above at the Alton Police Department disclosed that HILDA RHOADES has moved from Alton and that investigation has failed to disclose that she left any indication of her current whereabouts or activities.

On March 16, 1971, Detective GALLOWAY, mentioned above, advised that he had learned that PAT SOTO was currently residing at 1124 Merle Drive, Elkhart, Indiana.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of: SA JOSEPH P. BENSON Office: SPRINGFIELD  
Date: November 4, 1970  
Field Office File #: SI 91-3699 Bureau File #: 91-27494  
Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2);  
The Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois  
July 13, 1967  
Character: BANK ROBBERY

Synopsis: Information received from Alton PD that JO ANN JOHNSON, barmaid, Alton, Illinois, reportedly made statements to the effect that JOHN MC CLINTOCK and LOUIS CARTER robbed the Bank of Alton in 1967. CARTER'S wife interviewed, denied any knowledge regarding bank robbery. UNSUBS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

-P-

DETAILS:

On October 2, 1970, Detective Sergeant DONALD SANDIDGE, Alton, Illinois Police Department, advised Special Agent ROBERT C. HAINES he had received information that JO ANN JOHNSON, maiden name Wilson, a barmaid at the Red Garter Tavern in Alton, had made remarks to the effect that LOUIS CARTER and JOHN MC CLINTOCK were involved in the robbery of the Bank of Alton in 1967. SANDIDGE was recontacted by Special Agent HAINES and Special Agent JOSEPH P. BENSON on November 2, 1970, at which time he stated he had obtained no further information in this regard. SANDIDGE had previously been contacted by Special Agent HAINES on August 11, 1970, and on other occasions during August and September without any information of value being obtained.

On November 2, 1970, efforts were made to locate JO ANN JOHNSON at the Red Garter Tavern and at 500 Porter Street in Alton, Illinois, where it was determined she had resided. Information was obtained that she no longer was employed at the Red Garter and no longer resides at 500 Porter.

91-27494-24

SI 91-3699

On November 2, 1970, RITA CARTER, 786 State Street, Wood River, Illinois, a dispatcher for the Wood River Police Department, advised Special Agents BENSON and HAINES that she had been employed by the Bank of Alton prior to the time when it was robbed in 1937. She stated she has no knowledge regarding the individuals who may have robbed the bank and advised that she did not believe that her husband, LOUIS CARTER, was involved in the robbery. She stated that if he were involved in the robbery, she certainly has not seen any of the proceeds. She advised that her husband is a close friend of JOHN MC CLINTOCK, HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON, and other individuals who have been involved in burglaries. She stated that she does not believe that her husband, MC CLINTOCK, or COVINGTON would have nerve enough to be involved in an armed robbery.

Mrs. CARTER advised that her husband, MC CLINTOCK, and COVINGTON are presently employed in construction work and obtain their employment through the laborers local in Alton, Illinois.

On November 2, 1970, PHIL STASSI, 834 Lewis, Wood River, Illinois, owner of Phil's Tavern, advised that he is acquainted with JOHN MC CLINTOCK, LOUIS CARTER, and HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON. He advised that they have been customers in his tavern in the past, although none of them are particularly welcome at the present time. He stated, however, that he has never heard any discussion indicating that any of these individuals may have been involved in the robbery of the Bank of Alton in July, 1937.

On November 2, 1970, the following information was obtained from records of the Alton Police Department pertaining to JOHN KENNETH MC CLINTOCK:

## DEPARTMENT OF POLICE






City of Alton, Illinois

Name John Kenneth McClintock I. D. No. 10094  
 Alias \_\_\_\_\_ Date 3-26-69 Date of Arrest 3-26-69  
 Address 2500 A. E. Broadway Alton, Illinois  
 Age 24 Date of Birth 4-29-44 Birthplace Alton, Illinois  
 Height 69½ Weight 160 Build med. Complexion med.  
 Eyes brn. Hair brn. Teeth good Social Condition married  
 Color white Sex male Parentage American Occupation Roofer  
 (Wife Husband) Pamela Jane Mc Clintock  
 Mother Helen Grable Address Altanite, Ga.  
 Father Larry Mc Clintock Address 411 Jefferson, Alton, Illinois  
 Sisters Susan Mc Clintock in the State of Washington  
 Brothers none



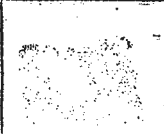
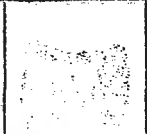

Daughters-Sons John Kenneth McClintock age 4

Scars two hearts with Sue on shoulder, Left arm USMC with a Eagle-Bird inside a ring with the word Love. All tattoos, Scars on back right  
 Charges \_\_\_\_\_ Disposition \_\_\_\_\_ Officer \_\_\_\_\_

FINGER PRINTS  
RIGHT HAND

Thumb	Index	Middle	Ring	Little
				

## LEFT HAND

Thumb	Index	Middle	Ring	Little
				

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

7-17-69

The following FBI record, NUMBER 337-716 E, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Marine	John Kenneth McClintock #1954394	5-1-61		
PD San Diego Calif	John Kenneth McClintock #211599	2-16-63	burg	2-20-63 rel 849 (b) (1) detention not an arr
US Naval Disciplinary Comm Portsmouth NH	John Kenneth McClintock #59500	4-25-63	Viol UCMJ Art 86; JA fm 12 Sep 62 to 28 Feb 63.	SFCM; CHL \$55 X 6; EC
PD Los Angeles Calif	John Kenneth McClintock #LA 320 146-M	1-13-63	459 PC burg	
County Jail Edwardsville Ill	John Kenneth McClintock #5788	2-13-68	burg(2 counts)	
PD Collinsville Ill	John Kenneth McClintock	3-8-68	unlawful use of weapons poss two sawed off shot guns double barrel 13"	
Co Jail Edwardsville Ill	John Kenneth McClintock #788	3-27-69	burg (Governors Warr State of Calif)	
PD Alton Ill	John Kenneth McClintock #10084	3-26-69	extradition for burg	rel to SO Madison Co I.

Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. Where final disposition is not shown or further explanation of charge is desired, communicate with agency contributing these fingerprints.

Records included hereon are based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads and are not to be used as evidence.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of: SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON  
Date: July 23, 1970

Office: SPRINGFIELD

Field Office File #: SI 91-3699

Bureau File #: 91-27494

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2);  
The Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois  
7/13/67

Character: BANK ROBBERY

## Synopsis:

Contact maintained with law enforcement officials and bank officials, Alton, Illinois area, who advised no new information concerning captioned robbery. CLINTON ALLEN BRAMLET considered possible bank robbery suspect who resides Cottage Hills, Illinois interviewed and denies any knowledge of or participation in robbery of bank.

UNSUBS ARMED AND DANGEROUS

-P-

DETAILS:

On April 20, May 8, May 26, June 22, and July 1, 1970, contact was made with Detectives WILLIAM GALLOWAY and DONALD SANDIDGE, Alton, Illinois Police Department, who advised that they had no new information to relate, or possible suspects in captioned bank robbery.

On June 22, 1970, Detective Sergeant JULIUS LUBER, Division 25, Illinois State Police, Maryville, Illinois advised that he could furnish no new information concerning possible suspects in bank robbery.

On May 26, 1970 WILLIAM BEARDSMORE, President, Bank of Alton, 1520 Washington Avenue, Alton, Illinois advised that he had developed no additional new information, nor had he heard anything concerning the robbery which occurred on July 13, 1967.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 10, 1970

CLINTON ALLEN BRAMLET, 13 South Stanley Road, Cottage Hills, Illinois was interviewed concerning his possible involvement in burglaries which occurred in the Alton, Illinois area. Prior to interview, BRAMLET was furnished a waiver of rights form which he read, stated he understood, and then signed.

BRAMLET stated that he had worked for McDonnell-Douglas Aircraft for approximately 11 years as a sheet metal worker, and that he had worked on the first shift, that is the day shift during this period. He advised that in the Fall of 1969, that he, in the company of ROBERT LEE COURTOISE and GEORGE ROTHWEILER, both former employees of McDonnell-Douglas, had gone to Tallahassee, Florida area on a restaurant venture and had attempted to open a restaurant known as the Fountains Restaurant. BRAMLET stated that he had contributed \$1500 of his money for this restaurant, and that he believed ROTHWEILER had contributed a substantial amount of money from ROTHWEILER's retirement money which he obtained from retirement at McDonnell-Douglas. BRAMLET stated that although he had known COURTOISE for approximately 15 years, that he had only known ROTHWEILER approximately six months prior to going to Florida. BRAMLET stated that inasmuch as the restaurant venture was unsuccessful, that he had returned to the Cottage Hills, Illinois area and has been engaged in the construction of private homes since his return.

BRAMLET stated that he had lived in the Alton, Illinois area for most of his life, and that he was familiar with the area of Bunker Hill, Illinois as well as the Alton, Illinois area, but he denied any knowledge of or participation in the robberies of the First National Bank of Bunker Hill, Illinois, the Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, nor of the robbery of the Godfrey State Bank, Godfrey, Illinois.

BRAMLET advised that he had been arrested only once, and that was in the company of ROBERT COURTOISE, when both had stolen a farm tractor in 1968 in the Bethalto, Illinois area, but served no time for this theft.

BRAMLET advised that he had borrowed \$13,000 to build his house at 13 South Stanley Drive, and that he was attempting to build another house in the Cottage Hills area

7/6/70

Cottage Hills, Illinois

91-3922

On

at

File #

by SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON /vh

Date dictated 7/8/70

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SJ 91-3922

and then offer it for sale.

The following description of CLINTON ALLEN BRAMLET was obtained through observation and interview:

Name:	<u>CLINTON ALLEN BRAMLET</u>
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
<u>DOB:</u>	<u>11/16/37</u>
<u>POB:</u>	<u>Alton, Illinois</u>
Ht:	5'8"
Wt:	125
Build:	Slender
Eyes:	Brown
Hair:	Brown
Scars:	No scars, marks or tattoos
Education:	Graduated 1959, Bethalto High School Bethalto, Illinois
Military Service:	None
Marital status:	Married; wife, BARBARA PRESTON BRAMLET, children; son, MARK, age 12.

BRAMLET advised that neither he nor COURTOISE had any association with armed robbers, nor criminal associates.

13 - STANLEY - 11/16/37 - ALTON, ILLINOIS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of:	SA H. MAX LOUDERMAN	Office:	SPRINGFIELD
Date:	APRIL 24, 1970		
Field Office File #:	SI 91-3699	Bureau File #:	91-27494
Title:	UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2); The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois July 13, 1967		
Character:	BANK ROBBERY		
Synopsis:	DONALD LEE SMITH and ROBER ELMO PHELPS, Cahokia, Illinois, interviewed, but denied knowledge of bank burglaries in Illinois. <u>UNSUBS ARMED AND DANGEROUS.</u>		

- P -

DETAILS:

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA JOSEPH P. BENSON:

On March 6, 1970, DONALD LEE SMITH was interviewed at 1752 Park Lane Drive, Cahokia, Illinois, the present residence of his step-daughter, STEPHANIE STEPHAN in connection with the burglary of the Bonne Terre Federal Savings and Loan Association, Bonne Terre, Missouri, February 27, 1970. At this time SMITH stated that he had never pulled any burglaries in the State of Illinois and was reluctant to discuss any specific burglaries.

It was determined that SMITH currently drives a 1960 black Corvair, 1970 Missouri license VGG 643, which license is registered to SMITH for a 1964 Pontiac.

ROGER ELMO PHELPS, 1099 St. Michael Drive, Cahokia, Illinois, was interviewed on the same date at his residence concerning the burglary of the Bonne Terre Federal Savings and Loan Association, Bonne Terre, Missouri, February 27, 1970. PHELPS stated at this



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time that his wife is in close contact with DONALD LEE SMITH's wife but that he is currently trying to avoid SMITH because he has been warned by his probation officer that his parole could be revoked if he were to continue association with him. PHELPS denied knowledge of any bank burglaries in the State of Illinois.

Contact with Captain JOHN LIGHT and Lieutenant ROBERT CHURCHICH, Alton, Illinois, Police Department on March 26, 1970, failed to disclose any further helpful information regarding this matter.

WILLIAM BEARDSMORE, President, Bank of Alton, LEE MAAS, Vice President, Bank of Alton, and JO ANN GRAVES, Secretary, Bank of Alton, were also contacted regarding this matter on March 26, 1970, but could furnish no additional information.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of: SA ROBERT C. HAINES  
Date: FEBRUARY 27, 1970

Office: SPRINGFIELD

Field Office File #: SI 91-3699

Bureau File #: 91-27494

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2)  
The Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois  
July 13, 1967

Character: BANK ROBBERY

Synopsis: Contact with bank officials and law enforcement agencies has failed to develop any current or additional information concerning possible suspects in this matter. UNSUBS ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- P -

DETAILS:

On February 3, 1970, and February 18, 1970, the following listed bank officials and law enforcement personnel were contacted at which time they advised they had been unable to develop any current or additional information concerning possible suspects in this matter;

WILLIAM BEARDSMORE, President  
The Bank of Alton

Mrs. JO ANN GRAVES, Secretary  
The Bank of Alton

LEE MAAS, Vice-President  
The Bank of Alton

Lieutenant ROBERT CHURCHICH  
Alton Police Department

Captain JOHN LIGHT  
Alton Police Department

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Detective Sergeant DONALD SANDIDGE  
Alton Police Department

Agent JULIUS LOWE, Illinois State Police.  
Maryville, Illinois

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND  
DANGEROUS.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of:	SA ROBERT C. HAINES	Office:	SPRINGFIELD
Date:	DECEMBER 30, 1969		
Field Office File #:	SI 91-3699	Bureau File #:	91-27494
Title:	UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2) The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois July 13, 1967		
Character:	BANK ROBBERY		

## Synopsis:

Lieutenant ROBERT CHURCHICH, Alton, Illinois, Police Department, stated he could provide no information concerning the possible identity of (FNU) CRAIN although he recalls seeing this individual at the Bank of Alton some time ago. Contact with law agencies and bank officials unproductive with regard to current or additional information. Unknown subjects ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- P -

DETAILS:

On November 10, 1969, Lieutenant ROBERT CHURCHICH, Alton Police Department, Alton, Illinois, advised that he recalls seeing (first name unknown) CRAIN at the Bank of Alton on one or two occasions some time ago at which time he aroused the suspicions of secretary, JO ANN GRAVES. He said that while CRAIN is familiar to him, he can recall no specific information concerning him and could not further identify him at this time. CHURCHICH stated that should he recall specific information concerning CRAIN, he would report this information promptly.

The following listed law enforcement agencies and bank officials were contacted between November 10 and December 17, 1969, and advised that no current or additional information had come to their attention which they felt could be of value in this matter:

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WILLIAM BEARDSMORE, President,  
The Bank of Alton

Mrs. JO ANN GRAVES, Secretary,  
The Bank of Alton

LEE MAAS, Vice President,  
The Bank of Alton

Detective Sergeant DONALD SANDIDGE,  
Alton Police Department

Captain JOHN LIGHT,  
Alton Police Department

Deputy Sheriff CLYDE TISDEL,  
Madison County Sheriff's Office,  
Edwardsville, Illinois

Unknown subjects should be considered ARMED AND  
DANGEROUS.

204 (Rev. 3-3-59)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of: SA ROBERT C. HAINES                      Office: Springfield  
Date: 10/31/69  
Field Office File #: SI 91-3699                      Bureau File #: 91-27494  
Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2)  
THE BANK OF ALTON  
ALTON, Illinois  
July 13, 1967  
Character: BANK ROBBERY

## Synopsis:

Contact with law enforcement agencies and bank officials failed to produce any information concerning identity of unknown subjects. UNKNOWN SUBJECTS ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- P -

DETAILS:AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:

On August 27, 1969, after numerous efforts were made to locate him, EDWARD BREEN, President of the National Dry Cleaners Association, who conducts his business at Breen's Cleaners, LaGrange, Illinois, advised that he could not establish the origin of laundry mark "3107-3".

AT ALTON, ILLINOIS:

The following listed law enforcement agencies and bank officials were contacted during September and October 1969 and could provide no current or additional information of value concerning unknown subjects in this matter:

Mr. WILLIAM BEARDSMORE, President, The Bank of Alton.  
Mrs. JO ANN GRAVES, Secretary, The Bank of Alton.  
Detective Sergeant DONALD SANDIDGE, Alton Police Department.

SI 91-3699

Captain JOHN LIGHT, Alton Police Department.  
Deputy Sheriff DEMOS NICHOLAS, Madison County  
Sheriff's Office, Edwardsville, Illinois.  
Sergeant JULIUS LUBER, Illinois State Police Crime  
Section, Maryville, Illinois  
Agent WILLIAM MARCUZZO, Illinois State Police Crime  
Section, Maryville, Illinois

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of: SA ROBERT C. HAINES Office: SPRINGFIELD  
Date: August 29, 1969  
Field Office File #: SI 91-3699 Bureau File #: 91-27494  
Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2)  
THE BANK OF ALTON  
ALTON, ILLINOIS  
July 13, 1967  
Character: BANK ROBBERY

## Synopsis:

Investigation at Chicago, Illinois, in reference to laundry mark "3107-3" set forth. Secretary JO ANN GRAVES, The Bank of Alton, furnished information about suspect (FIRST NAME UNKNOWN) CRAIN. Contact with law enforcement agencies and bank officials otherwise unproductive. UNKNOWN SUBJECTS ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- P -

DETAILS:CHICAGO DIVISION

The following investigation was conducted at Chicago, Illinois:

On June 12, 1969, RALPH YONKE, American Institute of Laundering, South Chicago Street, Joliet, Illinois, was interviewed concerning a laundry mark notation "3107-3". Mr. YONKE stated that the assignment of laundry marks by trade groups or organizations was discontinued years ago. Concerning the mark "3107-3", YONKE advised as follows:



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1. The number could refer to a laundry ticket number and the 3107 portion would be the ticket number. The numeral 3 at the end of the number could refer to a store number or a route number.

2. The number could refer to a combination laundry and dry cleaning or with 3107 referring to the ticket number and the number 3 referring to the number of pieces brought in by the customer.

3. The numbers 3107 could refer to a street address, which would be the address of a branch store and the numeral 3 could refer to the store branch number or route number, originating from that store.

Mr. YONKE further advised that most stores today use coded tickets. These tickets are purchased from several manufacturers in the United States. It is his opinion that the manufacturer would recognize the numeral 3107-3 as being one that he was responsible for. Mr. YONKE advised that there are monthly publications that are distributed to all associated dealers in the United States which publish this number and might possibly get to a customer who might recognize this number as being his. He stated a Mr. BEN ROSENFELD, an attorney, who is the executive director of the Chicago Dry Cleaners Association, would be the person to contact regarding the publication of the number for national distribution and identification.

On June 12, 1969, HERBERT SIEGERDT, Representative, Big Ben Chemicals and Solvents, 624 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, advised that ED BREN, Owner and Operator of BREN's Cleaners, La Grange, Illinois, is presently president of the National Dry Cleaners Association. It was Mr. SIEGERDT's opinion that Mr. BREN very possibly might be able to identify the laundry mark "3107-3".

SI 91-3699

RE: SUSPECT (FIRST NAME UNKNOWN) CRAIN

Information concerning suspect CRAIN furnished by  
Mrs. JO ANN GRAVES as follows:

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 29, 1969

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Mrs. JO ANN GRAVES, Secretary, The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, furnished information concerning a suspect whom she only knew as Mr. CRAIN as follows:

Recently at about 1:30 in the afternoon a Mr. CRAIN came into The Bank of Alton and asked to see the president. Mrs. GRAVES informed Mr. CRAIN that Mr. BEARDSMORE had a customer in his office and that it would be a few minutes before he could see him and asked if he wanted to wait or if someone else could help him. He said he would wait for the president and sat down.

Mr. CRAIN was very upset and angry because he had to sit and wait for Mr. BEARDSMORE. Mrs. GRAVES was afraid he would cause a scene and called Mr. BEARDSMORE on the phone and notified him that Mr. CRAIN was upset and "hot around the collar". He said it would be a few more minutes.

Mr. CRAIN began to relax and talked to Mrs. GRAVES. He asked if Mrs. GRAVES was working when The Bank of Alton was robbed, and was she sitting at the same desk as she was at now. He also asked if she was scared and did she think the bank would ever be robbed again. Before Mrs. GRAVES could answer any questions, Mr. CRAIN informed her that they probably would be robbed again, and that maybe someone would be hurt this time. He asked how much the robbers had gotten and if anyone saw them come in or leave the bank.

Mr. CRAIN then began to ask questions about Mr. BEARDSMORE such as: "Is Mr. Beardsmore a nice man? Is he kind and understanding to work for?" Then he asked how much longer he would have to wait. About this time Mr. TUNGETT left Mr. BEARDSMORE's office, and Mr. CRAIN went in.

Later on after Mr. CRAIN had left the bank, Mrs. GRAVES asked Mr. BEARDSMORE if he was able to help Mr. CRAIN, and he told her that Mr. CRAIN had asked to borrow

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On 8/22/69 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 01-3699

by SA ROBERT C. HAINES /rhb Date dictated 8/26/69

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

SI 91-3699

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\$200 to buy groceries for his family. Mr. CRAIN is a construction worker and without work. He, Mr. CRAIN, offered to repay Mr. BEARDSMORE by working around the bank grounds or at his home. Mr. BEARDSMORE said Mr. CRAIN told him he would probably end up robbing someone in order to feed his children.

SI 91-3699

MISCELLANEOUS

The following listed law enforcement agencies and bank officials were contacted during July and August, 1969, and could provide no current or additional information of pertinent value concerning this investigation:

Mr. WILLIAM BEARDSMORE  
President, The Bank of Alton

LEE MAAS, Loan Officer,  
The Bank of Alton

Detective Sergeant DONALD SANDIDGE  
Alton Police Department

Captain JOHN LIGHT  
Alton Police Department

Chief Deputy Sheriff FRANK SCHEMIDT  
Madison County Sheriff's Office  
Edwardsville, Illinois

Sergeant JULIUS LUBER  
Illinois State Police  
Crime Section  
Maryville, Illinois.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: SA ROBERT C. HAINES  
Date: June 20, 1969

Office: SPRINGFIELD

Field Office File #: 91-3699

Bureau File #: 91-27494

Title: UNSUBS: (2);  
THE BANK OF ALTON,  
ALTON, ILLINOIS  
7/13/67

Character: BANK ROBBERY

**Synopsis**

Bank officials and law enforcement agencies can provide no current or additional information concerning suspects in this matter. Unsubs armed and dangerous.

- P -

**DETAILS:**

Between May 5, 1969 and June 13, 1969 the following listed law enforcement agencies and bank officials were contacted and advised that they could provide no current or additional information concerning this matter, nor has any information come to their attention concerning possible new suspects in this matter:

WILLIAM BEARDSMORE, President, The Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois.

JOANN GRAVES, Secretary, The Bank of Alton, Alton,  
Illinois.

Captain JOHN LIGHT, Alton Police Department, Alton,  
Illinois.

Sergeant Det. DONALD SANDIDGE, Alton Police Department,  
Alton, Illinois.

Deputy Sheriff CLYDE TISDEL, Madison County Sheriff's  
Office, Edwardsville, Illinois.

SI 91-3699

Unknown subjects armed and dangerous.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of: SA ROBERT C. HAINES                      Office:            SPRINGFIELD  
 Date:            April 24, 1969  
 Field Office File #:    SI 91-3699                      Bureau File #:    91-27494  
 Title:            UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (TWO);  
                   THE BANK OF ALTON  
                   ALTON, ILLINOIS  
                   July 13, 1967  
 Character:        BANK ROBBERY

Synopsis:

Inquiry at Excelsior-Leader Laundry, St. Louis, Missouri, concerning laundry marks in shirt and trouser pocket recovered in this matter unproductive. Contact with bank officials and law enforcement agencies could provide no current or additional information concerning this matter.  
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- P -

DETAILS:

The following investigation was conducted at St. Louis, Missouri:

On February 24, 1969, SA GEORGE M. PEET contacted AMY GUNN, Claims Department, Excelsior-Leader Laundry, 2315 Texas, concerning the laundry marks in a shirt and trouser pocket recovered in this matter. GUNN stated that the laundry marks were not familiar to her, that Excelsior-Leader usually writes the name of the customer on trouser pockets and the laundry mark on shirts is placed on a cloth tape which is glued to the shirt rather than having the laundry mark stamped directly on the shirt. From her experience in the laundry business and observing laundry marks, she concluded that the numbers on the trouser pocket were most likely from a small cleaner inasmuch as they appear to be handwritten in ink and that most large laundries using number designations, use stamps of one kind or another.



SI 91-3699

GUNN stated it might be helpful to contact the American Institute of Laundrying in Joliet, Illinois, for further assistance in identifying these laundry marks.

The following investigation was conducted by SA ROBERT C. HAINES:

Between March 28, 1969, and April 18, 1969, the following listed persons were contacted concerning captioned matter and could provide no current or additional information of value:

WILLIAM BEARDSMORE, President, The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois;

LEE MAAS, Loan Officer, The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois;

JOANN GRAVES, The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois;

Captain JOHN LIGHT, Alton Police Department, Alton, Illinois;

Deputy Sheriff CLYDE TISDEL, Madison County Sheriff's Office, Edwardsville, Illinois.

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of: SA ROBERT C. HAINES Office: SPRINGFIELD  
Date: 2/27/69  
Field Office File #: SI 91-3699 Bureau File #: 91-27494  
Title: UNSUBS (2); The Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois, 7/13/67

## Character:

BANK ROBBERY

## Synopsis:

Investigation regarding suspect JERALD SWETLAND set forth. Bank officials and police agencies report no current or additional information concerning instant bank robbery. UNSUBS ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- P -

DETAILS:Suspect JERALD SWETLAND

SWETLAND was developed as a suspect based upon information furnished by Agent WILLIAM MARCUZZO, Illinois State Police, Crime Section, who indicated he had received information SWETLAND was located in the Granite City, Illinois, area, and had been identified as one of two persons casing banks in Indiana.

Detective JOSEPH NEMETH, Granite City Police Department, Granite City, Illinois, advised on January 15, 1969, that records of the Granite City Police Department contained no reference to SWETLAND. He further advised that SWETLAND is unknown to him or to any other of the Detective Bureau at the Granite City Police Department.

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On February 24, 1969, NEMETH was recontacted by the reporting agent and stated that he had been unable to develop any information concerning SWETLAND and for that reason could not assist in identifying his girlfriend.

On February 24, 1969, MARION VANFOSSEN, State Parole and Probation Officer, Alton, Illinois, advised that SWETLAND is not currently paroled or probated to him. He advised that he will review state records at his next opportunity and develop all background information concerning SWETLAND at which time he will furnish this information to the FBI.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Between January 15 and February 24, 1969, the following listed individuals were contacted concerning current or additional information regarding the robbery of The Bank of Alton, on July 13, 1967. All reported that they have received no current or additional information since they were last contacted on this matter:

WILLIAM BEARDSMORE, President,  
The Bank of Alton;

JOANN GRAVES,  
Secretary,  
The Bank of Alton;

Chief WILLIAM H. PETERSEN, NA,  
Alton Police Department;

Detective DONALD SANDIDGE,  
Alton Police Department;

Deputy Sheriff DEMOS NICHOLAS,  
Madison County Sheriff's Office,  
Edwardsville, Illinois.

Deputy Sheriff CLYDE TISDELL,  
Madison County Sheriff's Office,  
Edwardsville, Illinois.

UNSUBS ARMED AND DANGEROUS.



SI 91-3699

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On October 17, 1968, the following investigation was conducted by SA LARRY W. GREEN at Cahokia, Illinois:

GEORGE KREKARIAN, Owner, Cahokia Cleaners, 313 Jerome Lane, advised that the laundry mark appearing in the men's long sleeve white shirt exhibited to him was not the mark of his cleaners, which mark is a code supplied by Esther's Home Laundry, 5345 Manchester Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri. KREKARIAN advised that the code appears to be JCH-U, rather than JOH-S, to him.

KREKARIAN stated that Excelsior-Leader Launderers and Cleaners, St. Louis, Missouri, is the largest commercial-type cleaners in Southern Illinois and Missouri, and that this would be the logical firm to contact in an attempt to identify cleaners whose code mark appears in the exhibited garment. He advised that the person to be contacted there, should such contact be made, is the claims clerk whom he knows only as AMY (LNU).

KREKARIAN advised that he subscribes to both the Dry Cleaning World, a monthly publication by the United Business News Publishers, 200 Madison, New York, New York, and the American Dry Cleaner, a monthly publication by the American Trade Magazine, 800 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois, and that in both publications regularly appears a picture of a laundry mark similar in type to the one on the referenced shirt. KREKARIAN stated that these publications are Launderers' and cleaners' "Bible"; and that, in his opinion, if such code mark were to appear in one of these publications, it would be recognized. He advised that in his opinion, the numbers written on the pocket of the pair of men's trousers, 3107-3, would be more easily recognized by a dry cleaners or laundry, than the laundry mark in the white shirt.

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Suspect JERALD SWETLAND

On December 3, 1968, Agent WILLIAM MARCUZZO, ISP, Crime Section, advised that consideration should be given to JERALD SWETLAND as a possible suspect in the robbery of The Bank of Alton. He stated that his reasons therefor are that SWETLAND went to the Illinois State Penitentiary, Menard, Illinois, from Murphysboro, Illinois, however, his parole was transferred to Granite City, Illinois. He said that sources of his inform that SWETLAND is around the Granite City, Illinois, area and has a girlfriend, identity unknown, living in Granite City. He said that in addition, a source has seen SWETLAND in Indiana with another individual and, according to the source, the two of them appeared to be cashing two different banks in Indiana.

Between November 15 and December 18, 1968, the following listed individuals were contacted concerning the robbery of The Bank of Alton and could provide no current or additional information concerning suspect:

WILLIAM BEARDSMORE, President,  
The Bank of Alton;

Chief WILLIAM H. PETERSEN, NA,  
Alton Police Department;

Captain JOHN LIGHT,  
Alton Police Department;

Deputy Sheriff DEMON NICHOLAS,  
Madison County Sheriff's Office,  
Edwardsville, Illinois.

UNSUBS ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of: SA ROBERT C. HAINES  
Date: November 4, 1968

Office: SPRINGFIELD

Field Office File #: SI 91-3699

Bureau File #: 91-27494

Title: UNSUBS (2); The Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois, 7/13/67

Character: BANK ROBBERY

Synopsis: RAYMOND KEHM, Esther's Home Laundry, St. Louis, Mo., advised the laundry mark on the shirt appeared to be one of theirs. He stated the mark is apparently one that is assigned to the Cahokia Cleaners in Cahokia, Illinois. Contact with law enforcement agencies and bank officials have developed no new information concerning possible suspects in this matter. UNSUBS ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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DETAILS:

On September 17, 1968 RAYMOND KEHM, Esther's Home Landry, 5645 Manchester Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri, telephone MI 7-9330, contacted the St. Louis Office and advised that the laundry mark on the shirt appearing in Bulet to all laundries and dry cleaning establishments, dated August 12, 1968, may be theirs.

On September 23, 1968 WILLIAM COVA, Manager and RAYMOND KEHM, Esther's Home Laundry, advised SA MARVIN R. DORAN that the laundry mark appearing on the shirt appears to be "JOH-6". COVA stated his company marks laundry in a similar manner and that code 6 is assigned to Cahokia Cleans, Cahokia, Illinois, which is a small account. COVA related that his firm usually prints the full name of the customer, however, "JOH" may be the abbreviation for a long name. He suggested that Cahokia Cleaners be contacted for further information.

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The following investigation was conducted by SA  
ROBERT C. HAINES:

AT ALTON, ILLINOIS

Between August 24 and October 24, 1968 the following listed bank officials and police agencies were contacted on numerous occasions and were unable to provide any new information concerning possible suspects in this matter:

WILLIAM BEARDSMORE, President, The Bank of Alton;

JOANN GRAVES, Secretary, The Bank of Alton;

LEE MAAS, Vice President, The Bank of Alton;

Chief WILLIAM H. PETERSEN, NA, Alton Police Department;

Captain JOHN LIGHT, Alton Police Department;

Deputy Sheriff LEMOS NICHOLAS, Madison County Sheriff's Office, Edwardsville, Illinois;

WILLIAM MARCUZZO, Illinois State Police, Maryville, Illinois.

UNSUBS ARMED AND DANGEROUS.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of: SA ROBERT C. HAINES  
Date: AUGUST 26, 1968

Office: SPRINGFIELD

Field Office File #: SI 91-3699

Bureau File #: 91-27494

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (Two)  
The Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois  
July 13, 1967

Character: BANK ROBBERY

Synopsis: Interviews with wives of suspects in this matter set forth. Information received at East Alton Police Department, disclosed that that department in receipt of information instant bank robbery committed by ROBERT L. STANTON and JACKIE LEE CRIDER. Efforts to interview STANTON unproductive. Unknown subjects ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

SI 91-3699

DETAILS:

Re suspects WILLIE LEE, HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON,  
and JOHN MC CLINTOCK.

LEE, COVINGTON, and MC CLINTOCK were developed as suspects based upon information received by the Alton Resident Agency of the FBI, indicating they had planned to rob a bank and subsequently that they fled to the State of California, a few days after the bank was robbed.

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The following investigation was conducted by SA FRANK E. CORN, SR:

CAROLYN LEE, 327 E. 8th Street, Alton, Illinois, advised on July 9, 1968, that she was the former wife of WILLIE LEE who is an associate of DICK COVINGTON. She advised that she had met HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON through her former husband, WILLIE LEE. She said they had associated together on different occasions and COVINGTON had visited with them at different times.

She advised that during July and August, 1967, she believed COVINGTON was living with his mother in East Alton, Illinois. She said she did not know the correct address of his mother in East Alton and that she had never seen COVINGTON wearing coveralls of any kind.

LEE advised that in her opinion COVINGTON was no good and was a known burglar in this area. She said she had never seen her husband or COVINGTON with a lot of money at any one time. She advised that she had never heard COVINGTON speak of carrying a weapon and to the best of her knowledge he does not own a gun.

She said she knew that WILLIE LEE, RICHARD COVINGTON, and JOHN MC CLINTOCK were burglars; however, she did not think that they had the guts to pull a big job such as a bank robbery in which firearms would be used. She said she had never known any of these three individuals to have very much money in their possession at one time.

PAMELA JANE SCHNEIDER, 306 Dorris Street, Alton, Illinois, advised on July 11, 1968, she was the former wife of JOHN MC CLINTOCK. She said that when her and MC CLINTOCK were first married she was not aware of the fact that he was a house burglar. She said that she had heard that he was a house burglar in the area and had told him that if he ever brought any stolen goods to her home that she would leave him. She said he did not confide any information of his known associates with her because of this reason.

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SCHNEIDER said that in July of 1967, she and MC CLINTOCK went to California to live. She said her mother was on vacation the first two weeks in July and that they left immediately after her mother returned from vacation. She advised that while living in Los Angeles, California, they resided with a man known as JOE GREENWELL, and MCCLINTOCK had worked as a house painter while in California.

She said she returned to the Alton, Illinois, area, in November and that MC CLINTOCK came back shortly thereafter. She said MC CLINTOCK did not return to the Alton area during this time unless however he returned on a weekend in which he had stated he was going on a fishing trip. She said that he went on approximately three fishing trips while in Los Angeles, California, which would take anywhere from Friday night until Sunday night. She said it was possible that he might have taken a plane to Alton on a weekend and returned but she would have no way of knowing whether he did this or not.

SCHNEIDER said that to the best of her knowledge MC CLINTOCK never had a lot of money; however, he always managed to pay the rent and buy food.

She said she would ask him where he got the money when she knew he was not working and he always told her not to worry about it.

She said she knew COVINGTON; however, MC CLINTOCK knew how she felt about the things they were doing and MC CLINTOCK did not bring COVINGTON around very often. She said she did not know of either of them to ever have carried a gun nor wear coveralls at any time.

She advised that during July, and August of 1967, she believed that COVINGTON was living with WILLIE LEE on East Fourth Street in Alton, Illinois. She advised that if she was not mistaken this was in the Eleven Hundred block of East Fourth Street.

She said she believes that the JOE GREENWELL whom they had lived with in Los Angeles, California, had since

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moved from California and was now living in the Brighton, Illinois, area.

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The following investigation was conducted by  
SA ROBERT C. HAINES:

On August 1, 1968, Captain EBERT GRIMES, East Alton, Illinois, Police Department, advised that he had received information from an informant whom he characterized as reliable, that JAMES EARL RAY was definitely not involved in the bank robbery at The Bank of Alton. He stated that the informant disclosed to him that the bank robbery was committed by ROBERT L. STANTON and JACKIE LEE CRIDER. According to the informant of GRIMES, STANTON killed CRIDER in a dispute over the spending of the loot from the bank robbery, and STANTON is currently incarcerated in the Madison County Jail, Edwardsville, Illinois, in lieu of bond in the shooting.

Efforts to interview ROBERT LOUIS STANTON at the Madison County Jail were unproductive. STANTON refused to discuss his activities, however, when confronted with the allegation that he was involved in the bank robbery at The Bank of Alton, he vehemently denied any complicity in the bank robbery.

When re-contacted on August 19, 1968, Captain GRIMES stated that his informant had been unable to develop any further information concerning the information he furnished to Captain GRIMES.

IN VIEW OF THE FACT UNKNOWN SUBJECTS USED FIREARMS  
IN PERPATRATION OF THIS ROBBERY, THEY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED  
ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of: SA ROBERT C. HAINES  
Date: June 26, 1968

Office: Springfield

Field Office File #: SI 91-3699

Bureau File #: 91-27494

## Title:

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2);  
THE BANK OF ALTON,  
ALTON, ILLINOIS  
JULY 13, 1967

## Character:

BANK ROBBERY

## Synopsis:

Investigation regarding JOHN MC CLINTOCK at North Hollywood, California, set forth. Inquiry at Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, indicates clothing recovered after bank robbery not prison issued. Photos of JAMES EARL RAY and known associates displayed to witnesses at Bank of Alton with negative results. UNKNOWN SUBJECTS ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

SI 91-3599 .

DETAILS:RE: SUSPECT JOHN MC CLINTOCK <sup>ILL</sup> <sub>CALL</sub>

MC CLINTOCK was developed as a suspect in this matter based on information furnished to the FBI implicating MC CLINTOCK and three other individuals.

The following investigation was conducted by SA MYRON M. HITCH:

During the month of March, 1968, numerous attempts were made to contact the occupants of the residence at 6403 Gentry Avenue, North Hollywood, California, with negative results.

On April 26, 1968, Mrs. KENNETH FRENCH, 6403 Gentry Avenue, North Hollywood, California, telephone number 985-7048, advised that she and her husband moved into the residence at that address in March, 1968. Mrs. FRENCH advised that she does not know who the previous occupants were, but she has received numerous inquiries for a JOSEPH GREENWELL and also has received mail for JOSEPH GREENWELL. Mrs. FRENCH stated that at the present time she is still receiving mail at that address for JOSEPH GREENWELL. Mrs. FRENCH stated she had no idea where JOSEPH GREENWELL moved to, and has never met the man. Mrs. FRENCH stated the residence at that address is owned by a man who owns a Volkswagen Dealership in the neighborhood, and a man named TONY (LNU) collects the rent.

On April 26, 1968, TONY CANNATA, Service Department, Europa Motors, 6919 Laurel Canyon Boulevard, North Hollywood, California, advised that he collects the rent for the residence at 6403 Gentry Avenue, North Hollywood, California. TONY CANNATA stated that the residence is owned by MANNY POST who is also the owner of Europa Motors. TONY CANNATA stated that JOSEPH GREENWELL was a former tenant at the above address, but he moved in October of 1967 and left no forwarding address. TONY CANNATA stated he had no idea where JOSEPH GREENWELL moved



SI 91-3699 .

to or presently resides. TONY CANNATA did state that he has received numerous inquiries from people looking for JOSEPH GREENWELL, and he understands GREENWELL has a number of bad debts.

On April 26, 1968, ELY WEISBERG, Apartment 9, 12013 Albers Street, North Hollywood, California, Owner and Manager of the apartments at that address, advised that JOHN MC CLINTOCK moved from Apartment 18 over three months ago and left no forwarding address. ELY WEISBERG stated that JOHN MC CLINTOCK's wife left him at that time and went to Alton, Illinois. ELY WEISBERG stated that he felt JOHN MC CLINTOCK could be located through relatives he has in the Alton, Illinois area.

#### INVESTIGATION REGARDING CLOTHING

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA THOMAS H. WEAVER:

#### At Jefferson City, Missouri

On June 4, 1968, Captain DONALD WYRICK, Administrative Assistant to the Warden, Missouri State Penitentiary, advised that inmates on discharge from the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP) are given new clothing to wear. He said this clothing includes an elastic, stretch-type belt, and the new clothing would bear no laundry marks. He stated that inmate clothing is laundered in the prison laundry, but this clothing is prison garb not taken out by the inmates on discharge from the MSP. He stated that clothing and laundry markings such as described are not familiar to him and based on description of the clothing given would not be for clothing from the MSP.

Photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and known associates of RAY together with other selected photographs were displayed to LEE MAAS, GERALDINE COMAN, WILLIAM BEARDSMORE, JO ANN GRAVES, and LUCILLE LEWIS, all employees of The Bank of Alton on June 3, 1968, and they advised after viewing these photographs that none was familiar to them. They stated that because of the stocking-masks utilized by the UNKNOWN SUBJECTS in this matter, they were uncertain as to whether they could make a positive identification.

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IN VIEW OF THE FACT UNKNOWN SUBJECTS USED  
FIREARMS IN PERPETRATION OF THIS ROBBERY, THEY SHOULD  
BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1 - USA, Springfield

Report of: SA ROBERT C. HAINES  
Date: April 24, 1968

Office: SPRINGFIELD

Field Office File #: SI 91-3699

Bureau File #: 91-27494

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2)  
The Bank of Alton  
Alton, Illinois  
July 13, 1967

Character: BANK ROBBERY

Synopsis: Investigation to locate JOE GREENWOOD, North Hollywood, California, unproductive. Interview of EDWARD RICHARD CESARZ at Decatur, Illinois, set forth. Investigation to identify clothing through laundry marks and dry cleaning marks in the Greater Alton, Illinois, area set forth. UNKNOWN SUBJECTS ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

SI 91-3699

SUSPECT

RE: JOHN MC CLINTOCK

MC CLINTOCK was originally developed as a suspect since he was named as one of four persons who allegedly planned to rob a bank in Alton at about the time of the robbery of The Bank of Alton.

SI 91-3699

DETAILS:

The following investigation was conducted by SA MYRON M. HITCH:

During the month of January, 1968, numerous attempts were made to contact the occupants of the residence at 6403 Gentry Avenue, North Hollywood, California, with negative results.

On February 9, 1968, an attempt was again made to contact the occupants of the residence at 6403 Gentry Avenue, North Hollywood, California, with negative results.

On February 9, 1968, JAN MILLER, 6400 Gentry Avenue, North Hollywood, California, advised that he has resided across the street from the residence at 6403 Gentry Avenue, for approximately one month, and during that period the residence has been empty. JAN MILLER stated that he does not know who the owner of the residence is.

On February 9, 1968, SOL GOLDMAN, Supervisor, U. S. Post Office, 6514 Lankershim Blvd., North Hollywood, California, advised that he could find no change of address for JOE GREENWOOD at 6403 Gentry Avenue, North Hollywood, California. GOLDMAN did advise that the Post Office was holding mail for the individual at that address but the name on file was JOE GREENWELL. GOLDMAN also advised that by coincidence he resides at 6432 Gentry Avenue, North Hollywood, California, which is only a few houses from the residence at 6403 Gentry Avenue. GOLDMAN stated that the residence is presently unoccupied and has been so for over a month. GOLDMAN stated that the residence is occupied by a different tenant practically every month. GOLDMAN further advised that he does not know who owns the residence but he would attempt to find out.

On February 19, 1968, GOLDMAN was recontacted and advised that he has made inquiry in the vicinity of 6403 Gentry Avenue, North Hollywood, California, and has been unable to ascertain the owner of the residence at that address.

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SUSPECT  
RE: EDWARD RICHARD CESARZ

CESARZ was considered a suspect in this matter due to the fact he has a propensity for violence and because he was allegedly in the Alton area at about the time of instant bank robbery.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date February 26, 1968

EDWARD RICHARD CESARZ, inmate, Macon County Jail, Decatur, Illinois, was advised of the identities of JOSEPH F. GIGLIO and RAYMOND F. EERNEKING as being Special Agents of the FBI, after which he was advised of his rights and waived them as shown on an executed waiver and rights form. He then furnished the following information:

CESARZ was questioned concerning his presence in Alton, Illinois, approximately July 13, 1967, and CESARZ advised that he was visiting his girlfriend SUSAN (Last Name Unknown) in Alton about that time. He stated that he stayed at the Highwayman Motel in Alton and he made long distance telephone calls to LOIS DONNER, 1924 Elizabeth Street, Bloomington, Illinois, and JANET WOODRUM, Route 1, either Bloomington or Carlock, Illinois.

CESARZ advised that he left Alton and drove to Bloomington arriving there on Friday, where he checked into the Holiday Inn under his true name. He advised that he had a date with LOIS DONNER to eat lunch that afternoon, and he was subsequently arrested for the murder of RUTH EVELYN ROSS, Lincoln, Illinois. He continued to relate that the names JOHN Mc Clintock and LARRY AUGUST KAILE are unknown to him.

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	EDWARD RICHARD/CESARZ
Date of birth	September 12, 1941
Place of birth	Detroit, Michigan
Height	5'11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Weight	185-210
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Build	Stocky
Characteristics	Long side burns, mustache
Complexion	Light
Scars and marks	End of left index finger cut off.

On 2/16/68 at Decatur, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA JOSEPH F. GIGLIO  
SA RAYMOND F. EERNEKING /mpb Date dictated 2/21/68

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SI 91-3699

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Occupation	Journalist, laborer
Father	ANDREW EDWARD CESARZ 7000 Kingsbury Dearborn Heights, Michigan
Mother	MARY L. CESARZ Same address as father
Sister	DELORES TRARDZICKI Dearborn Heights, Michigan
Arrest record	One aggravated battery check, 1962, sentence one to five years, Pontiac, Illinois; murder, armed robbery, assault, July 22, 1967, Lincoln, Illinois.



SI 91-3699

FEC:jah

1

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA FRANK E. CORN, Sr., at Alton, Illinois:

On February 12, 1968, the following individuals  
and laundry companies in the Alton area were contacted and  
could furnish no information concerning the laundry markings  
on the specimens marked Q-3 and Q-6:

The Alton Laundry	CHARLES EARB, Manager 1808 East Broadway Alton, Illinois
Temple Cleaners and Shirt Laundry	JAMES DANIELS, Manager 1300 Broadway Alton, Illinois
Burks Laundry	ALICE ROSE, Manager 2517 College Avenue Alton, Illinois
Starks Cleaners and Launderers	WILLIAM STARK, Manager 1655 Washington Street Alton, Illinois
College Dry Cleaners	MARIE REYNOLDS, Manager 2598 College Street Alton, Illinois
Millers Dry Cleaners	A. M. MILLER, Owner 946 Tonsor Road Alton, Illinois
Milton Cleaners	CHARLES L. MERCURIO, Manager and Owner 1625 Washington Street Alton, Illinois
U. S. Shop Cleaners	SYLVESTER WOODFORK, Manager 28 West Broadway Alton, Illinois
Dry-Finer Cleaners	C. BOGELSANG, Manager 2501 State Street Alton, Illinois

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date February 28, 1968

1

OPAL PITTMAN, Manager, Turner Cleaners and Laundry, 17 Whitelaw, Wood River, Illinois, furnished the following information:

Miss PITTMAN examined a man's white shirt, Van Heusen, Van-Guard, bearing laundry marks "NU" or "NO", "JOH-U" or "JOH-O" stamped inside the collar. She advised that the Turner Cleaners and Laundry utilizes laundry markings similar to the "JOH-O."

Miss PITTMAN said that Turner Cleaners and Laundry services other cleaners which do not launder shirts for their customers. She said that when shirts are received from another cleaners, they are identified by stamping the first three or four initials of the customer's last name, followed by a symbol letter which designates the cleaner, inside the collar. She said that the symbol letter "O" is used by Turner Cleaners and Laundry to designate the Modern Cleaners, Staunton, Illinois.

Miss PITTMAN advised that the laundry marks used by Turner Cleaners and Laundry are arbitrary and that Turner Cleaners and Laundry does not have an exclusive right to their use. She said, however, that she has never seen, nor is she aware of, any other cleaner and/or laundry in the area which utilizes the same or similar laundry marks. She also said that Turner Cleaners and Laundry has never designated any cleaner, other than the Modern Cleaners, Staunton, Illinois, by using the symbol letter "O".

Miss PITTMAN said that any invoices or tickets accompanying laundry from Modern Cleaners are returned with the laundry, and only weekly records of the amount of laundry done for Modern Cleaners are maintained. She said that no customer list is maintained by Turners for the Modern Cleaners.

Miss PITTMAN advised that the other laundry mark, "NU" or "NO", is unknown to her. She further stated that Turner Cleaners and Laundry does not utilize the symbol letter "U", thus, "JOH-U" would not have been imprinted in the shirt collar by Turner Cleaners and Laundry.

On 2/16/68 at Wood River, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA FRANK J. HADERSHAW /cjs Date dictated 2/22/68

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SI 91-3699

2

Miss PITTMAN was also exhibited a partially burned pair of tan, pleated pants containing visible laundry markings "44 " and "3107-3" on the right front pocket and "T6276" and "U7703" on the right rear pocket. All of the laundry marks present were handwritten on the pockets. Miss PITTMAN advised that Turner Cleaners and Laundry does not utilize the above marking system and said that such a system, by any cleaner in the area, was unknown to her.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 6, 1968

1

**JIM HARMER, Owner, Modern Cleaners, 116 South Henrietta, Staunton, Illinois, furnished the following information:**

Mr. HARMER advised that he is the owner of the above business, which engages in the drycleaning of wearing apparel. He said that he does not launder any wearing apparel at his business; however, he does have several customers who bring their laundry to his cleaners. Whenever he receives any articles of clothing to be laundered, he takes them to the Turner Cleaners and Laundry, Wood River, Illinois.

HARMER advised that he has been sending all of his customers' laundry to Turner Cleaners and Laundry since approximately March or April, 1966. He was asked by the interviewing Agent if he accepted any laundry for any customer whose last name began with the letters "JOH." He said that he could not recall accepting any laundry for a customer whose last name began with the above letters.

HARMER made available his records to the interviewing Agent.

A review of the laundry tickets from the Modern Cleaners, 116 South Henrietta, Staunton, Illinois, for the period from January 1, 1966, through August 10, 1967, reflected the following:

Numerous cleaning tickets were located for customers whose last names began with the letters "JOH", i.e. JOHNSON, JOHNSTON, etc. However, none of the tickets, with the exception of one, indicated that any laundry was included with the orders.

Located from the cleaning tickets for the week ending May 21, 1966, was Ticket #6378, which reflected that one shirt was accepted by Modern Cleaners for a customer by the name of "JOHNSON." There was no first name or address of the customer indicated on the cleaning ticket. HARMER examined Ticket #6378 and advised that it was in the handwriting of one of his former

On 2/26/68 at Staunton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA FRANK J. HARBESON /CSB Date dictated 3/1/68

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SI 91-3699

2

employees, Mrs. PAT SMITH, R. R. #2, Staunton, Illinois. He stated that he did not know the customer for whom the shirt was laundered; however, judging from the serial number of the ticket, it was accepted from a customer who would reside on his route from Staunton, Illinois, to Wood River, Illinois. He suggested contact should be made with Mrs. SMITH to determine the address of the customer and furnished Cleaning Ticket #6378 to the interviewing Agent.

HARMER was exhibited a partially burned pair of tan pleated pants containing visible laundry markings "44" and "3107-3" on the right front pocket and "T6276" and "U7703" on the right rear pocket. All of the laundry marks present were handwritten on the pockets; HARMER advised, however, that he did not utilize the above marking system at Modern Cleaners and that this particular system was unknown to him.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 21, 1968

1

PAT SMITH, R. R. #2, Box 16, Staunton, Illinois, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

Mrs. SMITH advised that she was a former employee of Modern Cleaners, 116 South Henrietta, Staunton, Illinois. Mrs. SMITH also advised that during her employment, any laundry accepted by Modern Cleaners was laundered by Turner Cleaners and Laundry, Wood River, Illinois, and she was aware that Turner Cleaners and Laundry used the symbol "O" to designate any laundry laundered for Modern Cleaners.

Mrs. SMITH was exhibited several invoice tickets containing the name of "JOHNSON" and "JOHNSTON," obtained from Modern Cleaners, and she identified them as follows:

1. HERMAN JOHNSON  
Worden, Illinois
2. HILDA JOHNSTON  
Bethmore Trailer Park  
Bethalto, Illinois
3. RONNIE JOHNSON  
709 Hamm Street  
Bethalto, Illinois
4. DARRELL E. JOHNSON  
355 Locust Street  
Rosewood Heights, Illinois
5. H. DALE JOHNSON  
538 California  
Rosewood Heights, Illinois

Mrs. SMITH advised that all of the above names represented customers residing on Modern Cleaners' route from Staunton, Illinois, to Wood River, Illinois.

Mrs. SMITH was then exhibited the following invoice tickets in numerical order that were in her handwriting:

On 3/11/68 at Staunton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699  
by SA FRANK J. HABERSHAW /css Date dictated 3/15/68

SI 91-3699

2

<u>TICKET NUMBER</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORDER</u>
6376	RICKERSON	1 Trouser "char" 1 Overcoat 1 Sport Coat
6377	JOHNSON Homm	1 Trouser "Blk"
6378	JOHNSON	1 Shirt "starch C&C hang."
6379	BARB	1 Shirt "starch C&C hang"
6380	JOHNSON Calif	3 Trouser "Br gr Blk"
6381	WEIMER P T	1 Trouser "Navy Boys" 2 Overcoat "Blk Boys Check"

Mrs. SMITH was requested to identify the customer listed as "JOHNSON" on Invoice #6378. After reflecting on the above invoices, she advised that she believed the "JOHNSON" on Invoice #6378 to be the same "JOHNSON" on the preceding invoice #6377. This would be RONNIE JOHNSON, 709 Homm Street, Bethalto, Illinois.

Mrs. SMITH advised that when she drove the route from Staunton, Illinois, to Wood River, Illinois, for Modern Cleaners, her normal direction of travel was as follows: south from Staunton through Worden, Illinois, to Hamel, Illinois; west on Route 140 through Bethalto, Illinois, to Route 111; south on Route 111 to Wood River, Illinois. When leaving Wood River, Illinois, she would travel north through Rosewood Heights, Illinois, and back to Staunton, Illinois.

Mrs. SMITH said that the customer indicated on Invoice #6379 as "BARB" was a girl by the name of "BARBARA" who worked at the Airport Restaurant, located on Route 111. She said that HILDA JOHNSON, Bethmore Trailer Park, Bethalto, Illinois, would be a stop on the route prior to RONNIE JOHNSON; and, BARNELL E. JOHNSON, 355 Locust Street, Rosewood Heights, Illinois, and H. DALE JOHNSON, 508 California, Rosewood Heights, Illinois, would be stops on the route following "BARBARA" at the Airport Restaurant on Route 111. She could not recall any other customer by the name of JOHNSON or JOHNSON residing on the route between RONNIE JOHNSON, 709 Homm Street, Bethalto, Illinois, and Route 111.

SI 91-3699

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Mrs. SMITH advised that if a customer gave her an order that included both drycleaning and laundry, she would put the laundry on a separate invoice for two reasons: first, Modern Cleaners could deliver drycleaning faster than laundry, and, second, a copy of the laundry invoice would be left with Turner Cleaners and Laundry for identification purposes. Since invoice #6377 represented a drycleaning order for RONNIE JOHNSON, 709 Homm Street, Bethalto, Illinois, and invoice #6378 represented a laundry order for "JOHNSON," Mrs. SMITH advised that she was fairly certain that the "JOHNSON" on invoice #6378 was also RONNIE JOHNSON.



SI 91-3699

On April 18, 1968, Captain JOHN LIGHT, Alton Police Department and WILLIAM BEARDSMORE, The Bank of Alton, advised they have received no pertinent information concerning instant bank robbery since they were last contacted by the reporting Agent.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1 - USA, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

Report of: SA ROBERT C. HAINES  
Date: 2/19/68

Office: SPRINGFIELD

Field Office File #: SI 91-3699

Bureau File #: 91-27494

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2);  
The Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois  
July 13, 1967

Character: BANK ROBBERY

Synopsis: Investigation in State of California regarding suspects PAGE and BAZE set forth. Suspect EDWARD RICHARD CESARZ transferred from Springfield to Logan County Jail, Lincoln, Illinois. Display of clothing and gun recovered at Alton failed to effect any identification to date. Recontact of laundry and dry cleaning establishments in Alton area to effect identification of clothing unproductive. Suspect JOHN MC CLINTOCK reinterviewed; denied taking part in bank robbery but failed to account for whereabouts on 7/13/67. UNSUBS ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

SI 91-3699

DETAILS:SUSPECT CHARLES BAZE

CHARLES BAZE was developed as a suspect based upon information furnished to the Springfield Division indicating that he together with RALPH PAGE were believed to be the persons who perpetrated the robbery of the Bank of Alton.

The following investigation was conducted by SA SAMUEL A. MILLER:

AT CASTRO VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

On October 26, 1967, attempt to locate RUTH ANN TUCKER, 3312 East Castro Valley Boulevard, met with negative results.

The following investigation was conducted by SA  
PAUL H. CARPER, Jr.:

AT CASTRO VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

On 11/8/67, Mrs. BETTY GRAY, Manager, Star Lite Motel, 3312 East Castro Valley Boulevard, advised that one RUTH ANN BAZE her husband CHARLES BAZE, NANCY HARPER and her husband, name unknown, arrived at this motel on 7/22/67, accompanied by an eleven year old boy named BILLY, who was the son of RUTH BAZE. She stated that these four individuals stayed at this motel in apartment 0 for approximately two months when HARPER and her husband left. She stated that Mr. and Mrs. BAZE remained at this motel until approximately September when CHARLES left. She stated that at that time RUTH informed her that her last name was TUCKER and the registration for that apartment was changed to that name. She stated that on 11/4/67, an elderly white man appeared at this motel and requested the whereabouts of RUTH TUCKER. She stated that this individual mentioned being a relative of RUTH TUCKERS and that in the early afternoon of 11/4/67, TUCKER informed her that she was leaving this man who was never identified and that she would make arrangements to pay her the two months rent which she owed her. She stated that TUCKER, her son BILLY, and this elderly man departed in a late model automobile aqua in color and she has not seen or heard from any of them since. She stated that TUCKER left her automobile in 1961 light blue Rambler Cross-Country Stationwagon bearing 1967 Illinois License JT-422 in the parking lot of this motel and has not corresponded with her, GRAY, regarding the desposition of this automobile.

Mrs. GRAY advised that she has cleaned up apartment 0 since TUCKER left and nothing was found in this apartment which she believed was the property of TUCKER or any of the other residents.

Mrs. GRAY pointed out TUCKER's automobile parked in the parking lot and by looking through the windows of this automobile a Denver, Colorado road map published by the Conoco Oil Company was observed lying on the front seat.

AT HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA

On November 8, 1967, a review of the records of the Hayward, California Police Department, revealed that on October 2, 1967, one JACK SHANE, 25774 Franklin Avenue, Hayward, California, contacted the Hayward Police Department and advised that one CHARLES WILLIAM BAZE who possibly resides at 7th and Spring Street, Alton, Illinois, worked for him during the month of August 1967, and departed the Hayward area with approximately \$750.00 that belonged to JACK SHANE Jr. SHANE stated that he contacted RUTH ANN TUCKER, a friend of BAZE and was told by TUCKER that BAZE and one RALPH PAGE were responsible for two recent armed robberies in Denver, Colorado. An incident report on file reveals that on 10/2/67, TUCKER was interviewed by officers of the Hayward Police Department and she informed them that she met BAZE in Illinois in May of 1967, and that on July 16, 1967, she BAZE, PAGE and PAGE's girl friend NANCY HARPER left for California in TUCKER's 1961 blue Rambler Station-wagon. TUCKER stated that BAZE told her he had just gotten out of Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary in April 1967. She stated that they arrived in Denver, Colorado on July 18, and on that night BAZE and PAGE left the motel where they were staying and returned later stating they had held up a liquor store pistol whipped two women clerks. TUCKER stated she did not know the location of this liquor store. She stated they stayed in Denver until 7/21/67, and one night between the 18th and 21st they stopped at a liquor store on Colfax Avenue in Denver, Colorado, and PAGE and BAZE went into the store supposedly to buy some drinks. When they came out they told her they had held up the liquor store and pistol whipped an old man. TUCKER stated they got between \$500.00 and \$700.00 on both holdups. She stated that neither case did she or HARPER know that the men were going to rob the liquor store. She stated that she was afraid for her own safety and that of her 10 year old boy who was also along with them on this trip. She stated they arrived in California on July 23, 1967, and that they moved into the Star Lite Motel in Castro Valley, California. She stated that in mid August 1967, PAGE and HARPER left the motel and supposedly went to reside at 268 Harmon Street in Las Vegas, Nevada. She stated that BAZE departed the motel on August 28, 1967, supposedly to return to Alton, Illinois, to live with his wife.

She stated that BAZE is in possession of a .38 caliber nickel plated automatic.

On 11/8/67, Lieutenant GEORGE KELLEY, Hayward Police Department, advised that the above information was furnished by teletype to the Denver, Colorado Police Department and a photograph of BAZE was forwarded to them, however no photographs have been located of PEGGY as there is no indication he has ever been arrested in the State of California. He stated that the Hayward Police Department holds a 1963 warrant for misdemeanor violation of dumping sewerage into a city sewer however this would not justify extradition. He also advised that the reported embezzling of \$750.00 from JACK SHANE Jr., was very weak in the way of evidence and did not appear to be a prosecutable case. He stated that ident kit compositions made of the Subjects in the two Colorado robberies have been received from the Denver Colorado Police Department and one of the ident kit composite photographs appears to be similar to the photograph of BAZE.

AT SAN LEANDRO, CALIFORNIA

On 11/8/67, Officer GORDON GRIMES, San Leandro Police Department, advised that his department is in possession of two misdemeanor warrants issued in 1963 for CHARLES WILLIAM BAZE who was at that time employed by JACK SHANE, 25774 Franklin Avenue, Hayward, California, and who had a former address of 2550 Ida Street, Alton, Illinois. He stated that on 2/1/63, BAZE was arrested by the San Leandro Police Department on a traffic warrant for which he posted \$54.00 bail.

GRIMES furnished the following descriptive data pertaining to BAZE as obtained from San Leandro Police Department Record Number 18838.

Name	CHARLES WILLIAM BAZE aka William Baze
Sex	Male
Race	White
Decent	Indian-Dutch
Date of birth	5/30/33
Place of birth	Pittsview, Illinois
Height	6'
Weight	200 lbs.
Build	Medium
Eyes	Brown
Hair	Brown

Charles GRIMES 0921 F  
SAC 84-56-377

Complexion  
Scars and Marks

Medium  
Star with initial B on  
left thumb names CAROL  
Mom, CAROL in heart and  
Chuckle left forearm  
picture of Donald Duck  
on back of left forearm,  
heart and cross upper  
left arm, sword through  
a snake and the name  
ALICE right forearm, and  
scar on back of right  
forearm.

Social Security Number  
Military Serial Number  
Parents

341-26-3924  
ER-16-378-174  
Father - JOHN BEVERLY  
BAZE - 2550 Ida Street  
Alton, Illinois.  
Mother - HILRITH LUCILLE  
BAZE - same address

AT HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA

On 11/8/67, 11/9/67, 11/13/67, 11/20/67, and 11/27/67, attempts to locate JACK SHANE, 25774 Franklin Avenue, met with negative results.

On 11/27/67, Mrs. BETTY GRAY, Manager, Star Lite Motel, 3312 East Castro Valley Boulevard, telephonically advised that she had recently seen one JOYCE LA FORE, who formerly resided at this motel and was a friend of RUTH TUCKER who was then residing here. She stated that LA FORE informed her that TUCKER was now residing at 722 East Miami Street, Alton, Illinois, under the name of RUTH WILLIAMS. Mrs. GRAY stated she did not know where LA FORE was now residing and she did not know how LA FORE came about the above information.

SI 91-3699

SUSPECT RICHARD/CESARZ

CESARZ was developed as a suspect based upon information furnished by Mrs. ETHEL MAYS, currently residing at Centralia, Illinois, indicating that CESARZ was in the Alton area about the time of the robbery of the Bank of Alton and could be considered a suspect in this matter.

On January 30, 1968, Sheriff EDWARD RYAN, Sangamon County, Springfield, Illinois, advised that EDWARD RICHARD CESARZ had been transferred to the Logan County Jail, Lincoln, Illinois, from the Sangamon County Jail, apparently for trial in that county.

SUSPECT LARRY AUGUST KAHLE

KAHLE was developed as a suspect based upon information furnished by the St. Louis Division indicating that he had a sawed off shotgun hung by a string around his shoulder and under his coat at one time prior to September 1, 1967.

On February 5, 1968, SA's EDWARD A. CARPENTER and ROBERT C. HAINES displayed clothing and the sawed off shotgun recovered at Alton, Illinois, to the following listed persons none of whom could identify the clothing or the shotgun as having been observed in the possession of LARRY AUGUST KAHLE to their knowledge:

Mrs. RALPH BODE, Corner Tavern, Edwardsville, Illinois;

Mrs. EARL KAHLE, Rural Route #4, Edwardsville, Illinois;

WILLIAM AGLES, A&H Standard Service Station, Buchanan and Troy Roads, Route 159, Edwardsville, Illinois;

On February 12, 1968, SA FRANK E. CORN, SR., contacted the following dry cleaning and laundry establishments in the Alton area in an effort to identify laundry and dry cleaning marks in the recovered clothing but none could furnish any positive information concerning the patron who might have brought the dry cleaning and laundry for service:

Alton Laundry Company, 909 E. Broadway;



SI 91-3699

Street; Alton One Hour Martinizing Cleaners, 329 State  
 Avenue; Burt's Launderers and Dry Cleaners, 2517 College  
 Del-Mar Cleaners, 606 N. Delmar;  
 Easy-Way Dry Cleaners, 623 Henry Street;  
 Esquire Cleaners, 520 Bell Street;  
 Milton Cleaners, 1120 Milton Road;  
 Joe Stork Cleaners, 2705 Godfrey Road;  
 Temple Cleaners and Shirt Laundry, 1300 E. Broadway;  
 Try-Finer Cleaners, 2501 State Street;  
 Wardein Cleaners, 327 Ridge Street.

SUSPECT JOHN MC CLINTOCK

JOHN MC CLINTOCK was developed as a suspect by the Springfield Division after it was learned he left the Alton area within a few days after the robbery of the Bank of Alton for the State of California, and generally met the description of one of the two subjects in this matter.

HELEN GRABLE, 1616 Walker, Apartment #3, Alton, Illinois, advised on February 9, 1968, that she is the suspect's mother. She stated that she is not satisfied with his denial that he has any connection with the robbery of the Bank of Alton and, in fact, has had growing suspicions that he either was directly or indirectly involved in this matter. She stated that she had initiated and will continue to initiate inquiry among associates of her son and that should any information come to her attention which would be of value in this matter she would contact the FBI promptly.

On February 12, 1968, Mrs. GRABLE stated that her son, JOHN MC CLINTOCK, was arrested by the Alton Police Department at 3:30 AM on February 12, 1968, on her complaint of assault and battery on his wife, PAMELA.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 2/19/68

JOHN K. MC CLINTOCK was interviewed at the Alton City Jail at which time he was advised of his rights and was furnished a rights and waiver form. MC CLINTOCK waived his rights as evidenced by an executed rights and waiver form.

MC CLINTOCK stated that when he was previously interviewed in connection with the robbery of the Bank of Alton, he stated that he had left the Alton area in June, 1967, for the State of California, and had been in California at the time of the bank robbery. He stated that he now understood that it is possible he was not in the State of California but rather in the City of Alton but he stated that he had nothing to do with the bank robbery, had heard nothing concerning it and could offer no suggestions with regard to possible subjects or suspects in this matter.

MC CLINTOCK stated that he had returned to the Alton area on a weekend, February 10, 1968, to see his family since he was under indictment in the State of California for burglary and expected to be sentenced to the State Penitentiary in that state.

He refused to discuss further his involvement in the robbery of the Bank of Alton or any other activities on his part.

The following description of JOHN K. MC CLINTOCK was obtained from observation and interrogation:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
DOB:	4/29/40
Age:	27
POB:	Alton, Illinois
Nationality:	American
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	160 lbs.

-9-

On 2/12/68 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA FRANK E. COHN, SR. & SA ROBERT C. HAINES:DM Date dictated 2/14/68

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SI 91-3639

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Hair:  
Eyes:  
Scars and Marks:

Brown  
Brown  
Numerous tattoos on  
both arms.

Marital Status:  
Wife:

Married  
PAMELA MC CLINTOCK  
712 Ridge Street,  
Alton, Illinois

Relatives:

MOTHER: HELEN GRABLE  
1616 Walker Street  
Alton, Illinois

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1-USA, SDI, Springfield, Illinois

Report of: SA ROBERT C. HAINES  
Date: DECEMBER 18, 1967

Office: SPRINGFIELD

Field Office File #: SI 91-3699

Bureau File #: 91-27494

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2);  
The Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois,  
7/13/67

Character: BANK ROBBERY

Synopsis: New suspect LARRY AUGUST KAHLE developed. Witnesses viewed KAHLE in line up at Madison County Jail, at Edwardsville, Illinois; stated his height, build, posture and coloring appeared identical to shot gun man in robbery in The Bank of Alton. RUTH ANN TUCKER states suspect CHARLES BAZE was with her on 7/15/67 and could not have participated in bank robbery. Suspect JOHN MC CLINTOCK claims he was in California when bank robbed. MC CLINTOCK'S mother refutes statement. Information regarding EDWARD RICHARD CESARZ and suspect BOBBY GENE ELLIOTT set forth. ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

SI 91-3699

DETAILS:SuspectLARRY AUGUST KAHLE

LARRY AUGUST KAHLE was developed as a suspect based upon information furnished by the St. Louis Division, indicating that he had a sawed off shot gun hung by a string around him under his coat at one time prior to September 1, 1967.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 11/1/67

A line-up was held at the Madison County Jail, Edwardsville, Illinois, on October 23, 1967, which included LARRY AUGUST KAHLE. Prior to the line-up, KAHLE was afforded an opportunity to talk to Public Defender ROBERT TRONE. Mr. TRONE explained his rights to KAHLE and his necessity for appearing in the line-up. The line-up was composed of the following persons:

1. NORMAN P. PROVOW, Age 32, 5'10", 170 lbs., brown hair;
2. NORMAN STANHOPE, age 47, 5'10", 177 lbs., brown hair;
3. LARRY AUGUST KAHLE, age 34, 5'10", 185 lbs., brown hair;
4. GEORGE BENTZ, age 42, 5'10½", 160 lbs., brown hair;

The line-up commenced at 3:11 PM and was concluded at 3:33 PM.

On 10/23/67 at Edwardsville, Illinois File # SI-91-3699

by SA ROBERT C. HALKINS:PM Date dictated 10/26/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date October 24, 1967

GERALDINE COWAN, Assistant Cashier, The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois furnished the following signed statement:

"Alton, Illinois  
October 24, 1967

"I, Geraldine Cowan, do hereby furnish the following free and voluntary statement to Robert C. Haines, whom I know to be a Special Agent of the FBI.

"I am employed by The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois. I was so employed on July 13, 1967, at which time the bank was held up by two men wearing silk stocking masks.

"On October 23, 1967, I observed a line-up at the Madison County Jail, Edwardsville, Illinois, which consisted of four men, all approximately the same height and coloring.

"From my recollection of the two men that robbed The Bank of Alton, on July 13, 1967, the man in the number three position, whom I now know to be Larry August Kahle, most closely resembles the man who stood at the rear door of the bank and wielded a shotgun. While I can make no identification from facial characteristics, Kahle's build, posture and general mannerisms bear a close resemblance to those of the shotgun man.

"I have read the above statement and it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

"s/s Geraldine Cowan

"Witness:  
Robert C. Haines  
Sp. Agt., FBI"

On 10/24/67 at Alton, Illinois File # 91-3699

by SA Robert C. Haines/rh Date dictated 10/24/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date October 24, 1967

LEE MAAS, Vice President, The Bank of Alton,  
furnished the following signed statement:

"Alton, Illinois  
October 24, 1967

"I, Lee Maas, do hereby furnish the following free and voluntary statement to Robert C. Haines, whom I know to be a Special Agent of the FBI.

"I am employed at The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois. I was on duty at The Bank of Alton on July 13, 1967, when the bank was held up by two armed men wearing silk stocking masks.

"On October 23, 1967, I observed a line-up at the Madison County Jail, Edwardsville, Illinois, consisting of four men who were of approximately the same height, and description.

"The individual who was number three from the left closely resembled one of the men who held up The Bank of Alton. I have since learned that this man is Larry August Kahle. His height, build, posture and mannerisms are virtually identical to those of the man who stood at the rear door of the bank and covered the interior of the bank with a sawed-off shotgun.

"I have read the above statement and find it to be true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

"s/s Lee Maas

"Witness:  
Robert C. Haines  
Sp. Agt., FBI"

On 10/24/67 at Alton, Illinois File # 91-3699

by SA Robert C. Haines/rh Date dictated 10/24/67

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SI 91-3699

RCH:skt

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Efforts to interview LARRY AUGUST KAHLE by SA EDWARD A. CARPENTER and SA ROBERT C. HAINES at the Madison County Jail were unsuccessful. KAHLE refused to sign fingerprint cards, refused to discuss any of his activities and refused to answer any questions whatsoever.

SI 91-3699

SuspectCHARLES BAZE

CHARLES BAZE was developed as a suspect based upon information furnished to the Springfield Division, indicating that he together with RALPH PAGE were believed to be the persons who perpetrated the robbery of the Bank of Alton.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 4, 1967

1

RUTH ANN TUCKER, 525 Miami Street, advised that on July 16, 1967, she traveled from Alton, Illinois with CHARLES BAZE, RALPH PAGE and NANCY HARPER in her 1961 Rambler station wagon, en route to California.

She stated the group first went to Denver, Colorado, arriving there on the Monday following July 16, 1967. She said that on Wednesday, July 19, 1967, PAGE and BAZE held up a liquor store in Denver which was located on Colfax Avenue, on Route 40, in which they bragged they had pistol whipped the owner.

Miss TUCKER said that she knows the group left on July 16, 1967, because she can fix the date July 15, 1967, which was a Saturday, and she said that she got home at night from work at which time RALPH PAGE, CHARLES BAZE and NANCY HARPER were at her house at which time she resided at 193 Gouilding, East Alton, Illinois. They advised her that they were going to Colorado, and possibly to California, and told her to pack up her things and go along with them.

She asked why they were leaving so suddenly, and they stated things were getting too hot for them, in the Alton area.

She said that she specifically asked them about the robbery of the Bank of Alton, but they laughed and denied it.

With regard to the activities of CHARLES BAZE also known as CHUCK, she said that on Tuesday, July 11, 1967, CHUCK had her Rambler station wagon and on Wednesday, while intoxicated he married PAT BASHAM.

On Thursday morning, July 13, 1967, the day the Bank of Alton was robbed, JOHN BAZE, CHUCK's brother, came and got her at approximately 9:00 AM, and they went to the Glass House

On 11/21/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA ROBERT C. HAINES /drb Date dictated 11/27/67

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SI 91-3099

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Tavern in Alton, and sat in the Glass House with CHUCK BAZE who was intoxicated.

She said that after sitting in the Glass House for an hour or two, she prevailed upon CHUCK BAZE to go with her and she took him to her house where he stayed until about 4:00PM.

Miss TUCKER said that in addition to CHUCK BAZE's brother, JOHN, ART THATCHER was also in the Glass House Tavern on July 13, 1967, and would recall her being in there with JOHN and CHUCK BAZE.

SI 91-3699

SuspectJOHN MC CLINTOCK

JOHN MC CLINTOCK was developed as a suspect by the Springfield Division and it was indicated he left the Alton area within a few days after the robbery of The Bank of Alton and went to California.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 1, 1967

JOHN MC CLINTOCK, 12013 Albers, Apartment #18, North Hollywood, California, was interviewed at the Alton Resident Agency of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

At the outset of the interview, MC CLINTOCK acknowledged the identity of Special Agent ROBERT C. HAINES, was offered a rights and waiver form, but refused to sign it.

MC CLINTOCK volunteered the following information:

He stated that he was not in Alton, Illinois, on July 13, 1967; that he went to California in late June where he resided with JOE GREENWOOD, 6403 Gentry, North Hollywood, California. He stated that GREENWOOD would know that he was in California on July 13, 1967.

MC CLINTOCK stated that he has no information concerning the robbery of The Bank of Alton and has no suspicions as to who might have perpetrated the robbery.

---

On 11/29/67 at Alton, Illinois File# SI 91-3699

by SA ROBERT C. HAINES /skt Date dictated 11/30/67

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SI 91-3699

RCH:skt

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HELEN GRABLE, 1616 Walker Street, Alton, Illinois, advised on 11/30/67 that her son, JOHN MC CLINTOCK, was not in California, but rather was in Alton, Illinois, on 7/13/67 and he did not leave Alton, Illinois, for California until approximately 7/15/67.

SI 91-3699

RE:

BOBBY GENE ELLIOTT



SI 91-3699

On 10/23/67, Deputy Sheriff JOHN BLIVEN, McDonough County, Macomb, Illinois, advised that BOBBY GENE ELLIOTT and MARTHA STODONY CAREY no longer live in Macomb, Illinois. He advised that MARTHA STODONY CAREY, for a number of years, has been a character in Macomb, Illinois, and that she is very vindictive in nature.

Sheriff BLIVEN advised that his office had arrested MARTHA STODONY CAREY on 8/28/67 for being drunk and that she was highly incensed because her boyfriend, BOBBY GENE ELLIOTT, laughed at her concerning this arrest. He stated that he, personally, would not rely on anything that she told him and that she has at numerous times furnished false information concerning individuals to the Sheriff's Office in Macomb, Illinois. He advised that ELLIOTT has not been known to him to spend any large amounts of money while in Macomb, and he further advised that ELLIOTT had an old car, a 1954 Buick, Hardtop, and for this reason he did not believe that ELLIOTT had made any large hauls anytime during the recent past, inasmuch as ELLIOTT is the type that would immediately purchase a newer vehicle.

On 10/23/67, Officer GLENN BROWN, Macomb, Illinois, advised that BOBBY GENE ELLIOTT and his cousin, MARTHA STODONY CAREY, are no longer in Macomb, Illinois, but supposedly reside in Chicago. He advised that they moved to Chicago during the latter part of September of 1967. BROWN, on several occasions, had attempted to determine from his cousin, MARTHA STODONY CAREY, if ELLIOTT had been involved in any type of trouble in the recent past. He advised that she could not furnish any specific information. He also advised that even though she had claimed ELLIOTT carried a gun under the front seat of his car, he was stopped and ticketed for illegal registration on one occasion and that no gun was located at that time. He advised that he has no information concerning any Federal violations on the part of ELLIOTT and that his cousin was unable to furnish him any information. He advised that he had talked to her on numerous occasions in his own home and felt that if there were any known violations on ELLIOTT'S part, MARTHA STODONY CAREY would have told him.

SI 91-3699

RE:

EDWARD RICHARD CESARZ

SI 91-3699

On 11/3/67, ETHEL MAYS, was located at Centralia, Illinois, and she advised that EDWARD RICHARD CESARZ, known to her as ED CESARZ is currently at the Sangamon County Jail, Springfield, Illinois. She stated she could provide no further information concerning CESARZ.

On 11/7/67, ROBERT W. HANKINS, Deputy Sheriff, Sangamon County, Springfield, Illinois, verified the fact that CESARZ is in custody and made available his identification record under FBI #347 828 E.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
Director

The following FBI record, NUMBER 347 828 E, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONVICTION OF STATE/STATE	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Cook Co Jail Chgo Ill	Edward Cesarz #305818	11-16-62	Agg Batt	1-5 yrs 2-8-63 sent to Penitentiary
Michigan City Ind	Edward Richard Cesarz #3280	11-14-62	CCW (gun without permit) att mur (warrant from Chgo Ill PD)	no Affidavit filed rel to Chgo Ill PD
Chgo Ill	Edward Richard Cesarz #9719	11-15-62	Inv Att Murder	
Chgo Ill	Edward Cesarz #9719	11-14-62	aggr batt	
Rockford Ill	Edward Richard Cesarz #51206	2-27-63	agg batt	1-5 yrs
Sten Pontiac Ill	Edward R. Cesarz #26123	2-22-63	agg batt	1-5 yrs
Detroit Mich	Edward Richard Cesarz #259245	2-17-66	parolee from Ill St Fen Pontiac Branch Ill their #26123	
Lincoln Ill	Edward Richard Cesarz #321	7-24-67	mur & armed rob	
Springfield Ill	Edward Richard Cesarz #ER1585	7-25-67	being held because of security reasons for Logan Co Lincoln Ill on chg of murder	

Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint

SI 91-3699

On 10/13/67, OCTAVIA MILLER, Clark County Sheriff's Office; and KAREN PADEN, Las Vegas Police Department, advised IC RAY I. TURNER they could find no record in their respective files for RALPH PAGE or NANCY HARPER.

On 10/23/67, Mrs. JUDITH STONEKING, Clerk, Churchill East Apartments, 4320 Koval, Las Vegas, Nevada, advised SA L. PATRICK MARKOVICH that a search through her records failed to reflect either PAGE or HARPER living there or having signed a rental agreement for an apartment at 268 Harmon. She further advised this apartment building is occupied by tenants who are highly transient, and it is very possible PAGE and HARPER had temporarily moved in with someone who had rented an apartment without her knowing and had left. She stated the description of PAGE was unfamiliar to her as anyone she had seen in the area of this building.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1 - USA, Springfield

Report of: SA ROBERT C. HAINES  
Date: October 10, 1967

Office: Springfield

Field Office File #: SI 91-3699

Bureau File #: 91-27494

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2);  
The Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois  
July 13, 1967

Character: BANK ROBBERY

Synopsis: Man's clothing and sawed-off shotgun recovered in wooded area, Alton, Illinois, 8/10/67. Believed by witnesses to be clothing of one of bank robbers and shot gun to be one utilized. Neighborhood investigation vicinity of recovery site unproductive. Results of Laboratory examination set forth. Investigation regarding suspects BAZE and PAGE as well as miscellaneous suspects set forth. UNSUBS ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- P -

91-27494-C

SI 91-3699

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SI 91-3699

I. RECOVERY OF SHOTGUN AND CLOTHING



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 22, 1967

Detective Corporal DONALD SANDIDGE, Alton Police Department, telephonically advised that the Alton Police Department had received information that a group of children had found some burned clothing and a sawed-off shotgun in a wooded area near the end of East 5th Street in Alton, Illinois.

SA JAMES H. YELVINGTON met with Detectives, Sergeant RAY PARTON and Corporal DONALD SANDIDGE in a wooded area located on the south end of the dead end of East 5th Street in Alton, Illinois, and the following items were located and held as possible value as evidence:

One single barrel .12 gauge shotgun with sawed-off barrel.

One stock from shotgun, which was sawed-off with blue whipcord nailed to the stock.

One man's white shirt Van Heusen, van-guard, with red stain on collar and right front shoulder and shirt tail.

One blue nylon jacket, light weight, containing four .12 gauge number four shot, shotgun shells.

One pair tan pleated trousers with marking on inside of right front pocket 444 with line drawn through the fours and directly below was the number 3107-3. Inside the right rear pocket was the figures T6276 and directly under these figures was U7703.

One belt Hickock Pioneer, size 32, black in color with the number 5121 on the inside of the belt.

One nylon ladies stocking with a knot tied in the foot portion of the stocking.

One brown cap with a fish emblem on the front of the cap.

~~One grey felt hat, Royal Deluxe Stetson, with markings~~

On 8/10/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3609

by SA JAMES H. YELVINGTON /tlp Date dictated 8/16/67

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of Men's Style Shop, Seay and Wilson, Mayflower, Kentucky on the inside of the hat.

One partial package of Lucky Strike Cigarettes containing three cigarettes.

One red and yellow match pack bearing King Edward on the match cover.

The above described clothing, with the exception of the grey man's felt hat, was found in a pile laying on top of the sawed-off shotgun. The clothing was partially burned. The grey man's felt hat was found approximately twenty-five feet from the rest of the clothing, and also was partially burned.

No additional items were located in a search of the area.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 16, 1967

**KIM BRUNS**, 1015 East 5th Street, Telephone 462-6583, was interviewed at his residence and furnished the following information:

He is the ten year old son of **CHARLES BRUNS, SR.**, and on Wednesday, August 9, 1967, he was playing with his brother, **DENNIS**, age 12, and a friend by the name of **ERNEST PERSLEY**. They were playing on the top of a bluff that is located adjacent to Hunter's Court, and the cemetery. While playing on top of this bluff, they observed a pile of clothing that was partially burned. Next to this clothing, they saw an old model shot gun. Both he and his brother **DENNIS** picked the shot gun up and looked at it. He said that he was of the opinion that the hammer was not fully cocked, but the weapon was rusted and the hammer was probably partially cocked. Among the items of clothing found were a burned pair of pants, a fishing cap, an old grey hat, a jacket, and a white shirt.

**KIM** said that the boys gave some consideration to taking the weapon home, but decided that they might be in violation of a law by possessing the shot gun. They did not mention this to their father until the evening of Thursday, August 10, 1967

On 8/11/67 at Alton, Illinois File# SI 91-3669

by SAG LOY F. WEAVER & CLADORN R. CHAMBERLAIN dictated C/LF/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 16, 1967

DENNIS BRUNS, 1015 East 5th Street, Telephone 462-6583, was interviewed at the residence of his father, CHARLES BRUNS, SR., and furnished the following information:

On Wednesday afternoon, August 9, 1967, he was playing on a bluff near Hunter's Court with his brother KIM, age 10, and ERNEST PERSLEY, who lives at 1118 Hunter's Court. While they were playing they observed a stack of partially burned clothing. He said it did not appear that anyone had made an effort to conceal these items as they were in an open spot. Adjacent to the clothing was a shot gun. The gun appeared to be an old weapon and he and his brother KIM picked up the weapon and played with it. He said he did not recall his friend, ERNEST PERSLEY playing with the weapon. He said he recalled seeing a white shirt and a hat and a cap and other items of clothing that were partially burned there. He said that he did not look carefully at the clothes and does not remember exactly what was in the pile. He considered taking the shot gun home to show to his father, but decided that he might be picked up by the police if he were to be seen with this gun in his possession.

On 8/11/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

By SA LOY F. LEAVER & CLADORN R. CREATHAM /s/ Date dictated 8/11/67

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SI 91-3699

EAC:bb

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The following investigation was conducted by SA EDWARD A. CARPENTER:

AT ALTON, ILLINOIS

On August 11, 1967, an area search as well as a terrain search was conducted in the vicinity of East 5th Street and Plum Street in Alton, Illinois, where items of clothing were recovered which were presumed to have been worn by the individuals who held up the Bank of Alton on July 13, 1967.

This search was conducted by SAs EDWARD A. CARPENTER and CLABORN R. CHEATHAM and LOY F. WEAVER.

The search failed to develop any additional information which would be of value to this investigation.

A neighborhood inquiry was made in the area and the following individuals were contacted who could furnish no information of value relative to the bank robbery or the disposal of the clothing.

Mrs. BETTY ANDRUS, 1420 East 4th Street

Miss TONIE EWING, 1422 East 4th Street

Mr. HAVERN SHELTON, 1504 East 4th Street, formerly residing at 1426 East 4th Street.

Mrs. MARY MALONE, 1412 East 4th Street

Mr. R. GEARING, Plumbing Contractor, who was doing work in the vicinity.

Mr. KENNETH R. ROSS, 1410 East 4th Street, Alton, Illinois, advised on August 11, 1967, that he could not identify any of the clothing recovered in the neighborhood, nor did he have any information to offer about the bank robbery. He did call attention to a rooming house located at 1506 East 4th

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Street where a number of questionable individuals hang out.

ROSS advised that he understands that on the previous evening there were reportedly a number of stolen television sets at this residence. He stated that one of the principle individuals who is of questionable reputation is an individual known to him by the name of FREDDIE DICKS.

ROSS advised that in the event he should develop any additional information of value that he would immediately notify the FBI.

On August 11, 1967, Mr. MIKE RUDONI, Manager, Columbia Hotel and Tavern, Alton, Illinois, advised that he could furnish no information as to the possible identity of any one responsible for robbing the Bank of Alton on July 13, 1967.

RUDONI was questioned concerning individuals that may have left the area who could possibly fit the description of either the two bank robbers and after checking his records identified an individual by the name of GORDON LAHEY, a white male, 40 - 45 years of age, 5'10", weighing 145 to 150 pounds, with dark brown to black hair, who resided at the Columbia Hotel and who left in early July, 1967, and according to his records left on July 7, 1967.

RUDONI stated that he realizes that this was a week before the bank robbery, but wanted to point out LAHEY was of questionable reputation and described him as a "carni", who cashed a \$40.00 check at the hotel which was returned with the notation "account closed".

RUDONI advised that this check was drawn on the Base Line Branch of the Bank of America located at 439 Base Line in San Bernardino, California, and was dated July 4, 1967.

RUDONI advised that this individual supposedly left the area with his wife or exwife and that he last heard from this individual when he accepted a collect call from him from the DeKalb, Illinois.

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At this time the individual advised RUDONI that he was going to go to work at Chicago, Illinois.

RUDONI also advised that while staying at the hotel, this individual was employed by a car washer for Chuck Diering Motor Company, in Alton, Illinois.

On this same date, CHUCK DIERING was contacted at the Diering Motor Company and advised that an individual by the name of GORDON LAHEY worked for a short period of time washing and polishing used cars at Diering Motor.

DIERING advised that LAHEY left on July 7, 1967, in company with his wife and two children and advised that he had gotten a job in Chicago, Illinois, and this was his reason for leaving.

On August 15, 1967, Mr. MIKE RUDONI was recontacted by SA EDWARD A. CARPENTER and SA JAMES H. YELVINGTON at the Columbia Hotel and was shown the clothing that was recovered in the area and after viewing this clothing, he thinks the clothing, especially the cap, might have belonged to a former tenant at the Columbia Hotel who skipped out of the hotel approximately a month ago owing a sizeable amount of money.

RUDONI advised that this individual left prior to the 13th of July and left some clothing and several other items of personal property in his room. RUDONI identified the individual as BILL VAUGHN, who he described as a white male, 5'8", between the ages of 50 and 55. RUDONI stated he realizes that the age is different, but thinks that VAUGHN could be a good suspect. RUDONI advised that he understands that VAUGHN went to Springfield, Illinois, with a woman by the name of SAPP and were staying together at a motel which has the name of Lilly or Lally.

RUDONI advised that he would attempt to develop additional information concerning this individual which might be valuable for the FBI.

On August 14, 1967, the records of the Alton, Illinois, Police Department were checked relative to FREDDIE DICK and WERNER TRUSCH.

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According to the Alton Police Department, FREDDIE EUGENE DICK is described as a white male, born November 13, 1939, at Cottage Hill, Illinois, has FBI # 629999C, and there is no official record for TRUSCH in the Alton Police Department files other than a contact card when he was stopped and questioned by an officer of the Alton Police Department.

On this same date, the records of the Alton Credit Bureau were checked and no record was located for FREDDIE EUGENE DICK which would be of value. The files reflect that WERNER TRUSCH is known to the Credit Bureau and was last known to reside at 1506 East 4th Street, Alton, Illinois. He was formerly known to have resided at 1521 Waterman and 2253 Shenadoah, both in St. Louis, Missouri. He is known to the Commercial Credit Bureau in St. Louis since February, 1966, and appeared to be formerly employed with the Browning Carneval and also employed at the International Hat Company, St. Louis, Missouri.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8-18-67

Mr. RALPH COATS, Manager, Temple Cleaners, 1300 East Broadway, Alton, Illinois, furnished the following information:

Mr. COATS examined some items of clothing which were recovered and presumably worn in connection with the Bank of Alton bank robbery on July 13, 1967, and stated that none of the markings appearing on the clothing came from the Temple Cleaners.

COATS advised that after viewing the trousers and the markings on the trousers that he could not identify these markings as coming from any cleaners in Alton, Illinois. He stated that the markings on the shirt collar appear to have come from the Alton laundry.

On 8-15-67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699  
by SA JAMES H. YELVINGTON  
SA EDWARD A. CARPENTER:bb Date dictated 8-16-67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8-18-67

Mr. ELLIS GADDIS, Secretary-Treasurer, Alton Laundry Company, Alton, Illinois, furnished the following information:

Mr. GADDIS was given an opportunity to examine items of clothing that were recovered that appeared to have been worn by one or both of the bank robbers who held up the Bank of Alton on July 13, 1967.

Mr. GADDIS after examining the clothing said that he believed that the laundry markings appearing in the VanHeusen shirt that had been recovered had been laundered at his laundry. He stated that from examination of the marking in the collar that it appeared to be similar, if not identical to the laundry markings used at the laundry.

Mr. GADDIS advised that from his examination, he believes that the markings were either "JLH-D" or "JUH-D" or "JCH-O", and that he would check old records to determine if the individual could be identified as a customer of the laundry.

GADDIS advised that after examination of the trousers that were recovered that these trousers had neither been laundered nor drycleaned at his laundry.

On August 15, 1967, during a recontact with Mr. GADDIS, he advised that he has been unable to locate any old records which would assist in the identification of the laundry mark on the shirt.

Mr. GADDIS requested some additional time and desired to be recontacted at a later date.

On 8-14-67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA JAMES H. YELWINGTON  
SA EDWARD A. CAMPBELL:bb Date dictated 8-16-67

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 23, 1967

1

LEE MASS, Vice-President, Bank of Alton, was shown the following items, which were found on August 10, 1967, in a wooded area, located near the dead end of East 5th Street in Alton, Illinois:

- 1 - Stevens-Savage, Model 94, 12 gauge shotgun, with the barrel and stock sawed off;
- 1 - pair of tan pleated pants, partially burned;
- 1 - blue jacket, partially burned;
- 1 - gray felt hat, Royal reluxe Stetson, partially burned;
- 1 - man's white shirt, Van Heusen, Vanguard, partially burned;
- 1 - brown cap, with a fish emblem on front, partially burned;
- 1 - belt, Hickock, size 32, black in color, with numbers 5121 on the inside of the belt, partially burned;
- 1 - nylon ladies stocking, knotted at one end.

MASS stated that the sawed off shotgun appeared to be the same shotgun as the one used by one of the bank robbers.

MASS advised that the man with the shotgun was wearing brown pants and that the pants which were located appeared to be the same color as the pants worn by the robber and could possibly be the same pants.

He stated that the blue jacket appeared to be the same color of the clothing worn by the other bank robber, but he could not identify the jacket as being worn by either of the men.

On 8/11/67 at Alton, Illinois File# SI 91-3699

by SA JAMES H. YELVINGTON:mpb Date dictated 8/17/67

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He advised that the stocking appeared to be the same type of stocking as the ones worn by the bank robbers.

MASS stated that he could not identify or associate any of the other items as items worn by either of the bank robbers.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 23, 1967

1

LUCILLE LEWIS, Teller, Bank of Alton, was shown the following items, which were located on August 10, 1967, in a wooded area near the dead end of East 5th Street in Alton, Illinois:

- 1 - Stevens-Savage, Model 94, 12 gauge shotgun, with the barrel and stock sawed off;
- 1 - pair of tan pleated pants, partially burned;
- 1 - blue jacket, partially burned;
- 1 - gray felt hat, Royal Deluxe Stetson, partially burned;
- 1 - brown cap, with a fish emblem on the front, partially burned;
- 1 - Belt, Hickock, size 32, black in color, with the number 5121 on the inside of the belt, partially burned;
- 1 - Man's white shirt, VanHeusen, Vanguard, partially burned;
- 1 - nylon stocking, knotted at one end.

LEWIS stated that the sawed off shotgun was the same size, shape and color as the shotgun used by one of the robbers, and that she believed it could be the same gun.

She stated that both men were wearing blue clothing, but that the clothing of the man with the shotgun was a darker blue, which was the same color of the blue jacket which was found. She stated that she could not identify the blue jacket as being worn by the man with the shotgun, however, she said that it was the same color.

She said that one of the men was wearing tan pants, ~~but that she could not recall which one.~~

On 8/11/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3600

by SA JAMES H. YELVINGTON:mhb Date dictated 8/17/67

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She advised that both men were wearing stocking masks which were the same type as the nylon stocking which was located.

LEWIS stated that she could not identify or associate any of the other items to items worn by the robbers.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 23, 1967

1

MARIE DEALEY, Teller, Bank of Alton, was shown the following items which were located on August 10, 1967, in a wooded area near the dead end of East 5th Street in Alton, Illinois:

- 1 - Stevens-Savage, Model 94, 12 gauge shotgun, with the barrel and stock sawed off;
- 1 - pair of tan pleated pants, partially burned;
- 1 - blue jacket, partially burned;
- 1 - gray felt hat, Royal deluxe Stetson, partially burned;
- 1 - man's white shirt, VanHeusen, Vanguard, partially burned;
- 1 - brown cap, with a fish emblem on the front, partially burned;
- 1 - belt, Hickock, size 32, black in color, with the numbers 5121 on the inside of the belt, partially burned;
- 1 - nylon ladies' stocking, knotted at one end.

DEALEY stated that the shotgun is the same size as the shotgun used by one of the robbers and that she believes that it could be the same gun.

She stated that she believes the brown cap could be the same cap as the one worn by the man who came behind the tellers' cage. However, she said she did not recall the fish emblem on the front of the cap.

DEALEY said that both men were wearing stocking masks, and the nylon stocking which was found could have been worn by one of the robbers.

On 8/11/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699  
 by SA JAMES H. YLIVINGTON:mhb Date dictated 8/17/67

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DEALEY stated that she could not identify or associate any of the other items as items worn by either of the bank robbers.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8-23-67

WILLIAM PHILLIPS, Assistant Cashier, Bank of Alton, was shown the following items which were located on August 10, 1967, in a wooded area near the dead end of East 5th Street in Alton, Illinois:

- 1 Stevens-Savage, Model 94, 12 gauge shotgun, with the barrel and sock sawed off.
- 1 pair of tan, pleated pants, partially burned.
- 1 blue jacket, partially burned.
- 1 gray, felt hat, Royal Deluxe Stetson, partially burned.
- 1 man's white shirt, Van Heusen, Vanguard, partially burned.
- 1 brown cap, with a fish emblem on the front, partially burned.
- 1 belt, Hickock, size 32, black in color, with the numbers 5121 on the inside of the belt, partially burned.
- 1 nylon ladies' stocking, knotted at one end.

PHILLIPS stated that the shotgun is the same size and type of shotgun as was used by one of the robbers, and that it possibly could be the same gun.

He advised that he believed the gray hat and blue jacket was the same hat and jacket which was worn by the robber who carried the shotgun.

He stated that the robber, who went behind the tellers' cage, was wearing a brown cap, which was a darker tan

On 8-11-67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA JAMES H. YELVINGTON:bb Date dictated 8-17-67

SI 91-3699

color than his stocking mask, and he believed the tan cap which was found could be the same cap. He said that he did not recall seeing the fish emblem on the cap.

He stated that both men were wearing stocking masks, and that the stocking which was found, could be one which was worn by one of the robbers.

PHILLIPS said that he could not identify or associate any of the other items as items worn by either of the bank robbers.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8-23-67

GERALDINE COWAN, Assistant Cashier, Bank of Alton, was shown the following items, which were located on August 10, 1967, in a wooded area near the dead end of East 5th Street in Alton, Illinois:

- 1 Stevens-Savage, Model 94, 12 gauge shotgun, with the barrel and stock sawed off.
- 1 pair of tan, pleated pants, partially burned.
- 1 blue jacket, partially burned.
- 1 gray felt hat, Royal Deluxe Stetson, partially burned.
- 1 man's white shirt, VanHeusen, Vanguard, partially burned.
- 1 brown cap, with a fish emblem on the front, partially burned.
- 1 belt, Hickock, size 32, black in color, with the numbers 5121 on the inside of the belt, partially burned.
- 1 nylon ladies stocking, knotted at one end.

COWAN stated that the shotgun was the same size as the shotgun used by one of the robbers and could possibly be the same gun.

She advised that the man with the shotgun was wearing tan pants. She said that she could not positively identify the tan pants, which were located as being the same worn by the robber, however, she said the pants appeared to be the same in color.

COWAN advised that she could not identify the nylon stocking as being the one worn by either of the two men, however,

On 8-11-67 at Alton, Illinois File# SI 91-3699

by SA JAMES E. YELVINGTON:bb Date dictated 8-17-67

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she stated that both men were wearing stocking masks.

COWAN stated that she could not identify or associate any of the other items as items worn by either of the bank robbers.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8-23-67

JO ANN GRAVES, Secretary to Vice President, Bank of Alton, was shown the following items, which were located on August 10, 1967, in a wooded area near the dead end of East 5th Street, in Alton, Illinois:

1 Stevens-Savage, Model 94, 12 gauge shotgun, with the barrell and stock sawed off.

1 pair of tan, pleated, pants, partially burned.

1 blue jacket, partially burned.

1 man's white shirt, Van Heusen, Vanguard, partially burned.

1 gray, felt, hat, Royal Deluxe Stetson, partially burned.

1 brown cap, with a fish emblem on the front, partially burned.

1 Belt, Hickock, size 32, black in color, with the number 5121 on the inside of the belt, partially burned.

1 nylon ladies' stocking, knotted at one end.

GRAVES stated that she only saw the one man who went behind the tellers' cage, and did not see the man with the shotgun.

She advised that she could not identify or associate any of the items as items used or worn by either of the bank robbers.

On 8-11-67 at Alton, Illinois File# SI 91-3699

by SA JAMES H. WELINGTON:bb Date dictated 8-17-67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 24, 1967

1

WERNER MARION KRUSCH, 1639 rear John Street, East St. Louis, Illinois, was interviewed at his residence in the presence of his wife, Mrs. WANDA KRUSCH, nee EVANS.

At the outset of the interview, KRUSCH executed a waiver of rights form, and stated that he would orally furnish information and answer any questions posed to him by Bureau Agents.

KRUSCH furnished the following information, after consenting to be photographed, and he was photographed by SA MC KINSTRAY:

He stated that he and his wife moved to their present address from Alton, Illinois, over the weekend of August 12, 1967, when his rent was up at the apartment where he was living at 1506 East 4th Street in Alton, Illinois.

KRUSCH stated that he is not physically able to work, and that his wife is the sole supporter of himself and their small boy. He stated that his wife was employed as a waitress at Richey's Cafe, in Alton, Illinois, located on East Broadway, but that she was dissatisfied with her position and could not get along with the owners of the Cafe so they decided to return to East St. Louis, Illinois, which is their home.

KRUSCH advised that the parents of his wife reside at 517 North 43rd Street in East St. Louis, and will always know their whereabouts.

He stated that they contemplate moving to an apartment in the vicinity of 36th and State Street in East St. Louis.

KRUSCH advised that his wife has gained employment

On 8/17/67 at East St. Louis, Illinois File# SI 91-3699

by SA JOSEPH L. MC KINSTRAY  
SA EDWARD A. CARPENTIER /drb Date dictated 8/18/67

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at Bob and Jerry's Cafe, located at Illinois Avenue and Collinsville Avenue in East St. Louis, Illinois.

KRUSCH denied having any knowledge of, and denied any connection with the bank robbery of the Bank of Alton in Alton, Illinois on July 13, 1967, and commented that he was at home babysitting on that particular day, and recalled the day because his wife made the comment about the bank robbery, and he also heard it on the radio.

KRUSCH stated that he has a logical explanation for the .22 caliber shells that he left in the apartment at 1506 East 4th Street, and the nylon stocking caps also left behind. He stated that the shells were purchased when he borrowed a .22 caliber rifle from an individual by the name of RICHARD NELSON who is a friend of his, residing in Alton, Illinois, during the recent racial activity in Alton. He stated that he borrowed this rifle for possible protection but the rifle has been returned.

KRUSCH advised that insofar as the nylon stocking caps are concerned, he utilized these caps for the processing of his hair, which he stated he has difficulty in keeping it trained down.

KRUSCH advised that he lived at 1506 East 4th Street in Alton for approximately two months, and on the day of the bank robbery, he noticed nothing unusual in the neighborhood.

He admitted knowing FREDDIE DICK, and that DICK used to contact him at his residence in Alton on numerous occasions. KRUSCH stated that he doubted that DICK would be capable of pulling a bank robbery.

KRUSCH admitted that when he was very young, that he has been in difficulty and has been confined under the custody of the Illinois Youth Commission.

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KRUSCH advised that he would be willing to cooperate in any way that is necessary.

The following description of KRUSCH was obtained through observation and interrogation:

NAME:	WERNER MARION KRUSCH
SEX:	Male
RACE:	White
DATE OF BIRTH:	June 13, 1942
PLACE OF BIRTH:	Norfolk, Pennsylvania
AGE:	25
HEIGHT:	6'1"
WEIGHT:	145
HAIR:	Dark brown and long
EYES:	HAZEL
BUILD:	Slender
COMPLEXION:	Medium dark
TATTOOS:	Has numerous tattoos; has the name "FAY" and two stars on the right bicep; initial "SG" and the name "JACK" and a pair of dice on the left forearm; has "love" in a heart on his chest
PECULIARITIES:	Has a large, prominent Adams apple
MARITAL STATUS:	Married
WIFE:	WANDA KRUSCH, nee EVANS
FATHER:	Deceased
MOTHER:	Whereabouts unknown



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II. LABORATORY EXAMINATIONS

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By communication dated September 13, 1967, the FBI Identification Division, Latent Fingerprint Section, advised as follows:

"Specimens: Shotgun  
 Four shotgun shells  
 Leather belt  
 Match book  
 Cigarette pack  
 Elimination finger and palm prints of 4 individuals  
 Elimination fingerprints of one individual

"No latent impressions of value were developed on specimens."

By communication dated September 14, 1967, the FBI Laboratory advised as follows:

"Specimens received 8/20/67

Q1 Windbreaker  
 Q2 Sawed-off shotgun  
 Q3 Shirt  
 Q4 Brown cap  
 Q5 Felt hat  
 Q6 Trousers  
 Q7 Stocking  
 Q8 Stocking foot

"Also submitted: Four 12-gauge shotgun shells  
 Wooden stock  
 Leather belt  
 Matchbook

Cigarette pack

Finger and palm prints of:  
 Kim Bruns  
 Ernest Pursley  
 Thomas Noel  
 Dennis Bruns  
 Fingerprints of Raymond Parton

"Results of examination:

Brown to light brown head hairs of Caucasian origin were found on specimens Q3, Q5 and in Q8. These hairs have been mounted for possible future comparisons with known head hair samples from any suspect you may develop.

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"No hairs were found on any of the other items.

"NU" or "NO", "JOH-U" or "JOH-O" have been stamped to the inside collar of Q3.

Visible laundry markings "44" and "3107-3" are present on the right front pocket of Q6. Visible laundry markings "T6276" and U7703" are also present on the right rear pocket of Q6.

"The identity of the laundry causing these markings is unknown to the Laboratory.

"No other visible and no invisible laundry markings were found on any of the submitted items.

"Specimen Q7 is a complete stocking having one end tied in knots.

"Specimen Q8 is the foot portion of a stocking. Specimens Q7 and Q8 are different types and colors of stockings and could not be mates.

"Nothing else of significance was noted about the submitted evidence."

By communication dated September 21, 1967, the FBI Laboratory advised as follows:

"Results of examination:

"This report supplements the Laboratory's report to you dated September 14, 1967, and completes the examination of the evidence listed in that communication. For a listing of the evidence, please refer to that report.

"Specimen Q2 is a Stevens Model 94 12-gauge, single shot, single barrel, sawed-off shotgun. There is no stock on the weapon. The present length of the

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barrel of specimen Q2 is 12½" and it was observed that the barrel is filled with dirt or dried mud. The surface dirt and corrosion adhering to the outside of the weapon were removed and no physical evidence was observed to indicate that the shotgun had ever borne a serial number. It is pointed out that there are some shotguns which do not bear a serial number and apparently specimen Q2 is one of them."

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III. INVESTIGATION REGARDING SUSPECTS  
RALPH PAGE and CHARLES BAZE

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 3, 19671

EARL SONS, Bartender, High Hat Lounge, advised that he is acquainted with RALPH ROBERT PAGE, CHUCK BAZE, and several of their companions. He stated that both PAGE and BAZE have been barred from patronizing the tavern for about two months. SONS has not seen either of them for at least that long, and he stated that he would notify the local FBI Office if he sees them in the vicinity.

On 7/25/67 at Cottage Hills, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY /JIN Date dictated 7/23/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 3, 1967

1

MARY WILKERSON, Owner of Mary's Lounge, furnished the following information:

She last saw RALPH ROBERT PAGE and CHUCK BAZE at her tavern sometime during the weekend after the bank robbery at Alton, Illinois, on July 13, 1967. She stated that at this time, she heard no talk which would be indicative of PAGE and BAZE having had anything to do with the robbery at the Bank of Alton. She said that neither of them seemed to have an unusual amount of money at that time, and neither of them said or did anything which would make her suspect they may have had a part in the robbery. She was advised that the FBI was interested in talking to both PAGE and BAZE, and she stated that she would call the local office should either of them appear in the area.

On 7/23/67 at Cottage Hills, Illinois File# SI 91-3699

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY /jlb Date dictated 7/23/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 3, 19671

Mrs. DOLORES BRIDGES, 215 MacArthur, furnished the following information:

She is the co-owner of the Two Brothers Motel at 215 MacArthur, and she stated that she is acquainted with RALPH ROBERT PAGE, but said that PAGE has not stayed at that motel for at least a year. She stated that if she does see PAGE, she will notify the FBI Office immediately.

On 7/23/67 at Cottage Hills, Illinois File# SI 91-3699

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY /jln Date dictated 7/23/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 3, 19671

HARRY NEVLIN, JR., 1628 Washington Street, furnished the following information:

His shopmen at the Nevlin Moving Company generally wear shirts and slacks as a regular working attire. He stated that the uniforms used by his company are supplied by the Alton Industrial Towel and Uniform Company, 915 East Broadway. He said that the uniforms used by his personnel do not resemble the coveralls as described by the witnesses to the robbery at the Bank of Alton.

On 7/29/67 at Alton, Illinois File# SI 91-3699  
by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY /jll Date dictated 7/29/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 3, 19371

KEN JONES, Manager of the Alton Industrial Uniform and Towel Service, 915 East Broadway, furnished the following information:

He stated that his company rents uniforms to local industrial concerns, but he stated that the herringbone design described by witnesses to the robbery at the Bank of Alton on July 13, 1937, is not one of the types of uniform supplied by his company. JONES advised that a check of this nature ought normally be extended to Uniform and Towel Supply Company from St. Louis since these companies supply a large number of these local industrial concerns.

On 7/26/37 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3099  
by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY /jln Date dictated 7/28/37

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 3, 1967

1

EVERETT B. HICKEY, 934 College, was interviewed at his place of employment at the Municipal Garage, and furnished the following information:

He is the owner of a 1960 Rambler, six passenger, Cross Country station wagon with vehicle identification number C218260 bearing 1967 Illinois license RD-1261. HICKEY provided a bill of sale for this vehicle showing date of purchase as June 28, 1967, from George's Auto Sale on Washington Street, at which time he stated he traded in a 1957 Ford and he said that the plates currently on the Rambler are being transferred from the Ford which he has sold. He said that he had received the title from the Secretary of State's Office on July 22, 1967. He stated that he is not acquainted with CHUCK BAZE or RALPH ROBERT PAGE or RUTH ANN TUCKER.

On 7/23/67 at Arlton, Illinois File # SI 91-2699

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY /jlh Date dictated 7/23/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 3, 1967

1

WILLIAM E. BEARDSMORE, President of the Bank of Alton, furnished the following information:

A review of record tapes of checks accepted on July 13, 1967, revealed that MARJORIE CUNNINGHAM cashed an Aetna Life and Casualty Insurance Company check in the amount of \$62.00 on that date. BEARDSMORE stated that this check was apparently cashed shortly before the bank robbery took place. He stated, however, that it was impossible to determine this from the record tape, but that from the window at which it was cashed either teller LUCILLE LEWIS or bookkeeper JUDY BRIDGES would have accepted and cashed this check for CUNNINGHAM. BEARDSMORE advised that both LEWIS and BRIDGES are currently away on vacation and will not return until the beginning of the week of July 30, 1967.

On 7/26/67 at Alton, Illinois File# SI 91-3699

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY /jlh Date dictated 7/28/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 3, 19671

WILLIAM CRANE, 1216 Pine Street, was interviewed at his place of business, Alton Refrigeration Company, furnished the following information:

The employees at his concern wear a uniform made up of a blue shirt, dark in color, and matching blue slacks. He stated that no coveralls are worn as regular working attire by his employees.

On 7/25/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3399

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY /jln Date dictated 7/23/67

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JHY:sjs

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES H. YELVINGTON:

On September 18, 1967, ROSE WILLIAMS, mother of RUTH TUCKER, 525 Miami, Alton, Illinois, advised she received a letter from her daughter this date, in which TUCKER stated she is now residing at 3312 East Castro Valley Boulevard, Apartment O, Castro Valley, California.

WILLIAMS stated her daughter is currently unemployed and, to her knowledge, had very little money, if any, when she left Alton. She said TUCKER also has her 10 year old son, LARRY GENE, with her and has enrolled him in school in California. She said BAZE has returned to the Alton, Illinois area and has been in the area approximately 2 weeks.

WILLIAMS stated TUCKER furnished address of RALPH PAGE and NANCY HARPER as 268 Harmon, Las Vegas, Nevada.

She requested that her daughter not be aware that she furnished above information to the FBI.

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IV. MISCELLANEOUS SUSPECTS

SI 91-3699

RE: SUSPECT BOBBY GENE ELLIOTT

The following investigation was conducted by SA ELYON H. DAVIS:

On August 30 1967, Corporal GERALD SCHILLING, Illinois State Police, Macomb, Illinois, advised that on June 28, 1967, MARTHA STODONY CAREY, Macomb, Illinois, was arrested for being drunk and told her cousin, Officer GLEN BROWN, Macomb, Illinois Police Department, that she is presently living with BOBBY GENE ELLIOTT, address either 326 or 328 West Piper Street, Macomb, Illinois. She stated ELLIOTT doesn't work and she claimed that he was recently involved in a bank robbery or bank burglary in the Granite City area. She stated that he carries a gun under the front seat of his car, a 1954 Buick hardtop, bearing license 1967 Illinois LH 3712 or GU 9647.

Corporal SCHILLING advised ELLIOTT has served time on a 3 to 5 year sentence, charge unknown, at Illinois State Penitentiary, Pontiac, Illinois. Corporal SCHILLING and records of Drivers License Bureau, reflected the following description for ELLIOTT:

Race	White
Sex	Male
DOB	4/10/35
Height	5' 9" - 5' 10"
Weight	145-160 pounds
Complexion	Light
Hair	Dark; wavy

His driver's license showed a former address of 111 Lenore, Cottage Hills, Illinois. Registration on a 1955 Buick shows his home address to be 230 Clifton, Round Lake, Illinois.

CAREY had advised that ELLIOTT is well known in the Granite City area and that he hangs out alot in Alton, Illinois.



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On August 31, 1967, Corporal GERALD SCHILLING, Illinois State Police, Macomb, Illinois, was contacted by SA DAVIS concerning information he had furnished given by MARTHA STODONY CAREY, Macomb, Illinois. SCHILLING advised that he had not personally talked to CAREY but that the information came to him from the Macomb, Illinois Police Department.

SCHILLING advised that he had no personal information concerning ELLIOTT other than that ELLIOTT drove a 1954 Buick hardtop and that 1967 Illinois license LH 3712 and 1967 Illinois license GU 9647 had both been seen on the vehicle.

On August 31, 1967, Chief ROBERT DE POY, Macomb, Illinois Police Department, advised that on August 29, 1967, MARTHA STODONY CAREY, 326 West Piper Street, Macomb, Illinois, had come to his office and told him she wanted to furnish information concerning her boyfriend, BOBBY GENE ELLIOTT who lives in her apartment at various times. She had told him that ELLIOTT is well known in the Granite City - Alton - Cottage Hill, Illinois area. On the previous night, she had had an argument with ELLIOTT in Bushnell, Illinois and ELLIOTT had kicked her out of the car and left her lying on the side of the road where she was later arrested by the Bushnell Police Department for being drunk. He advised that at the time she furnished information concerning ELLIOTT, she was very angry at ELLIOTT and he felt that she quite, possibly, under this situation, would furnish false information.

She stated that ELLIOTT carried a gun under the front seat of his vehicle and that he has approximately \$1600 in cash. She told him that ELLIOTT must have been involved in some type of burglary in the Granite City area, or else he would not have this much money, inasmuch as he does not work. She also stated that he had served time in the Pontiac Penitentiary and that this was a 3 to 5 year term, charge unknown.

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Chief DE POY advised that at no time did she mention bank robbery or any specific crime which ELLIOTT might have committed. He stated she only mentioned burglary to him.

On August 31, 1967, Officer GLEN BROWN, Macomb, Illinois Police Department, advised that MARTHA STODONY CAREY is related to BROWN's family and on occasion she will come to BROWN's home in the morning to drink coffee with his wife. He advised that on several occasions, she has mentioned to his wife and also to himself that BOBBY GENE ELLIOTT is a hoodlum and that he has been involved in either some types of burglary or robbery. He advised that at no time has she mentioned bank robbery and that he has no specific information concerning ELLIOTT other than she has stated that he is well known in the Granite City area and has lived in Cottage Hill, Illinois. Also, CAREY has made trips to the Cottage Hill area with ELLIOTT and on occasion has spent several days with ELLIOTT. He also advised that on several occasions she would return to Macomb, Illinois, before ELLIOTT returned.

BROWN advised that on August 31, 1967, he had been unable to locate CAREY for interview by SA DAVIS. He advised that CAREY would not furnish any information unless ELLIOTT was out of Macomb and that on the first occasion, he determines that ELLIOTT is gone from the area, he will advise SA DAVIS and arrange for an interview by DAVIS with CAREY.

The following investigation was conducted by IC WAYNE E. LOWE:

On September 6, 1967, DONALD GENTSCH, Records Clerk, Menard State Penitentiary, Chester, Illinois, made available inmate file for BOBBY GENE ELLIOTT, Menard Number 25205, which contained the following information:

Sex	Male
Race	White

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Hair	Brown
Eyes	Green
Nativity	Kentucky
Weight	148 pounds
Height	5' 11"
Build	Medium
Education	8th grade
Occupation	Laborer
DOB	4/30/35
FBI #	177 522 B
Ill. Bureau #	419 875

ELLIOT was received at Menard Prison on June 18, 1956 on the crime of larceny from person from Madison County, Illinois, to serve a sentence of 2 to 3 years. He was transferred to Pontiac State Prison on September 7, 1956 and returned to Menard on October 23, 1957.

The following is a list of friends and relatives as contained in prison records:

Wife	BETTY ELLIOT 602 Shephard Street, Alton, Illinois 25 Neuneber Street, Cottage Hills, Illinois; 91 Belle Street Alton, Illinois
Mother	EDITH HAMS or Mrs. R. L. STEELEY 229 Hamilton Street, Alton, Illinois Tennessee Ridge, Tennessee
Sister	MAXINE SHAW 2117 Country Club Drive Alton, Illinois
Brother	RICHARD ELLIOT RR 1, Bethalto, Illinois;
Brother	CHARLES ELLIOT 18 East 5th Street, Alton, Illinois; 229 Hamilton Street, Alton, Illinois;

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Brother	JEROME ELLIOT 229 Hamilton Street, Alton, Illinois; 2804 North Halsted, Chicago, Illinois;
Sister	ROBERTA FITTS, 1000 Meridian, Nashville, Tennessee
Aunt	LAURA MONEYMAKER Box 971, Dayton, Ohio

Records reflect ELLIOT was paroled April 17, 1958 to RICHARD C. ELLIOT, General Trucking, 1303 - 5th Street, Cottage Hills, Illinois. His sentence expires December 17, 1958.

AT SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS:

Mr. JAMES TABOR, Supervisor, Auto Registration Section, Secretary of State, Springfield, Illinois, advised on August 30, 1967 that 1967 Illinois license GU 9647 issued May 3, 1967 to BOBBY GENE ELLIOT, 230 Clifton Road, Round Lake, Illinois for a 1957 Buick 4 door, VIN 7D1140236. License was originally issued for a 1954 Chevrolet 4 door and on May 3, 1967, was transferred to the above automobile. The application reflects ELLIOT's drivers license number as E430 0673 5103. The title number was reflected as B975482.

TABOR further advised that 1967 Illinois license LH 3712 was issued March 7, 1967 to WILLIAM D. POTTER, Box 353, Grays Lake, Illinois for 1959 Buick convertible, VIN 4F4015716. No drivers license number was listed, the number reflected was B591347.

TABOR advised that title number B975482 reflects 1957 Buick, VIN 7D1140236 titled to BOBBY GENE ELLIOT, 230 Clifton, Round Lake, Illinois. This automobile was purchased April 19, 1967 from Auto Body by Nichol, 225 East Main, Round Lake Park, Illinois, with no lien and the title was issued May 15, 1967.

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TABOR advised that title #B591347 reflects a 1959 Buick, VIN 4F4015716 is titled to WILLIAM D. POTTER, Box 353, Grays Lake, Illinois. This auto was purchased June 24, 1966 from CHARLES E. GREEN, 2227 North Shore Drive, Traverse City, Michigan with no lien. The title was issued March 28, 1967.

Mr. WILLIAM LOGAN, Supervisor, Drivers License Section, Secretary of State, Springfield, Illinois, advised on August 30, 1987 that Illinois drivers license number E430 0673 S103 issued May 23, 1966 to BOBBY ELLIOT, 111 Lenor, Cottage Hills, Illinois expires April 10, 1970 and describes him as:

Sex	Male
Height	5' 10"
Weight	160 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Gray
DOB	4/10/35

Records reflect his employment as a machine operator and that he had California drivers license M674038.

LOGAN further advised that WILLIAM DONALD POTTER, Barry Avenue, Post Office Box 353, Grays Lake, Illinois took a written exam on February 20, 1967 at Lake County, Illinois. POTTER was issued permit #P360 9244 8050 on February 28, 1967, which expired August 28, 1967. He is described as:

Height	5' 2"
Weight	105 lbs.
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
DOB	2/19/48

Records reflect POTTER on June 15, 1967 took his driver license exam and failed. On his first exam, he was driving a 1962 Ford, 1967 Illinois license LG 7107 and on his last exam was driving a 1960 model car bearing 1967 Illinois license LM 4818. POTTER did have Michigan drivers license #P360887149131.

SI 91-3699

JAMES TABOR advised that 1967 Illinois license LG 7107 is issued to ROBERT BUSBY, 554 D. Shorewood Road, Grays Lake, Illinois, as of February 16, 1967, for 1962 Falcon Station Wagon, VIN 2H22S152342. No drivers license or title number were listed.

TABOR advised that 1967 Illinois license LM 4818 was issued June 12, 1967 to DANIEL POTTER, Building 309 Great Lakes, Illinois for 1960 Ford T Bird 2 door, VIN OY71J120978. Records reflect his drivers license number as Michigan P360135843113. Title number was B1239429.

SI 91-3699

RE: SUSPECT DANNY, DAVID, HENRY and ROBERT GRESHAM:

SI 61-3699

WGC:mpb

1

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY on July 25, 1967:

At Alton, Illinois

Members of the GRESHAM'S family were developed as suspects in this case as a result of house painter's having overheard members of this family leaving their residence at 720 Alton Street and making the comment, "Did you forget the shotgun?"



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 31, 1967

1

Sergeant HAROLD COX, Alton Police Department, furnished the following information from records of his office:

DANNY RAY GRESHAM, address 1326 East Broadway, is described as follows:

Date of birth	November 11, 1943
Complexion	Ruddy
Hair	Light brown
Eyes	Blue
Alton Police Department Identification #	9597
<u>Arrest record</u>	

Date of arrest	Charge	Disposition
May 25, 1965	Possession of a .22 calibre semiautomatic rifle	Paid \$10.00 fine plus cost.
November 10, 1965	Suspicion stolen vehicle	Released
November 23, 1965	Disturbing the peace	No disposition shown.
January 17, 1966	Disturbing the peace	Paid \$30.00 and costs.

DAVID GRESHAME. ABBOXAddresses208 West 7th, Alton  
720 Alton StreetAge18One complaintlost draft card June 19, 1967.On 7/25/67 at Alton, Illinois File# SI 91-3699by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY:mpp Date dictated 7/25/67

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SI 91-3699

2

HENRY GRESHAM

Address 208 West 7th, Alton  
 Alton Police 4743  
 Department  
 Identification #  
 No pertinent information available.

ROBERT DALE GRESHAM

Addresses 208 West 7th, Alton  
 720 Alton Street, Alton  
 Age 18  
 Complexion Medium  
 Hair Brown  
 Eyes Green  
 Arrested February 26, 1965, for a traffic violation.

SI 91-3699

V. MISCELLANEOUS WITNESSES

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 31, 1967

1

DOROTHA GORDEN, 1205 Central Avenue, provided the following information:

On the afternoon of July 13, 1967, she arrived at the Bank of Alton at 2:00 p.m. as she recalls, but stated that she was in the bank at the time that the robbers made their entry. She stated that she had entered by the side door about five minutes before the robbery took place. She was standing at the teller's window closest to the front door, and stated that at the time of her entry by the side door, she saw nothing unusual in the parking lot. As she was at the teller's window, she saw one of the robbers go behind the tellers' cages and begin to collect money from the drawers.

She stated that she saw no gun in the hand of the robber behind the tellers' cage, and she said that she thought she heard this individual saying something as he was taking money out of the cages, but she did not hear specifically what was said. She said that the only thing that she recalls is that the face of this individual appeared to be hard and that it was only after the robbery that she realized that a stocking mask was over the robber's face. She could supply no estimate as to the height, weight, or general physical appearance and clothing of this robber, stating that she was so scared that she was afraid even to look at him. She said that she had just cashed a check and that she took the money that was in her hand and placed it down the back of her dress for fear that it would be taken from her.

She could recall that the robber who went behind the tellers' cage was dressed in what she characterized as rugged dress, and she thought this may have been coveralls and a cap, both of which were either gray or bluish color. She said that the robber who stood by the side door had on some kind of an old model wide rimmed hat, and had a shotgun. She said that this man was dressed in a similar manner to the one who was behind the tellers' cage. GORDEN stated that she was not able to associate the robbers' wearing apparel with any particular trade or line of work. She stated that after the

On 7/25/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY:mpb Date dictated 7/25/67

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SI 91-3699

2

robbers left, she was so much in shock that she didn't move from the spot where she was standing. She said that from this position, she was unable to see the window or notice any details concerning the thieves' method of escape after they left the side door of the bank.

She stated that she does not believe she could identify the robbers if she saw them again.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 31, 19671

LEE WERTS, Rural Route #1, provided the following information:

He estimated that he was at the bank of Alton approximately 10 or 15 minutes before the bank robbery took place, and that he left this bank and was in the Upper Alton Pharmacy at the corner of Washington and College Street when he heard about the bank robbery. He stated that he had entered the side door of the bank in order to transact his business within, and that at the time he was there, he was the only customer at the bank.

He stated that he spent about five minutes in the bank transacting his business and that he saw nothing unusual either before he entered or while he was in the bank. He could provide no other pertinent information concerning the bank robbery.

On 7/25/67 at Alton, Illinois File# SI 91-3699

by EA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY:apb Date dictated 7/25/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 31, 19671

EDWARD H. MOODY, 3115 Brown Street, furnished the following information:

He estimated that he was in the Bank of Alton making a draft at about 12:30 p.m. on July 13, 1967. He stated that he saw nothing unusual either as he entered the bank through the side door or while he was at the bank or as he left the bank. He could supply no other pertinent information concerning this matter.

On 7/25/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI-91-3699

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLEY:mpb Date dictated 7/25/67

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 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Date July 31, 19671

TERRY ANSPACH, 1302 Spaulding Avenue, provided the following information:

On July 13, 1967, he entered the Bank of Alton for the first time. He stated that he used the door which is just to the left of the main entrance to the bank. He said it was most likely that the robbery was taking place as he walked in, but he said he noticed nothing unusual for one or two minutes after he arrived. He stated that the first time he looked up and saw anything unusual, he saw the older of the two bank robbers leaving the bank by the side door. He stated that he was not in a position to get a good look at the man or to provide any description. The only comments he could make was that the man appeared to be shabbily dressed and seemed like a person out of "skid row". He stated shortly after this man left the bank, he realized that a robbery had taken place. He moved toward the windows of the south side of the bank but he did not see any car leaving the scene nor did he see anyone going across the parking lot.

He was able to provide no pertinent information concerning the robbery or the robbers' method of escape. He stated that he did not observe any weapon used in this crime.

On 7/25/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 61 3690

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY:jsb Date dictated 7/25/67

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SI 91-3699

VI. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

SI 91-3699

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI:

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA GEORGE M. PEET:

On July 18, 1967, Detective JAMES HOPKINS, 3rd District, St. Louis Police Department, advised he had learned through a confidential source of his that HERMAN KNIGHT, also known as Joseph Barr, was one of the two individuals responsible for the Alton, Illinois bank robbery on July 13, 1967 and that KNIGHT was the one who had the shotgun.

HOPKINS advised that KNIGHT had been arrested in St. Louis in connection with two local robberies and that within the past few months he had been released on bond. He stated that about two months ago after KNIGHT's release from City Jail, he observed KNIGHT in South St. Louis at which time KNIGHT had dyed his hair red. Last known address for KNIGHT was 2729 Eads, which is the residence of MARCELLA WEBB, estranged wife of JOE BENNY WEBB, local hoodlum.

HOPKINS stated that a close associate of KNIGHT is ALBERT SCHLEIKER who may or may not be residing at 3949 Magnolia, Apartment 7, with TOMMY MADDOX, local burglar.

A review of St. Louis Police Department records on July 20, 1967, revealed the following concerning KNIGHT and SCHLEIKER.

HERMAN LUDSON KNIGHT, St. Louis PD #108453, FBI 185 200 A:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Born	6/11/66 in Florida
Height	5' 9"
Weight	165
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Prior conviction	1/59, robbery, Atlanta, Georgia, sentenced to 20 years

SI 91-3699

Records reflect his arrest in January, April & May, 1967, with residence listed as 4209 Lindell and 1009 Geyer.

ALBERT WILLIAM SCHLEIKER, St. Louis Police Department #84627, FBI 674 524 D:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Born	11/23/38 in Illinois
Height	5' 7"
Weight	130
Tattoo	Hear with "JUDY" on left bicep
Parents	PATRICK SCHLEIKER, Mattoon, Illinois MARGARET CHAMBERLAIN, Gerguson, Missouri MATTIE SCHLEIKER, St. Louis PD #100836
Residence	806 Geyer
Automobile	1956 Buick, Missouri license ZG# 127

The following investigation was conducted by SA KENNETH N. DELANOY at St. Louis, Missouri:

On August 11, 1967 Detective Sergeant JAMES HACKET, 9th District, St. Louis Police Department, advised his department had determined the following regarding the individuals registered at Room 207, Acme Hotel.

JAMES ALEXANDER, white male, age 21, DOB 7/25/46, Alabama. ALEXANDER is a known wine drinker and is well known to 9th District Police Department as "a drunk." (Although a "wino", ALEXANDER never involved in any crimes of violence, holdups, etc.)

SI 91-3699

WILLIAM KEMP, white male, age 19, date of birth, June 9, 1948 in Tennessee.

IRENE KEMP, (Mrs. WILLIAM) white female, age 17, date of birth, August 14, 1948, in Tennessee.

Sergeant HACKETT stated investigation disclosed all 3 individuals had only a total of \$2.40; have no vehicle; were probably in Tennessee on July 13, 1967 since they stated their car had broken down there and they took the bus to St. Louis, Missouri. All three had applied to Manpower, Inc. on August 10, 1967 for any type of employment. Sergeant HACKETT stated the trio had very little belongings; appeared down and out; had no weapons and were drinking cheap wine when questioned.

SI 91-3699

ALW:sjs

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA  
ARTHUR LEE WOODS:

Detective Sergeant A. G. SPRAGUE, Police Department, Bloomington, Illinois, contacted SA ARTHUR LEE WOODS on August 14, 1967.

Sergeant SPRAGUE advised that during this course of investigation concerning the activities of EDWARD RICHARD CESARZ at Bloomington, Illinois, he came in contact with a MARTIN BARTLETT of 1503 West Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois. Sergeant SPRAGUE advised that BARTLETT stated that his wife is employed as a waitress at Payne's Restaurant, 402 North Main Street, Bloomington, Illinois. He advised his has worked closely with ETHEL MAYS, the girlfriend of CESARZ. He stated in view of his wife working at this restaurant he became acquainted with CESARZ and stated on occasion in July, 1967, he had an opportunity to see the inside of the trunk of CESARZ' automobile, a 1966 Dodge, 2 door hardtop. He stated on this occasion he saw two pistols, one he described as a .22 caliber; the other not described. According to SPRAGUE, BARTLETT stated he saw a sawed-off shotgun in the trunk of his automobile. Detective SPRAGUE advised that BARTLETT stated his wife told him that ETHEL MAYS told her that CESARZ and three other "guys" robbed a bank. MAYS is alleged to have stated that half the money is in Illinois and the other half in the State of Michigan.

Sergeant SPRAGUE advised that BARTLETT stated that MAYS is definitely not telling the officers all she knows concerning CESARZ. Sergeant SPRAGUE advised that MAYS has departed Bloomington and according to her uncle is residing at Sells Tavern, Route 5, Centralia, Illinois. Also, MAYS has a sister, ETTA MARSHALL, who resides in Centralia, Illinois.

SI 91-5198

SI 91-1619

LHM-ssc

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA WILLIAM EARL WEALEY at Evansville, Indiana.

On August 28, 1967, Lieutenant FRED ALTMUS, Record Section, Evansville, Indiana Police Department, advised that a review of his files fails to reveal any record for LEO R. STALL, 1379 East Chandler Avenue.

On August 28, 1967, Mr. A. G. SPINDLER advised that a review of his files revealed a record for LEO R. STALL, wife JIMMIE, 1379 East Chandler Avenue, Evansville, Indiana.

STALL was born on April 14, 1926, and he and his wife have resided at their present address since December 7, 1966, and before that lived at 1801 North Villa, Evansville, Indiana. He presently works for Mack White Wire Rope Company, Evansville, Indiana. His credit rating is satisfactory and he pays all bills promptly. He has no public record listed and his files show he was in the United States Marine Corps during World War II, approximately four years. He is a native of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and his wife is from Barock, Wisconsin.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1 - USA, Springfield

Report of: SA ROBERT C. HAINES  
Date: August 11, 1967

Office: Springfield

Field Office File #: SI 91-3699

Bureau File #:

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2);  
THE BANK OF ALTON,  
ALTON, ILLINOIS,  
JULY 13, 1967

Character: BANK ROBBERY

Synopsis: At 1:30 p.m., 7/13/67, two unknown subjects wearing stocking masks entered the side door of The Bank of Alton. #1 proceeded directly to tellers' area, walked behind counter, emptied cash from two tellers' cages, and left the bank by same route. #2 stood inside the side door, flourishing a sawed-off shotgun, covered customers and employees until #1 left, then backed out. Loot \$27,230. Bank FDIC insured. Interviews with employees, customers, and neighbors in vicinity of bank set forth. Investigation indicates Unknown Subjects, after leaving the bank, went through 10-foot high hedge at rear of bank (west), then went south on foot to Calvary Baptist Church parking lot. Investigation re suspects developed set forth. UNKNOWN SUBJECTS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- P -

91-27494-2

SI 91-3699

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SI 91-3699

I. PREDICATION

Investigation in this matter is predicated upon receipt of information from Chief of Police JOHN M. HEAFNER (NA), Alton, Illinois, Police Department, disclosing that his department had received a telephonic complaint concerning a bank robbery at The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois.

II. JURISDICTION

Mr. WILLIAM BEARDSMORE, Executive Vice-President, The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, advised on July 17, 1967, that The Bank of Alton is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation under Certificate #17695-8, dated October 16, 1966. He stated that the bank is chartered under the laws of the State of Illinois, Charter #1792, dated January 20, 1956.

Mr. BEARDSMORE stated that he would be the person to be subpoenaed in court to document the bank and jurisdictional matters.

III. NARRATIVE OF MODUS OPERANDI

At 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 13, 1967, two unknown subjects entered the side door of The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, and one unknown subject immediately and rapidly walked behind the tellers' area, moved one teller out of the way, while brandishing what appeared to be a small blue automatic pistol and cleared out two tellers' cages of paper money, emptying it into a wide canvas or paper bag. Unknown subject #2 stood inside the side door with a sawed-off shotgun, covering the employees and customers of the bank, and at one time ordered everyone to "Stand Still." When unknown subject #1 finished emptying the two tellers' cages, he rapidly left the bank by the same route he entered, after which unknown subject #2 backed out of the bank, still flourishing the sawed-off shotgun.

Subsequent investigation discloses unknown subjects ran around the rear corner of the bank in a westerly direction and apparently ducked through a 10-foot high hedge at the west lot line of the bank, thereafter walking south approximately one-half block to the Calvary Baptist Church parking lot.

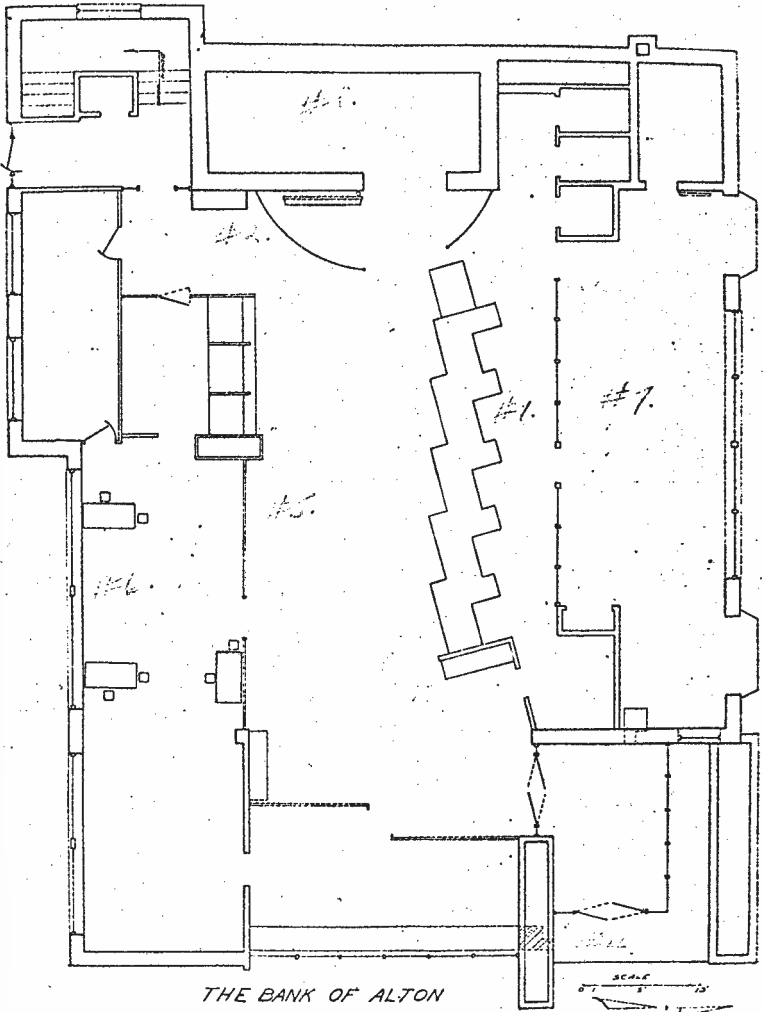
SI 91-3699

IV. PROTECTIVE DEVICES

Mr. BEARDSMORE, mentioned above, stated that the bank has no protective devices and does not employ a bank guard except on Friday evenings, when an off-duty police officer is engaged in this capacity.

V. CHART OF BANKLEGEND:

- #1. Location where unknown subject #1 looted tellers' cages.
- #2. Location where unknown subject #2 covered interior with sawed-off shotgun.
- #3. Side door.
- #4. Front door.
- #5. Customer lobby.
- #6. Executive officers.
- #7. Bookkeeping Department.
- #8. Vault.



THE BANK OF ALTON

SCALE  
0' 5' 10' 15'

SI 91-3699

VI. INTERVIEWS WITH EMPLOYEES

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 24, 1937

MARIE DEALLEY, Teller, The Bank of Alton, advised that she was on duty in her teller's cage at approximately 1:10 p.m. on July 13, 1937, when a white male entered the tellers' area and ordered her to move out of the way. She said she did not at first react and he pushed her out of the tellers' area at which time he produced a white canvas bag, the type used by banking institutions, and removed the money from her cash drawer. Mrs. DEALLEY said that he then moved to the adjoining teller's cage and removed the cash from that drawer after which he rapidly left the bank by the side door.

Mrs. DEALLEY said that at first she did not realize that this individual had an accomplice, but when he started to leave the bank, she noticed another individual with a sawed off shotgun standing by the side entrance to the bank.

Mrs. DEALLEY said that an audit of her cage disclosed that her cash count was short \$11,030.

Mrs. DEALLEY described the individual who entered the tellers' area as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5'9" to 5'10"
Build	Slender
Voice	Well modulated
Disguised	Wearing nylon stockings over head down to shoulders
Dress	Unknown
Outstanding	
Characteristics	Unknown.

Mrs. DEALLEY stated that her only impression of the accomplice who was carrying the sawed off shotgun was that he was shorter and of a heavier build than the first man.

On 7/13/37 at Alton, IllinoisFile# EI 91-3530by ALFRED C. HANCOCKDate dictated 7/19/37

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 24, 1937

LEE MAAS, Vice-President, The Bank of Alton, advised that approximately 1:30 p.m. on July 13, 1937, he was busy with a customer at his desk. He stated that he went to the bookkeeping department to check a record and upon his return ran into an unknown individual who was rapidly entering the tellers' area. MAAS stated that he said, "Wait a minute, buddy. Where are you going?" The individual turned and said, "Don't move," and displayed a small blue automatic pistol. MAAS said that he then noticed a second individual who was standing by the side door of the bank brandishing a sawed off shotgun.

Mr. MAAS advised that the first individual backed into the two center cages of the tellers' area and loaded cash into a dirty white canvas bag. He said that this individual then walked rapidly past him to the side door and left. He said that the second individual carrying the shotgun backed out of the side door still brandishing the shotgun.

Mr. MAAS estimated that the entire operation by the armed robbers consumed no more than three minutes.

Mr. MAAS described the two individuals as follows:

The individual who entered the tellers' area

Height	5'10"
Weight	155 pounds
Age	35
Race	White
Sex	Male
Build	Slender
Disguised	Nylon stocking mask
Dress	Wearing windbreaker jacket.

On 7/13/37 at Alton, Illinois

File # St 91-2669

by SA DONNET C. HAINES:mhb

Date dictated 7/19/37

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WI 91-3099

## The individual carrying the shotgun

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5'8"
Weight	170 pounds
Age	40
Dress	Khaki shirt
Disguised	Nylon stocking mask.

MAAS concluded by stating that the customer who was at his desk was MELVIN SPICKERMAN who owns and operates the Midget Market, 22 East 17th Street, Alton, Illinois.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 24, 1937

JO ANN GRAVES, Secretary to the Vice-President, The Bank of Alton, advised that at exactly 1:23 p.m. on July 13, 1937, she was on the telephone talking to the Credit Bureau of Alton, when she became aware of the fact that the bank was being robbed.

Mrs. GRAVES stated that she is certain of the time because when she first noticed a robber behind the tellers' area across the lobby, she particularly noted the time and jotted it down on a notepad.

She stated that realizing that the bank was being held up, she told the persons at the Credit Bureau that the bank was being held up and that they should call the police and she was going to hang up. She said slowly and carefully, she placed the telephone in its receiver and tried to observe as much as possible.

Mrs. GRAVES stated that she could only see the upper part of the bank robber's body; however, in comparing his height with that of BILL PHILLIPS the cashier of the bank, who was standing across the lobby in proximity to the robber, she determined that they were both about the same height. She said she subsequently asked Mr. PHILLIPS his height, and he advised her that he was 5'10 $\frac{1}{2}$ " tall. Mrs. GRAVES stated that she could not see the second individual who was engaged in the armed robbery because he was obscured from her view by customer counters.

Mrs. GRAVES described the armed robber behind the tellers' cages as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5'10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Weight	160 pounds
Hair	Dark
Build	Thin
Dress	Light blue or gray clothing on upper part of body.

On 7/13/37 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3690

by SA ROBERT C. HAINES:rah Date dictated 7/13/37

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MI 91-3099

Mrs. GRAVES said that while she did not see the second individual, she heard him speak, and he had a deep, gruff voice.

Mrs. GRAVES concluded by stating that she has no knowledge of the bank having been cased prior to the bank robbery and that nothing has occurred to her recollection which would indicate casing of the bank.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 24, 1937

GERALDINE COWAN, Assistant Cashier, The Bank of Alton, advised that at approximately 1:30 p.m. on July 13, 1937, she was entering the vault of the bank with \$1,000 in one dollar bills. She said that she saw LEE MAAS standing with his hands up, and realized that a holdup was in progress.

Mrs. COWAN said that she then saw an unknown individual walking rapidly behind the tellers' area and then noticed a second individual standing by the side door near the vault.

Mrs. COWAN stated that the first person apparently cleaned out the tellers' drawers in two of the tellers' cages, and then proceeded rapidly to walk out the side door of the bank right past her. She said that the other individual covered the bank with a sawed off shotgun, and that while his accomplice was getting the money, he at one time ordered in a deep, gruff voice, everyone in the bank to stand still. She said that after the first individual walked rapidly past her and out the side door, the individual with the shotgun backed out the side door still covering the inside of the bank until he left.

Mrs. COWAN described the two individuals as follows:

## Number 1

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5'11"
Build	Slim
Age	35
Dress	Light gray coveralls
Disguised	Stocking mask

## Number 2

Race	White
Sex	Male

On 7/13/37 at Alton, IllinoisFile # SI 91-3699-by SA ROBERT C. HANSEN:rbpDate dictated 7/13/37

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SI 21-3599

Height  
Build  
Dress

5'8"  
Medium to husky  
Wash shirt and pants.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 24, 1967

WILLIAM PHILLIPS, Assistant Cashier, The Bank of Alton, advised that at approximately 1:30 p.m. on July 13, 1967, he was preparing checks on the check writer machine, for a customer. He stated that he was not aware of the fact that the bank was being robbed until the robbers had virtually concluded their operation in the bank.

PHILLIPS said that he could not furnish a very accurate description of the bank robbers although he was aware that there were two men, but he did state that subject number 1 who entered the tellers' area would be described as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	Tall
Build	Slender
Wearing apparel	Small hat
Disguised	Stocking mask.

He said that the second individual who covered the bank with a sawed off shotgun was short and was wearing a hat. He said that he did not notice this second individual particularly until the very last second he was in the bank area.

PHILLIPS stated that during the days and weeks prior to the bank robbery, he noticed nothing unusual nor has he any suspicions that the bank was cased prior to the robbery.

On 7/13/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 61-3599

by SA ROBERT G. HAYES:mdb Date dictated 7/19/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 23, 1937

LUCILLE LEWIS, Head teller, The Bank of Alton, advised that at approximately 1:30 p.m. on July 13, 1937, she had been in the basement of the bank picking up checks for a customer. She said she returned to the main floor of the bank where she noticed that Mrs. COWAN was entering the vault and stopped to talk with her with regard to the cash needs for tellers' cages at that time. She said that she was not in her teller's cage during the progress of the armed robbery; however, her teller's cage, which adjoins that of MARIE DEALEY, was one of those which was emptied by the bank robber.

Mrs. LEWIS said that one individual proceeded to the tellers' area where he emptied the contents of two tellers' cages while the other individual stood near the vault by the side entrance to the bank and ordered everyone to stand still. He said that she first noticed the first individual when he was walking past her rapidly while she was standing in the vault area.

Mrs. LEWIS described the first individual as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5'10"
Build	Thin
Wearing apparel	Light blue coveralls, well worn
Posture	Stooped
Disguised	Stocking mask.

She said that the second individual who brandished the shotgun was wearing light blue apparel, was of medium build, and was approximately 5'10" to 5'11" in height. She said that he too was wearing a stocking mask; however, she did not particularly look at him to ascertain a description.

Mrs. LEWIS said that nothing has transpired at the bank in recent days or weeks which would lead her to feel that the bank had been cased; however, she said that she would reflect on this, and should anything occur to her, she would report it promptly.

On 7/19/37 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3690-

by SA ROBERT C. HAINES:mhb Date dictated 7/19/37

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SI 91-3699

An audit of her teller's cage shows that her cage was short \$16,200.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 24, 1967

PHYLLIS GUENNEWIG, Teller, Drive-up Window, advised that during the course of the bank robbery on July 13, 1967, at The Bank of Alton, she was waiting on a school teacher, Mrs. DEAN BROWNING, of 3502 Laque Drive, Godfrey, Illinois. She said that she was not immediately aware of the fact that the bank was being robbed because the drive-up windows are removed from the main lobby of the bank and are located in the bookkeeping department. She said, however, that she did become aware of the bank robbery and advised Mrs. BROWNING of the fact a robbery was in progress and that upon being apprised of the fact the bank robbers had left the bank, both she and Mrs. BROWNING attempted to observe anything they could on that side of the bank. She said that neither she nor Mrs. BROWNING observed anyone leaving the rear entrance of the bank nor did they notice anyone walking from the rear entrance.

On 7/19/67 at Alton, IllinoisFile # SI 91-3699by SA ROBERT C. HAINES:mdbDate dictated 7/19/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 24, 1967

ARDYTHE BROWNING, 5502 Ladue Drive, Godfrey, Illinois, advised that at approximately 1:30 p.m. on July 13, 1967, she was at the last drive-up window at The Bank of Alton, transacting business with the bank. She said that sometime after she began to transact her business, the teller in the drive-up window told her that the bank was being robbed and they both remained alert for any cars or persons leaving the immediate area of the bank.

Mrs. BROWNING stated that she observed no one either on foot or in a vehicle of any kind leaving the bank from the rear entrance which is located on the west side of the building and which would exit onto Edwards Street.

On 7/13/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3609

by SA ROBERT C. HAINES:mob Date dictated 7/19/67

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SI 01-3699

VII. INTERVIEWS WITH CUSTOMERS

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 20, 1967

1

MARY URSCH, 442 Bluff Street, Alton, Illinois, was interviewed at Seibold Eake Shop, Washington Plaza, Alton, Illinois, her place of employment, and furnished the following information:

She was in the Bank of Alton on Thursday afternoon, July 13, 1967, and was standing at the teller's window making a deposit when she looked up and saw a man standing behind the teller's window. This man was wearing a stocking mask which appeared to be a ladies nylon hose which covered his entire face. She did not hear this man make any statement or say anything but observed him taking money from a drawer and placing this money into a bag.

This man was a white male, approximately 5 feet 10 to 11 inches tall, 145 to 150 pounds, a slender build, and wearing what appeared to be a long-sleeved shirt or a light jacket, which was a light tan color or natural color. He also was wearing a cap which was a natural color, but did not appear to be a baseball cap. She did not see this individual with a gun and only observed him taking the money and placing this money into a white paper shopping bag with rope or heavy string handle. She did not see any markings whatsoever on the bag.

While she was standing at the window, she did turn, and saw a second individual standing by the rear door of the bank and noticed that he also was wearing a stocking mask and also a hat which appeared to be a felt type hat, brown in color. She also saw that this man was holding a sawed-off shotgun and heard him say, "Turn around," which she did.

The man behind the teller's cage then went to the next teller's window and was only at this window for a short period of time and then he left, going around behind the teller's cages and then he and the individual who was standing by the door left by the rear door of the bank.

On 7/13/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699  
 by SA JAMES H. YELVINGTON /opp Date dictated 7/19/67

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2

Mrs. URSCH stated that she could not provide any other additional information.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 20, 19671

Mrs. ELLA MAE WILLIAMSON of 1857 Evergreen Street, Alton, Illinois, was interviewed at the Bank of Alton and furnished the following information:

On Thursday afternoon, July 13, 1967, she was in the Bank of Alton for the purpose of making a deposit and she was standing just inside the rear door of the bank pulling out her deposit slip when she noticed a man standing beside her. She turned and saw that this man was holding a shotgun with a sawed-off barrel and at this time the man told her to "back up there". She then asked the man, "What is this" and he again replied "Back up there." She then backed out of the man's way and he stood just inside the bank with the shotgun trained on her and other customers who were in the bank.

She said that this man was wearing what appeared to be a nylon stocking mask and was also wearing some type of hat; however, she could not describe this hat nor could she furnish any information regarding the type or color of the clothing he was wearing. She said that this man appeared to be approximately 5 feet 11 inches tall, and weighed about 160 pounds. She could not recall any other information regarding this individual.

She said that only approximately three or four minutes had elapsed when she saw a second man come from behind the teller's cages and then the two men ran out the side door together. She said that the only thing that she can recall regarding the second man was that he was carrying a paper sack.

Mrs. WILLIAMSON stated that she could furnish no additional information regarding either of these individuals.

On 7/13/67 at Alton, IllinoisFile # SI 91-3699by SA JAMES E. YELVINGTON /eppDate dictated 7/19/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 14, 1967

MELVIN SPICKERMAN, 3837 Oscar Street, furnished the following information:

He was in the Bank of Alton on Thursday afternoon, July 13, 1967, and was sitting at the desk of LEE MOSS for the purpose of paying a loan. MOSS had gotten up from his desk and walked to the teller's cage and SPICKERMAN was then sitting at the desk alone. He saw a man which he believed was a white male, standing by the vault, wearing a stocking mask and a brown felt hat with a wide brim, and at this time he heard someone say, "This was a stick up." The individual wearing the mask was approximately 5'7", slender build, with a slender profile.

This man was standing near the rear door of the bank and he did not notice if he had a gun. He quickly jumped from his chair and ran out the front door of the bank and down Washington Street, to Harry Nevlin Moving Company, where he advised Harry Nevlin, Harry Nevlin, Jr. and Charlie Stahl, a former Alton, Illinois Police Officer, that the bank was being robbed, and one of these individuals quickly called the police.

After the police had been called, he and Harry Nevlin, Harry Nevlin, Jr. and Charlie Stahl, returned to the bank but did not see anything unusual or he did not notice a car or anyone on foot.

He did not see the other individual in the bank at all.

On 7/13/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

By SAS JAMES H. WELINGTON & JOSEPH P. BENSON dated 7/14/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 14, 1967

CHARLIE STAHL, 1700 Lincoln Street, employee of Nevlin's Moving and Storage Company, 1628 Washington Street, furnished the following information:

He was at the office of Nevlin's Moving and Storage Company on the afternoon of July 13, 1967. MELVIN SPICKERMAN ran into the office, ran up to him and told him that the Bank of Alton was being robbed. He is a former Illinois Police Officer and he quickly called the Alton Police Department and advised them of the bank robbery.

He then walked out onto the sidewalk in front of Nevlin's Moving and Storage Company, where he could observe the front portion of the bank. He saw a white, two-door Hardtop, 1962 or 1963 Chevrolet, drive from the space provided for customers to drive up to the drive-in window of the bank, and saw this car turn South on Washington Street. He noticed this car, because he believed it was driving in this space provided for the customers to drive up to the drive-in window, because it was driving the wrong way in this lane. He said that this car pulled up to Washington Street and stopped and waited for another car to pass and then this car pulled out onto Washington Street, and drove south. There were two people in the car, but he was not close enough to determine if it was male or female. Both could have been male, or both could have been female. This car was not moving at an unusual speed and it did not make any movement which would appear to be suspicious. He and MELVIN SPICKERMAN, Harry Nevlin, and Harry Nevlin, Jr. all then drove to the bank. He did not see anyone on foot, nor did he see anything suspicious happening at the bank.

He can not furnish any additional information concerning the bank robbery.

On 7/13/67 at Alton, Illinois File# SI 91-3699

By SAS JAMES H. YELVINGTON & JOSEPH P. DENSON Date dictated 7/14/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 7/31/67

CAROL UTTERBACK, Bookkeeper at the State Bank of Alton, furnished the following information:

A review of the record tape of deposits and transactions taking place on June 13, 1967, revealed the following persons transacted business at the State Bank of Alton shortly before, during or shortly after the robbery at the bank:

JOHN D. VOYLES	1209 W. 13th Street,
E. L. MOORE	3329 Edsall
CECIL STARK	3012 Edgewood
EDNA KOEHR	2713 Edwards
OWEN CARR	2422 Gale
Rev. DAVID CARR	2422 Gale
ELLA MAE WILLIAMSON	1857 Evergreen
Tri-City Grocery	Milton Road
ROSE KOEHRNE	721 Spring
Bill's Hobby Shop	Washington Avenue
CONNIE HENDRIK	27 Circle Drive (Cottage Hills)
EDWARD MOODY	3400 College Avenue
Siebold's Bakery	1630 Main Street
DALE NEUDECKER	No address.

On 7/12/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-2629

by SALWELIAN G. CONNELLY:DM Date dictated 7/25/67

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SI 91-3699

2

DOROTHA GORDON

1205 Central

MELVIN SPICKERMAN

No address

EUGENE WEISS

Upper Alton Pharmacy

LEE WERTS

Rural Route #1

TERRY AUSPACH

1302 Spaulding.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 26, 19671

BOB PACE, Clerk, Tri-City Grocery, Milton Road Branch, furnished the following information:

He stated he made the deposit for the Tri-City Grocery on July 13, 1967, at approximately 1:40 p.m. He said he arrived at the bank, parked his car in the lot adjacent to the south side of the bank, and went into the bank. He said he noted nothing unusual and did not notice anyone running from the bank on foot.

PACE stated that he has a friend by the name of WEISS who works for the drugstore on the corner of Brown and Washington Streets. He said that WEISS was walking into the bank at the time the robbers were leaving and that he told him that he had a good look at them.

PACE advised he had no further information to give.

On 7-20-67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91 3699

by SA RICHARD D. BATISTE, JR. /dlw Date dictated 7-24-67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 1, 19671

Mrs. CONNIE HENDRIX, Edwards Street Assembly of God Church-School, 2615 Edwards Street, provided the following information:

She stated that she left the school and walked to the bank, which is just down the block, arriving there at about 1:40 pm. She said that the police were already there at the bank, and that she saw nothing suspicious or unusual during her one block walk from the church to the bank. She could provide no other pertinent information regarding the bank robbery.

On 7/20/67 at Alton, Illinois File# SI 91-3699

by SA RICHARD D. BATISTE, JR. and  
SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY /jlh Date dictated 7/25/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 1, 19671

Mrs. OWEN CARR, 2422 Gayle, advised that her husband, OWEN CARR, made a deposit at the Bank of Alton for himself, as well as for DAVID CARR, at about 2:00 pm on July 13, 1967. She said her husband made the deposit at the drive-in window about one half hour after the bank robbery took place, and she stated that she and her husband had discussed the matter; and her husband had seen nothing suspicious in the area of the bank at the time he made his deposit.

On 7/20/67 at Alton, Illinois File# SI 91-3699

by SA RICHARD D. BASTISTE, JR. and

WILLIAM G. CONNELLY

/jlh

Date dictated 7/25/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 1, 19671

Mrs. CAROL STARK, 3012 Edgewood, provided the following information:

She arrived at the Bank of Alton about 1:45 pm on July 13, 1967. She stated that this was after the bank robbery, and that she saw nothing suspicious, nor anyone who might have committed the bank robbery leaving the scene. She said that she found out about the bank robbery by talking to one of the tellers and added that she could provide no other information pertinent to the robbery at the Bank of Alton.

On 7/20/67 at Alton, Illinois File# SI 91-3699

by SA RICHARD D. BASTIE, JR. and  
SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY /jlb Date dictated 7/25/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 26, 19671

The following customers of the Bank of Alton were interviewed and furnished no positive information concerning the robbery of that bank on July 13, 1967:

EDNA KOBER  
3713 Edwards Street

E. DELL MOORE  
EDNA MOORE  
3329 Edsall Street

Each of the above customers advised they had made a deposit between the hours of 1:00 and 2:00 p.m. on July 13, 1967, at the Bank of Alton, but had not observed anyone or anything of value in solving the robbery of that bank.

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On 7-24-67 at Alton, Illinois File# SI 91-3699  
by SA RICHARD D. BATISTE, JR. /blw Date dictated 7-24-67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 31, 1967

TERRY ANSPACH, 1302 Spaulding Avenue, provided the following information:

On July 13, 1967, he entered the Bank of Alton for the first time. He stated that he used the door which is just to the left of the main entrance to the bank. He said it was most likely that the robbery was taking place as he walked in, but he said he noticed nothing unusual for one or two minutes after he arrived. He stated that the first time he looked up and saw anything unusual, he saw the older of the two bank robbers leaving the bank by the side door. He stated that he was not in a position to get a good look at the man or to provide any description. The only comments he could make was that the man appeared to be shabbily dressed and seemed like a person out of "skid row". He stated shortly after this man left the bank, he realized that a robbery had taken place. He moved toward the windows of the south side of the bank but he did not see any car leaving the scene nor did he see anyone going across the parking lot.

He was able to provide no pertinent information concerning the robbery or the robbers' method of escape. He stated that he did not observe any weapon used in this crime.

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On 7/25/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3690

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY:mpb Date dictated 7/25/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 31, 1967

EDWARD H. MOODY, 3115 Brown Street, furnished the following information:

He estimated that he was in the Bank of Alton making a draft at about 12:30 p.m. on July 13, 1967. He stated that he saw nothing unusual either as he entered the bank through the side door or while he was at the bank or as he left the bank. He could supply no other pertinent information concerning this matter.

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On 7/25/67 at Alton, Illinois

File # SI 91-3690

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY:mdb

Date dictated 7/25/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 31, 1967

LEE WERTS, Rural Route #1, provided the following information:

He estimated that he was at the bank of Alton approximately 10 or 15 minutes before the bank robbery took place, and that he left this bank and was in the Upper Alton Pharmacy at the corner of Washington and College Street when he heard about the bank robbery. He stated that he had entered the side door of the bank in order to transact his business within, and that at the time he was there, he was the only customer at the bank.

He stated that he spent about five minutes in the bank transacting his business and that he saw nothing unusual either before he entered or while he was in the bank. He could provide no other pertinent information concerning the bank robbery.

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On 7/25/67 at Alton, Illinois

File # SI 91-3699

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY:mpb

Date dictated 7/25/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 31, 1937

DOROTHIA GORDEN, 1205 Central Avenue, provided the following information:

On the afternoon of July 13, 1937, she arrived at the Bank of Alton at 2:00 p.m. as she recalls, but stated that she was in the bank at the time that the robbers made their entry. She stated that she had entered by the side door about five minutes before the robbery took place. She was standing at the teller's window closest to the front door, and stated that at the time of her entry by the side door, she saw nothing unusual in the parking lot. As she was at the teller's window, she saw one of the robbers go behind the tellers' cages and begin to collect money from the drawers.

She stated that she saw no gun in the hand of the robber behind the tellers' cage, and she said that she thought she heard this individual saying something as he was taking money out of the cages, but she did not hear specifically what was said. She said that the only thing that she recalls is that the face of this individual appeared to be hard and that it was only after the robbery that she realized that a stocking mask was over the robber's face. She could supply no estimate as to the height, weight, or general physical appearance and clothing of this robber, stating that she was so scared that she was afraid even to look at him. She said that she had just cashed a check and that she took the money that was in her hand and placed it down the back of her dress for fear that it would be taken from her.

She could recall that the robber who went behind the tellers' cage was dressed in what she characterized as rugged dress, and she thought this may have been coveralls and a cap, both of which were either gray or bluish color. She said that the robber who stood by the side door had on some kind of an old model wide rimmed hat, and had a shotgun. She said that this man was dressed in a similar manner to the one who was behind the tellers' cage. GORDEN stated that she was not able to associate the robbers' wearing apparel with any particular trade or line of work. She stated that after the

On 7/25/37 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY:mpb Date dictated 7/25/37

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robbers left, she was so much in shock that she didn't move from the spot where she was standing. She said that from this position, she was unable to see the window or notice any details concerning the thieves' method of escape after they left the side door of the bank.

She stated that she does not believe she could identify the robbers if she saw them again.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 7/31/67

OWEN C. CARR, 2422 Gale, furnished the following information:

On the afternoon of July 13, 1967, he made a driveup deposit at the State Bank of Alton for himself and his son, Rev. DAVID CARR, at about 2:00 PM. He stated it was at that time that the window teller advised him of the robbery. He said that he saw nothing unusual or suspicious in the neighborhood of the bank during his approach to it or at the time he was leaving.

On 7/26/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

By SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY:DM Date dictated 7/26/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 7/31/67

JOHN VOYLES, 1209 N. 19th Street, furnished the following information:

He and his wife CARLA entered the State Bank of Alton for the first time on July 13, 1967. He said that he and his wife were in the bank for about 15 minutes sometime after 1:00 PM that afternoon. He said that they entered through the side door off the parking lot and at the time they were in the bank there were not many patrons or employees in sight. He said that neither he nor his wife saw anything suspicious or unusual as they entered the bank, while they were there, or as they were leaving. He said that they were able to supply no information pertinent to the robbery of the bank.

On 7/26/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3689

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY:DM Date dictated 7/26/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 7/31/67

EUGENE WEISS, 2714 Benbow, furnished the following information:

He stated that somewhere in the vicinity of 1:30 PM, July 13, 1967, he was making his routine daily deposit at the State Bank of Alton. He said that he pulled into the parking lot of the south side of the bank and parked in a space closest to Washington Avenue about 50 feet from the side door of the bank. He said that as he pulled into the parking space he saw a man come out the back door of the bank but that he paid very little attention to him as he noted nothing unusual in his behavior. WEISS got out of his car and walked to the door of the bank at which time one of the bank employees asked him if he had seen any man come out of the bank. WEISS stated that he had but was not able to give any description of the man regarding his clothing, height, age or whether he was carrying anything. WEISS was unable to provide any pertinent information regarding the robbery of the State Bank of Alton.

On 7/27/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLEY:DM Date dictated 7/27/67

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SI 91-3699

VIII. NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTIGATION

SI 91-3699

REL:bb

1

The following individuals were contacted concerning the robbery of the Bank of Alton on July 13, 1967, with negative results by SA ROBERT E. LILL:

DARLENE RATHGEB  
Clerk  
Automobile Association of America  
1417 Washington

MARY LOU CLARK  
Automobile Association of America  
Clerk  
1417 Washington

Reverend TAYLOR  
Calavery Baptist Church  
1422 Washington Avenue

C. TRAVIS STREEPER  
1322 Washington Avenue

ELAINE GRUBE  
1309 Washington Avenue

JOHN R. BLOOMER  
Agent  
State Farm Insurance Company  
1310 Washington Avenue

THELMA BERGFELD  
Manager  
Western Auto  
1649 Washington Avenue

Lafayette Fields  
Superintendent  
Alton Post Office

SI 91-3699

JWL:bb

1

The following persons were contacted by SA JOHN W. LEWIS on July 13, 1967, in the vicinity of the Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, and were unable to furnish any information pertinent to the robbery of the Bank of Alton:

DONALD GROVER  
1604 Washington

ELLEN GROVER  
1604 Washington

DOROTHY BAUSER  
1604 Washington

R. L. ALLEN  
1610 Washington

DOROTHY BOENECKE  
1610 Washington

H. A. NEVLIN, SR.  
1628 Washington

GALE HERMANS  
1628 Washington

Mr. H. A. NEVLIN, JR., 1628 Washington, advised that while standing in front of his place of business at 1628 Washington, at about 1:30 PM, on July 13, 1967, he observed a white Chevrolet turn onto Washington from the west in the vicinity of the Bank of Alton and turn south proceeding in a southerly direction on Washington. He said he was unable to furnish any further descriptive data concerning this car and had no idea concerning the license plates on it or a description of the person or persons in the automobile.



SI 01-3699

BJG:sjs

1

The following neighborhood investigation was conducted by SA BOBBY J. GROOMS on July 13, 1967 in an area east of the Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, however, none of the following persons could furnish any positive information concerning the bank robbery:

WARNER COFFMAN  
Smith Funeral Home,  
Edwards Street;

LAWRENCE CUTFORTH  
Smith Funeral Home  
Edwards Street;

MARGARET KEISER,  
2610 Edwards Street;

JAMES KEISER,  
2610 Edwards Street;

JUNE ALLISON,  
2610 Edwards Street;

Mrs. SUE E. MILLER,  
2600 Edwards Street;

HELEN SLOCUM,  
2600 Edwards Street;

SHARON COX,  
2614 Edwards Street;

Mrs. JOHN MC GEE,  
1602 Clawson;

LEE WESTBROOK,  
1602 Clawson;

WILLIAM WEIDLER,  
1523 Clawson;

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ALICE PROTHIER  
1521 Clawson;

ROSALEE HUGHEY,  
1519 Clawson;

MARY E. POPE,  
1508 Clawson;

ANDREW SCHREDAR,  
1506 Clawson,

KATHY SCHREDAR,  
1506 Clawson;

LEE RUSSEL,  
2622 Brown;

JOHN L. MC DONICH,  
2620 Brown;

NANCY BELONGER,  
2618 Brown;

DAVID SIMPSON,  
2610 Brown;

THEODORE SIMPSON,  
2610 Brown;

ETHYL MORRIS,  
2512 Brown;

Mrs. H. E. ROWLOFF,  
1505 Main;

CINDY WISE,  
1503 Main;

PATTY ARMSTRONG,  
1503 Main;

SANDY WISE,  
1503 Main;

DARRELL SMITH,  
1511 Main;

JOHN BLAIR,  
1513 Main;

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3

WILLIAM HERMER,  
1515 Main;

DAVID BULLACK,  
1510 Main;

DENNY MORRISON,  
1510 Main;

ELDON SMITH,  
Conoco Service Station,  
1500 Main;

HENRY HELLRUNG,  
2444 Sherwood Terrace,  
employee at Shell Service Station,  
Brown and Washington;

BOB NICKEL, manager,  
2444 Sherwood Terrace.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 17, 1967

VIRGINIA SEMZ, employed at the A&P Food Store at Washington Square Plaza, advised that she had no information to furnish concerning this bank robbery. She stated that the first she heard of this bank robbery was from a woman by the name of MARY URSCH, who works for Mrs. SEWELL's Bakery in that vicinity and who called her (Mrs. SEMZ) to tell her the bank had been held up at about the time she (Mrs. URSCH) came from the bank.

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On 7/13/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA CLARON R. CHEAMIAN/elp Date dictated 7/14/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 17, 1967

ORVILLE FINES, 2817 Gravelin, Postman of the Upper Alton Branch of the U. S. Post Office, advised that he delivers mail in the vicinity of the bank, but had not observed anything of an unusual nature. He was walking west on Edwards Street at 12:50 p.m., and recalled the time as he looked at the clock in front of the bank. FINES stated that he would not have been in the close proximity to the bank at the time it was robbed.

On 7/13/67 at Alton, Illinois File# 91-3599

by SAs JOHN W. LEWIS & CLAUDIA R. CHRISTIAN/tlp Date dictated 7/14/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 17, 1967

Mr. BRECKWEG, 2426 Brown Street, employed at the U. S. Post Office, Upper Alton Branch, advised that on the night of July 12, 1967, he observed from his residence, a white Ford Convertible on the bank parking lot. He stated there were two women and one young man in this car, one of the women seemed to be quite young, and described her as having sandy or red hair.

He advised that this car was in the parking lot at approximately 8:00 p.m., and was there for about ten minutes. While in the parking lot, the young man got out of the car and ran in back of the bank and east on Edwards Street. He stated he did not see this individual come out on Washington, and did not observe him after he went behind the bank, but approximately five minutes later, he observed what he believes to be the same individual, cross the street from the direction of the Masonic Temple and get in the car. He described this individual as having a red shirt. He stated that the car then started to leave by one exit but backed around and left by another exit. BRECKWEG stated that he thought that this was an unusual occurrence, and that he had never seen this car before, which he believes to have been a 65 or 66 model in that area.

On 7/15/67 at Alton, Illinois File # 91-3699

by SAS JOHN W. LEWIS & CLAUDE R. CROTHERS/tlp Date dictated 7/14/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7-25-67

IRVIN BRECKWEG, 2426 Brown, Alton, Illinois, advised that the rear windows of his upstairs apartment face the parking lot of the Bank of Alton.

He stated that approximately 8:00 PM, July 12, 1967, he observed a white car parked in the parking lot parallel to the concrete divider of that parking lot. He described this car as a white convertible or two-door, late model, car, distinguished by a small chrome emblem on each of the two front fenders.

He further advised that this car contained two women, one of which was in her 30's, a red-headed teenager, and a young man and this man was in his 20's. He stated that as he was watching this car, the young man got out of the car and ran in back of the Bank of Alton towards Edwards Street and then proceeded east on Edwards Street.

He stated that he next observed this individual crossing Washington Avenue in front of the Bank of Alton parking lot and then he observed this individual walking to this same white parked car containing the two women.

He next observed that this car backed up in the parking lot towards Edwards Street five minutes later. He stated that this car then backed up again nearer the wall where the officers of the bank park their cars and remained there a few minutes before exiting onto Edwards Street and heading east.

He advised that he would not be able to recognize these individuals again due to the distance from which he observed them, but may possibly be able to recognize this car in which they were passengers if he were to observe it again.

On 7-14-67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699  
 by SA ROBERT E. LILL:bb Date dictated 7-20-67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 27, 1967

**BONNIE BROWN, 2407 Edwards Street, furnished the following information:**

She stated that she was mowing grass in her front yard which faces Edwards Street and is directly behind the Bank of Alton, on the afternoon of July 13, 1967. She said she fixes the time between 1:30 and 1:45 P.M.

She said that she observed a car which contained 3 passengers proceed west on Edwards Street, stopped at the corner for a stop sign at Edwards Street and Jersey Street and turned right on Jersey. She described the car as an older model passenger car. She described the driver as a bulky individual of large size. She said the thing that caught her attention was the fact that a younger man sitting next to the driver had his head bent towards his lap.

She described the younger man as a dishwasher blonde with a lot of hair. She said this was a small person and looked to be a person in their early 20's. She said this person had his head down and one of his hands to his face. She said she did not know if he was putting something on his head or trying to take something off but that she thought it peculiar in that he was in such an odd position.

Mrs. BROWN advised she was sitting or working in her yard most of that afternoon, and that was the only thing that attracted her attention. She said that she did not observe anyone on foot or on a motorcycle. She said she had no further information.

On 7/27/67 at Alton, IllinoisFile # SI 91-3699by SA RICHARD D. BARTON: gjsDate dictated 7/27/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 27, 1967

The following individuals were interviewed and advised that they had no information concerning the robbery of the Bank of Alton on July 13, 1967:

MONT E. BODINE, JR.  
1524 Jersey Street;

ANNA HANCOCK,  
935 Washington Street.

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On 7/13/67 at Alton, Illinois File# SI 91-3699  
by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY  
SA RICHARD D. BATSHE, JR.: sjs Date dictated 7/24/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 25, 19671

Mrs. LYMAN BARTON, 2340 Edwards, provided the following information regarding the robbery at The Bank of Alton on July 13, 1967:

She had heard that a Mrs. COULTER, 1201 Fairway Drive, a friend of hers, was on her way to an 2:00 appointment at the beauty parlor in upper Alton when she saw a car proceeding at an unusual rate of speed through the Rock Springs Park area. BARTON said that she believed Mrs. COULTER was on foot at the time and was able to get a fairly good look at the occupants of the car. BARTON stated that she was unsure if this was in any way related to the bank robbery but suggested Mrs. COULTER might be interviewed.

BARTON also stated that she believed a delivery boy at Campbell's Drug Store in Alton had seen a man with a gunny sack in or around the vicinity of the bank of Alton somewhere about the time of the robbery. BARTON stated that she was not certain of these facts but was only relating hearsay information.

On 7/13/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY:mob Date dictated: 7/20/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7-25-67

A neighborhood investigation was conducted by SA RICHARD D. BATISTE, JR., at the following listed residences and the following persons advised they had no information concerning the robbery of the Bank of Alton on July 13, 1967:

MAITLAND TINNEMIERE  
2423 Edwards Street

MARY JANE LEONARD  
2417 Edwards Street

GAIL RUMERFIELD  
2403 Edwards Street

CARICE FERGUSON  
1509 Jersey Street

GERTRUDE COLES  
2400 Brown Street

C.W. LA MARS  
1514 Jersey Street

On 7-18-67 at Alton, Illinois File# SI 91-3699

by SA RICHARD D. BATISTE, JR. :bb Date dictated 7-21-67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 23, 1967

Reverend HOWARD TODD TAYLOR, Calvary Baptist Church, 422 Washington Street, advised the following information:

He was in the church in his office doing some work on the day of the bank robbery, Thursday, July 13, 1967, and he did not see anything unusual nor has he seen any strange automobile in the area on that date or at any time preceeding that date. It is his policy to always check the parking lot of the church and to check the automobiles which are parked in this lot. He did not see any cars which are not normally parked in this lot on the day of the bank robbery.

He is having some construction work done to the area at the rear of the church by J. H. Georgewitz Construction Company, however, no one was working on the construction job on the day of the bank robbery.

Reverend TODD stated that he could furnish no additional information.

On 7/19/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA JAMES H. WELINGTON Date dictated 7/21/67

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SI 91-3699

LFW/epp

1

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA LOY F. WEAVER on July 14, 1967:

The following persons were contacted in the  
neighborhood of the Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, and all  
advised that they have no information concerning the robbery  
of this bank:

WANDA STAAS, 1636 Washington Avenue, owner of  
Staas Voil Shop

KENNETH GRABNER, Grabner's Inc., 1648 Washington  
Avenue

MARGARETE STOREY, Press' Bakery and Market,  
1652 Washington Avenue

LUDA OGLESBY, Bindler's Department Store, 1656  
Washington Avenue

HARRY SLEIN, 1662 Washington

JOHN A. REEDER, Reeder's Shoe Shop, 1663 Washington  
Avenue

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 19, 1967

1  
 KEVIN LEE DICKINSON, 1214 Spaulding, was interviewed at his place of employment, The Hobby Shop, 1636 Washington Avenue, and furnished the following information:

He is 13 years old and works part-time for Mrs. BILL HARDIN. On July 13, 1967, at approximately 1:30 P.M., he went to the Bank of Alton, which is located approximately one block from his place of employment. He went to the bank to make a deposit for Mrs. HARDIN. He entered the bank through the front door, which opens onto Washington Avenue. As he entered, he saw a man in the back of the bank armed with a shotgun, and then observed another man behind the teller's cage. He stopped approximately five to ten feet from the first teller's cage and stood in that position until the two men had left. He observed these two men leave by the back entrance of the bank and said that they walked to the first door and ran from there to the second door and out into the lot, and he did not see them after that. He saw no one follow these men from the bank. He believed there were approximately eight people in the bank at the time the robbery occurred.

DICKINSON described the individual in the back of the bank as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	Approximately 5 feet 2 inches
Build	Medium

This man was armed with what he believed was a shotgun, and was wearing a stocking over his head. He was wearing a felt hat that was either light brown or gray. The hat was an old style and had a wide brim. The hat was pulled down low to cover this person's head as much as possible.

On 7/14/67 at Alton, Illinois File# SI 91-3699  
 by SA LOY F. WEAVER & SA ROBERT E. LILL /epp Date dictated 7/17/67

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This person was holding the shotgun as though he were right handed.

DICKINSON was unable to see the second individual because he was standing behind the teller's cage. This person was carrying a paper bag which he believed to be just a small brown bag. He was also wearing a gray felt hat with a wide brim. DICKINSON never saw a gun in the possession of this person.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 8, 19671

**PATRICIA BLAINE, Route 5, furnished the following information:**

She is 13 years old and was with CAROL LINEBARGER at the Shell Service Station sometime after 1:00 pm on July 13, 1967. She said that she and CAROL were putting air in the tires of their bicycles when CAROL told her she saw two men running out the side door of the bank. BLAINE said that CAROL told her she saw the men carrying guns and they immediately became frightened and fled on their bicycles going south on Washington Street and turning east on Bonbow. BLAINE stated that she only glimpsed these individuals, saw no guns, and believed the men to be wearing a shirt and jeans which were light green in color. She stated that no fast moving vehicle passed them on Washington Street since they were going toward CAROL's home, and they had no idea, nor could she intelligently guess which direction the men headed after they left the bank nor whether they had any vehicle for escape.

BLAINE continued that they arrived back at LINEBARGER's home by 1:15 pm, and they related what they had seen to Mrs. LINEBARGER, after which they called radio station KKOK to report the "News tip of the Day". The two girls then came out on the front lawn of the LINEBARGER home and about ten minutes later they saw the police cars arriving at the bank. BLAINE said that she did not see the faces of the men who left the bank, and she does not feel that she could identify them if she saw them again.

On 7/22/67 at Collings, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by WILLIAM G. CONNELLY Date dictated 8/3/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 24, 1967

BILL GRAUL, house painter, 1812 Jersey Street, furnished the following information:

He advised that he was painting on the corner of Alton Street and 8th Street and that he overheard the occupant of 720 Alton Street remark to the driver of a 1959 dark blue Chevrolet station wagon that "I got the shotgun."

GRAUL stated he later read in the Alton newspaper that the Bank of Alton had been robbed and realized that the comment quoted above was made at approximately 1:15 P.M. on July 13, 1967, just prior to the robbery of the Bank of Alton.

He advised that there are several men living at this address and that none of them appear to have employment. He said the driver of the above described station wagon was a man in his 30's and of heavy build. He said the license number of the station wagon was a 1967 Illinois license MN 233.

He said that he has inquired about the people that live at 720 Alton Street and that he has been told by the neighbors that they are a very mysterious family. None of them ever work but they all drive automobiles and seem to have enough money. He said that he worked in that vicinity for 2 weeks and never observed any of the family leaving for work. He said he had no further information.

On 7/24/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3698

by SA RICHARD D. BANISTER, JR. : sjs Date dictated 7/24/67

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SI 91-3699

IX. MOTELS AND HOTELS

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 17, 19671

DOROTHY DUBLO, Manager of the Redwood Motel, located on U. S. Highway #67 and Illinois #111, two miles north of Alton, Illinois, after being given a description of the Unknown Subjects involved in the robbery of the Bank of Alton and reviewing her files could give no information concerning the Unknown Subjects.

On 7-14-67 at Alton, Illinois File# SI 91-3099

by SA DOBIE J. GROOMS  
SA MACK W. OLIVER, JR. HWO/blw Date dictated 7-17-67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 17, 19671

On July 14, 1967, EWING BALDWIN, Manager of the Highway House Motel, located at 3023 Godfrey Road, Alton, Illinois, was contacted regarding the Unknown Subjects of the robbery of the Bank of Alton. While reviewing the motel records, BALDWIN found that two men registered at 11:20 p.m. on July 11, 1967, and departed on July 13, 1967. He stated that the two men registered as R. L. STOCKTON and DON MC CULLOUGH, 252 Clinton Road, Garden City, New York. According to BALDWIN's information they were driving a 1967 Buick convertible with Illinois license JY 9009.

On 7-14-67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA BOBBY J. GROSS  
SA ROBERT W. CLEVELAND, JR. EEO/blw Date dictated 7-17-67

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X. SUSPECTSA. ALLEN CALVEY

CALVEY was developed as a suspect due to the fact information was received he was staying at the Lewis and Clark Motel, East Alton, Illinois, under an assumed name, that he generally met the description of unknown subject #1, and that he has been known to engage in criminal activities in the past.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7-25-67

*File*

ALLEN "BUTCH" CALVY, no address given, after being advised of the identity of the interviewing agents, the purpose of the interview, and his rights executed a written waiver of rights form, and furnished the following information:

CALVY stated that he knew what the FBI wanted to talk to him about and that it was the bank robbery of the Alton Bank on July 13, 1967. He said he had no part of that robbery and he was in no way connected with the robbery. He said he would not "have the guts to pull that job."

CALVY advised that he owes the FBI a favor and wished to help in any way possible in solving this bank robbery. He said the following named individuals were prime suspects in the robbery on July 13, 1967:

*File*

PAUL PETERS  
 CINCINNATI  
 BILL BYERSON  
 GARY MILLER

CALVY advised that it was his opinion that the bank was held up by two men on motorcycles and that their escape route was down Brown Street to Pearl and over to the Glass House Tavern. He said that BAZE was capable of pulling such a job and that BAZE owned a sawed-off shotgun with a six-inch barrel, and a cut-down stock. He said he knew no one who owned a .45 caliber automatic or other automatic type pistol.

CALVY said that BAZE carried the sawed-off shotgun strapped to the back seat of a white Rambler stationwagon that had a luggage rack on top. He said he did not know the license number nor the year of the Rambler. He said he based his opinion as to who the robbers were on the fact that the above named individuals were spending much money on color

On 7-17-67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699  
 by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY  
SA JAMES H. YELVINGTON  
 by SA RICHARD D. BATESIN, JR.:bb Date dictated 7-21-67

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televisions and motorcycles and over the past weekend and that they were flashing money around the 10th and Bell Street Tavern and the Glass House Tavern.

CALVY further advised that he would keep his eyes and ears open around the Alton bars in an effort to pick up additional information concerning the individuals connected in this bank robbery. He said he would keep in touch with the Resident Agency in Alton and would call as soon as he had information which was worth while.

The following information was obtained through observation and interview:

Name:	ALLEN CALVY
Alias:	"BUTCH"
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Height:	6'1"
Weight:	195 pounds
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Brown
Complexion:	Dark
Peculiarities:	Receding hairline, balding at top of head

No further information was obtained from CALVY and he refused to state his address, age, or where he was presently staying.

SI 91-3699

B. CHARLES BAZE *Inc*

BAZE was developed as a suspect, based upon information furnished by ALLEN CALVEY.

RALPH ROBERT PAGE was developed as a suspect in this matter, since investigation has shown him to be a close associate of CHARLES WILLIAM BAZE.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 1, 19671

PAT BAZE, 614 Spring Street, provided the following information:

*File* On Wednesday, July 12, 1967, she married CHARLES WILLIAM BAZE before a Notary Public and a minister, both names unknown, on Washington Street in Alton, Illinois. Her maiden name is PAT BASHAN, and she is divorced for about one and one half years from CLAUDE WARD. She has a two and one half year old son named SCOTT ALLEN WARD. She stated that on the morning of July 13, 1967, CHUCKBAZE left her at home and supposedly was on his way to work. She said that she heard later, however, that he spent most of the day at the Glass House Tavern with RUTH ANN TUCKER. She said that she did not see her new husband until Thursday evening about 5:00 PM at the Glass House. She claimed that she had no idea where her husband was at the present, but she stated that she heard that he was in Denver, Colorado, and that he had asked her (PAT) to leave Alton and go to Denver with him on several occasions before they were married. BAZE stated that she believes her husband left Alton sometime on Sunday, July 16, 1967, in the company of NANCY HARPER, RALPH PAGE, and RUTH ANN TUCKER. She said the last time she saw her husband was on Saturday evening, July 15, 1967, and she said she could not supply names of anyone who would be likely to know her husband's whereabouts at present. She added that she had never heard CHUCK BAZE or any of his associates speak of bank robbery, nor was she aware of any similar activities on the part of CHUCK BAZE or his associates.

PAT BAZE stated that she was born in Alton, Illinois, on September 1, 1944, and that she is presently 22 years of age. She stated that she is on AEC, and that she presently has no job.

On 7/19/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3399

SA RICHARD D. BASTISTE, JR. and

SA WILLIAM G. COONEY

/jlk

Date dictated

7/20/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 3, 1967

1

JOHN "BLACKIE" BAZE, 1406 1/2 George Avenue, furnished the following information:

At approximately 8:30 am on July 13, 1967, he met his brother CHUCK BAZE at 196 Goulding. They then proceeded to Rosewood Heights where they did some work on the trees in the yard of a Mr. CANNON on Shady Lane. Somewhere about 9:30, they both returned with their truck to 196 Goulding. JOHN BAZE left his brother there and took one of the universals off the truck and went by car to a welder on old St. Louis Road in Alton. At about 10:30 am, JOHN and CHUCK went to the Glass House Tavern in Alton. JOHN left his brother there and went by car to pick up RUTH ANN TUCKER at 196 Goulding and returned with her to the Glass House. JOHN stayed there for a short time and sometime around noon, he went to visit his girl friend, SANDY BOSTURICK (phonetic) where he remained until the morning of July 14, 1967. JOHN stated that he never saw his brother after he left the Glass House on noon of July 13, 1967, until the evening of July 14 or 15, 1967. JOHN said he has no way of accounting for his brother's whereabouts on the afternoon of July 13, 1967.

JOHN BAZE supplied the following information to serve as an aid in locating his brother, CHUCK.

WNU MORRELL BEARDSTOWN, Illinois;

WNU FENTON, ex-husband of RUTH ANN TUCKER, Heywood, California;

Denver, Colorado, pointing out that CHUCK BAZE worked at a coal mine there in 1957 and had expressed a desire to return to Denver.

On 7/20/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA RICHARD D. BATISTE, JR. and  
SA MICHAEL G. COMBLY /jlr Date dictated 7/25/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 26, 19671

Mrs. ROSE WILLIAMS, 525 Miami, who is the mother of RUTH TUCKER, supplied the following information:

The last time she saw her daughter RUTH ANN, CHUCK BAZE and RUTH's ten year old son, BILLY EUGENE LAFFERTY, was on Father's Day, June of this year. WILLIAMS stated that on Sunday, July 16, she and her husband went to 196 Goulding Avenue, where her daughter was supposed to be living. She stated that at that time the landlord at 196 Goulding told them that her daughter, a man, and a young boy, had moved out that Sunday morning and had left no forwarding address. Mrs. WILLIAMS stated that she has at present no knowledge of the whereabouts of her daughter RUTH ANN or CHUCK BAZE and BILLY EUGENE LAFFERTY. She has recently received license plates for the State of Illinois issued to the 1961 Rambler, VIN C613463. Mrs. WILLIAMS stated that she would be willing to turn these plates over to the interviewing agents but was advised that their only interest was the location of CHUCK BAZE and of RUTH ANN for questioning regarding the bank robbery at The Bank of Alton. Mrs. WILLIAMS showed these plates to the interviewing agents and the plate number issued to the 1961 Rambler was JT422. Mrs. WILLIAMS provided the following descriptive information regarding her daughter RUTH ANN:

Date of birth	September 21, 1935
Eyes	Brown
Hair	Light brown
Weight	120 pounds
Height	5'7"
Drivers License Number (Ill.)	163-7613-6860

Mrs. WILLIAMS stated that she would notify the FBI should she receive any information concerning the whereabouts of RUTH ANN TUCKER or CHUCK BAZE.

On 7/19/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3639

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY Date dictated 7/20/67  
SA THOMAS D. MATTHEWS, JR./RDB

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 26, 19671

WILLIAM DIXON, Bartender of the Glasshouse Tavern, after being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents and of his Constitutional rights, provided the following information:

He was tending bar at the Glasshouse tavern from 7:30 a.m. on July 13, 1967, to 1:30 p.m. on July 14, 1967. DIXON stated that he does not recall leaving the bar for anything more than an occasional breath of air during the day and that he has no knowledge nor did he participate in the robbery of The Bank of Alton on July 13, 1967. DIXON stated that he saw CHUCK BAZE at the Glasshouse Tavern somewhere between 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. on July 13, 1967. He stated that he was with RUTH ANN TUCKER for most of the time and he recalls the two of them had one or two drinks and later left together. He stated that Thursday evening was the last time that he recalls seeing CHUCK BAZE, and that at this time, he was driving a 1961 light blue Rambler station wagon with a temporary sticker on the window to reflect the license plate. DIXON stated that he has seen RALPH PAGE at the Glasshouse Tavern in the company of CHUCK BAZE, on about two or three occasions in the past couple of weeks but could not remember the last time that he saw them together.

The following is a description of DIXON as the result of observation and interview:

Name	WILLIAM DIXON
Height	5'11"
Weight	160 pounds
Eyes	Green
Hair	Brown, Crewcut
Complexion	Fair
Scars and Marks	One quarter inch scar encircling right forearm; Small scar left upper lip from nose to lip.

On 7/19/67 at Alton, IllinoisFile # SI 91 3039by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLYby SA RICHARD D. BATHLEY, JR./hpbDate dictated 7/20/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 1, 1967

1

Mrs. HELDA SMITH, 1337 Sixth Street, furnished the following information:

She is the mother of RALPH ROBERT PAGE and is presently married to MELVIN SMITH. She said that the 1st time she had seen her son, ROBERT, was about three weeks ago on Sunday, July 9, 1967. She said that on Sunday morning, July 16, 1967, RUTH ANN TUCKER, and her young son, along with NANCY HARPER, arrived at her home and told Mrs. SMITH that they were there to pick up BOB's clothes since they were planning a trip and were in a hurry. She said that she is well acquainted with both these girls, as well as with CHUCK BAZE. She said that the girls packed PAGE's clothing in about 45 minutes and left her home at about 10:00 am that day. She stated that her son, ROBERT, has held no job recently, and she is convinced that he has been involved in petty burglaries and thefts of items like television sets in recent months. She stated that she knew of no relatives or friends to whom he might go for help, and she said that while the girls were there they gave no definite indication as to where they were going, but that she got the impression that they were going west, possibly to California.

SMITH stated that NANCY HARPER is presently out on bond for issuing a bad check to JERRY MANN's Auto Repair Shop, and that her husband, MELVIN, had posted a cash bond for NANCY. Mrs. SMITH expressed her willingness to cooperate with the FBI, and stated that she would immediately notify the Alton Resident Agency or Springfield Headquarters if she heard any information which would be helpful to determine the whereabouts of her son and his companions.

Mrs. SMITH stated that another associate of her son was SAM KANE, whose address she did not know. She described him as from 21 to 24 years of age, 6' tall, 170-180 pounds, with dark, curly hair, and always wearing glasses. She stated that her son and his associates were known to hang out at Mary's Lounge and Phil's Tavern, both in Cottage Hills, as well as at the Tropedero Lounge at South Roxana, Illinois. She said that NANCY HARPER's mother's name was PHYLIS ROSE, and that she was

On 7/20/67 at Cottage Hills, Illinois File# SI 91-3699

by SA RICHARD D. BASTIEN, JR. and SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY /jlh Date dictated 7/25/67

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SI 91-3699

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living on East 9th Street in East Alton, Illinois. She said that her son was known to be a strong and tough individual, and had earned himself the nickname of "The Fighter". Mrs. SMITH stated that she is presently employed at the Tracer Department of the Owen Matheson Powder Company on Powder Mill Road, and that she could be reached at extension 3603 if it were necessary to contact her at work. She said, however, that she would prefer all future contacts be made at home.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 1, 19671

BARBARA CAMPBELL, Clerk, Wood River Police Department,  
provided the following information concerning RALPH ROBERT PAGE:

Address: 1377 Second Street,  
Cottage Hills  
Arrest Record: December 18, 1964—charged  
disorderly conduct,  
disposition \$25.00 fine  
paid, plus cost;  
March 7, 1967, charged  
disorderly conduct,  
disposition paid \$10.00  
fine.

CAMPBELL advised that no pictures of PAGE are  
available at the office, but that he is described as follows:

Date of Birth:	April 21, 1945
Place of Birth:	Shawneetown, Illinois
Height:	6'
Weight:	195 pounds
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Blue

On 7/20/67 at Wood River, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY /jlh Date dictated 7/25/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 2, 19671

PHYLLIS ROSE, 620 East 9th Street, Apartment 4, stated that she is the mother of NANCY HARPER. She said she has not seen her daughter for about two weeks, and that she has no idea of her present whereabouts.

On 7/21/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA RICHARD D. BASTIE, JR. and  
SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY /jlh Date dictated 7/25/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 2, 19671

CAROL CUNNINGHAM, 2404 LaSalle, provided the following information:

She works as a waitress at the Glass House Tavern, and on the morning of July 13, 1967, she was waiting on tables at the tavern. She stated that CHUCK EAZE was in the tavern during that morning, but she could not state definitely whether he left on any occasion or was there continually. She did state, however, that at the time her mother left to go to the bank CHUCK EAZE was sitting at a table with some other men, whose names she did not know.

On 7/21/67 at Aiton, Illinois File # SI 91-3090  
 by SA RICHARD D. BAYLOR, JR. and SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY /JIM Date dictated 7/25/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 2, 1967

**MARJORIE CUNNINGHAM, 2404 La Salle, provided the following information:**

She arrived at the Glass House Tavern sometime around 10:00 am on July 13, 1967. She stated that she remained there until approximately 1:30 pm when she left and went to the Bank of Alton to cash a check. She stated that when she arrived at the bank, the police were already there, and that the bank robbery had taken place. She said that at the time she left the Glass House, she was sitting with CHUCK BAZE, and that therefore he could not possibly have committed the bank robbery. CUNNINGHAM stated that she could supply no other information pertinent to the bank robbery, and that at the time she arrived at the bank she saw nothing suspicious nor did she see anyone leaving the bank who appeared to have been involved in the robbery.

On 7/21/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA RICHARD D. BATISTE, JR. and

SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY /jlh Date dictated 7/25/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 2, 1967

**1**

**OTTO VROMAN, 198 Goulding Street, provided the following information:**

He is the owner of the house at 198 Goulding, and for the past two or three months he rented this apartment to RUTH ANN TUCKER and CHARLES WILLIAM BAZE along with a young boy whose name he did not know. He said that these three, along with a blond girl, left the house on Sunday, July 16, 1967, late in the morning, and that he had no idea of their present whereabouts. He stated that they had taken their clothing with them, and that they owed him back rent for the apartment, and he gave his permission to SAs WILLIAM G. CONNELLY and RICHARD D. BATISTE, JR. to enter the apartment and conduct a search.

On 7/21/67 at Aton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA RICHARD D. BATISTE, JR. and SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY /jllh Date dictated 7/25/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 25, 1967

A search of the upstairs apartment, 198 Goulding Avenue, was made by SAs RICHARD D. BATISTE, JR. and WILLIAM G. CONNELLY after obtaining the oral consent of OTTO VROMER, landlord. VROMER advised that CHARLES BAZE was the former tenant of that apartment and had vacated the premises on July 15, 1967 owing a week's rent.

The following observations were made as a result of the search:

The apartment was empty of all clothing and personal belonging. Kitchen cupboards contained cans of food and dry foods. The apartment was locked and the key left on the kitchen floor.

Articles obtained from the apartment of evidential value consisted of:

One (1) garment label bearing the inscription, "Made in U.S.A. EW 13718 All Cotton".

One (1) letter addressed to CHARLES BAZE, Virginia, Ill. 62891, return address JOHN BAZE, W. Franklin, Whitehall, Ill., 62092. This letter postmarked Whitehall, Ill., date illegible.

One (1) scrap of paper bearing address of 408 East College, Fredricktown, Mo.

One (1) letter addressed to Mrs. RUTH A. TUCKER from First National Bank & Trust Company, Alton, Illinois with Certificate of Insurance on the life of RUTH A. TUCKER attached.

No other items of evidentiary value were noted.

On 7-21-67 at East Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY  
SA RICHARD D. BATISTE, JR.: rdb Date dictated 7-25-67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 8, 1967

**BILL DIXON**, Bartender, Glass House Tavern, telephonically contacted the Alton Resident Agency and furnished the following information:

He had parked his car, an old blue Plymouth Station Wagon, near the parking lot of the Tenth and Bell Tavern about two weeks earlier in a disabled condition. On the morning of July 20, 1967, when he went there to have it towed, he noticed his 1967 Illinois license plates ES463, along with the car battery, were missing. He said the last time he recalls seeing the plates on the car was about two weeks ago, and he felt that **CHUCK BAZE** may have taken these plates to put them on **RUTH ANN TUCKER**'s Rambler if he were planning to leave Alton. He stated that this was only a possibility and he had no proof that **BAZE** was presently in possession of these plates. He advised that he would immediately notify the local police of the theft of these plates.

On 7/23/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY /jsh Date dictated 8/1/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 8, 19671

ROSE WILLIAMS, 525 Miami, who is the mother of RUTH ANN TUCKER, telephonically furnished the following information :

She had neither seen nor heard from her daughter, RUTH, RALPH PAGE, CLUCK BAZE, or NANCY HARPER since she was last contacted by Bureau Agents. She expressed anxiety concerning the wellbeing of RUTH's ten year old son, BILLY GENE LAFFERTY and inquired as to whether the FBI had any leads as to his whereabouts. She again advised she would contact the FBI if she received any information concerning the whereabouts of the above named individuals.

On 7/27/67 at Alton, Illinois File# SI - CI 2699

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY /jll/ Date dictated 8/1/67

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SI 91-3699

C. WILLIAM DIXON

SI 91-3899

WGC:skt

1

RE: Suspect WILLIAM DIXON

The name of WILLIAM DIXON as a suspect in this matter was developed as a result of an interview with ALVIN CALVY on July 17, 1967.



SI 91-3699

D. LAWRENCE DONALD BENEZE

BENEZE was developed as a suspect based upon information furnished by Chief JOHN M. HEAFNER, Alton, Illinois, Police Department, indicating BENEZE left Alton driving a 1957 Chevrolet which was stolen and that he apparently left some time on July 13, 1967.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 19, 1967

LAWRENCE DONALD BENZE was interviewed at the Office of the Sheriff of Saline County, Harrisburg, Illinois. At the outset of the interview, he was advised of his rights and he waived them as evidenced by the waiver of rights form. He said that he was discharged from prison March 9, 1967, and since that time he had been residing in Chicago, Illinois, Evanston, Illinois, and in Alton, Illinois. He stated that his home address is 5607 Humbert, Alton, Illinois. He advised that on Tuesday, July 11, 1967, that he had tried out a 1957 Chevrolet, owned by JIM BARDENSTEIN, a used car dealer at Alton, Illinois. He stated that he was going to buy this vehicle for \$350. He advised that he tried the car out on Tuesday and then he took it back on Wednesday, July 12, 1967, and according to BENZE, BARDENSTEIN had given him permission to use the car during that date, and that he was supposed to return it on Thursday, July 13, 1967.

BENZE stated that on the night of July 12, 1967, he had gotten into a fight at a tavern known as the "Three Mile House" on Route #159 between Edwardsville and Route #110. He stated that this fight occurred between himself and a person that he had known for a long time as BILL (Last Name Unknown).

He stated that he was fearful that there would be an assault and battery charge filed against him at Alton, Illinois, inasmuch as he is an exconvict and that he had left Alton about 9:30 AM on Thursday morning, July 13, 1967, and had visited his girlfriend, Carolyn Evans, who resides at 1148 East Broadway in South Roxanna, Illinois. He stated that he left there and then drove the 1957 Chevrolet to Coulterville, Illinois, and then on to Pinckneyville, Illinois, and then on to Mt. Vernon, Illinois. He stated that he finally arrived at Fairfield, Illinois, Thursday night, July 13, 1967, about 8:30 PM, and was able to obtain a job with the Bill Myer's Amusement Company, a Carnival which was playing in Fairfield, Illinois. He stated that he was employed on the Kiddie Ride known as the Tricycle.

He stated that at this carnival he had met MICHAEL O'BRIEN and another fellow by the name of KENNEDY, but that he

On 7/17/67 at Harrisburg, Illinois

File # SI 91-3699  
SI 26-30747

by SA CLAUDE H. GRACE

/skt Date dictated 7/18/67

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SI 26-30747

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had never known either one of them before this date. He said that both of these individuals were employed by the Bill Myer's Carnival. He advised that on Friday night after the show was over with, he left Fairfield, Illinois, and was headed for Russellville, Kentucky, to join with the carnival there. He said that before leaving that area, he had gone to Golden Gate, Illinois, and had obtained a set of Illinois license plates from a 1937 Ford and replaced those plates with his own plates and had placed the Ford license plates on his Chevrolet. He stated that this car belonged to some fellows' mother who was working at the carnival with KENNEDY and O'BRIEN.

He stated that about 5:30 AM of July 15, 1967, he was stopped by some Illinois State Troopers at Muddy, Illinois, where they wrote him two tickets, one for driving on a suspended license and the other for using stolen plates. He stated that he knew nothing concerning the background of KENNEDY OR O'BRIEN and he did not know anything about the car that they were driving.

He stated that since his release from prison that he has had no particularly steady employment, however, he had worked at a restaurant in Chicago, Illinois, known as the Morris Restaurant, located at 6156 Lincoln Avenue, for a period of about three months and further he had been employed at the B & G Grill, 1522 North Sherman Avenue at Evanston, Illinois, until June 5, 1967, and thereafter, came to Alton, Illinois and was employed at the Lewis and Clark Restaurant, Highway #111, at East Alton, Illinois.

*ASA. RA 175-15-622*

The following description was obtained at the time of the interview:

Name:	LAWRENCE DONALD BENZE
Age:	26
Date of Birth:	June 30, 1941
Place of Birth:	Alton, Illinois
Height:	5'9"
Weight:	195 # <i>5'9" 195 #</i>
Hair:	Black <i>BLACK</i>
Eyes:	Blue
Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Scars:	1" scar on nose
Tattoos:	left arm MON in heart, name DON and scroll, Spider at junction of base of thumb and index.

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Army Serial Number:

Served:

Permanent Address:

Arrests:

On right arm a spider  
on right shoulder, a  
dot on right upper arm.  
RA 175 15 652

September, 1958 to

December, 1959

5607 Humbert

Alton, Illinois

Admitted arrest for ITSMV

and served at Chillicothe,

Ohio, and El Reno, Oklahoma,

his El Reno Number being

28009, also was institutional-

ized at Springfield Medical

Center, Springfield, Missouri,

#45954.

In addition to the above information, he stated that during early June of 1967 at Alton, Illinois, he had inquired at the Hughes Auto Sales of Alton concerning a 1960 Cadillac which Hughes had priced at \$1250. He further advised that he had never called Hughes Auto Sales nor Bardenstein Auto Sales or any other Auto Company indicating that he had received \$26,000 in an inheritance.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 25, 1967Box 6-30-41 - ALTON ILL

LAWRENCE BENEZE, Inmate, Madison County Jail, after being advised of the identity of the interviewing agents, the purpose of the interview, and of his rights, and executing a written waiver form, furnished the following information: 7511 175-15-652

He stated that he was not involved in the robbery of the bank of Alton on July 13, 1967, as he was at that time traveling towards Kentucky on Route 4, and was in the vicinity of Coulterville, Illinois. He said that at 1:30 p.m., he entered Mom's Cafe in Coulterville, then he left Alton directly from KAREN EVANS' house at about 10:30 a.m., and proceeded via route 111 to Interstate 270 and then to Route 4.

BENEZE advised that other than himself, there were only two other people in Alton, who were capable of committing a bank robbery. He said these people are very calm in tight situations. He said he knew only their last names and those names were DEAN and CAMP. BENEZE said he did not know where he could find DEAN or CAMP, but that he always saw them in the various taverns in and about the Alton, Illinois area. He said that CHUCK BAZE or BUTCH CALVY were two possible suspects, but that he thought neither one had the guts to pull a bank robbery. He said that he knew two people in Alton, who had motorcycles and may also be considered as suspects. He named these people as FREDDIE DICK and FRANK, (last name unknown). He said that FRANK at one time asked his opinion regarding a bank robbery job at the Bank of Alton and two other Alton banks. He said he met FRANK at the Coney Island Restaurant, where they discussed plans regarding the Wedge Bank. He said he advised FRANK that the Wedge Bank was too complicated to be robbed. He then said that they discussed the robbing of the bank of Alton. He said no plans were affirmed, and he was not asked to participate.

BENEZE stated that FRANK was 5'9", 195 pounds, blond, dark complexion, about 24, and that he was just out of Madison County Jail after serving a six months burglary charge. BENEZE said that he did not recall when they discussed the bank robbery plans, but that it must have been since March, 1967, as that is when he returned from northern Illinois.

BENEZE said that CHUCK BAZE was probably heading for Oklahoma City, or the Hillbilly Section of Chicago, Illinois. He said that these

On 7/19/67 at Edwardsville, Illinois File # SI 91-3609

by SAS RICHARD D. BASTISE & WILLIAM G. CONNELLY/slp Date dictated 7/22/67

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are sanctuaries for people who are on the run.

BENEZE advised he had no further information to furnish the FBI at this time, but that as soon as he was out on the street he would certainly make every effort to determine who robbed the Bank of Alton, and would furnish such information to the FBI.

SI 91-3699

E. MISCELLANEOUS SUSPECTS

The following investigation concerning JOHN LEROY MOREY, DONALD ELDRIDGE, and LOWELL WILLARD BODENBACH was conducted based upon information furnished to the Alton, Illinois, Police Department indicating that a white 1960 Chevrolet was seen leaving the area of the bank or driving in the vicinity of The Bank of Alton at approximately the time of the bank robbery. This vehicle was stopped and checked as to occupants by Patrolman RAYMOND GALLOWAY.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 19, 1967

1

*BORN OCT 1940 ALTON, ILL.*

JOHN LEROY MOREY, Bunker Hill, Illinois, was interviewed at his place of employment, Owens Illinois Glass Company. MOREY was fully warned of his rights by SA CHEATHAM as they appear on the executed Warning and Waiver Form.

MOREY stated that he is the owner of a white 1960 model Chevrolet, four-door sedan, bearing 1967 Illinois license 302-781. He drives this car from his home in Bunker Hill, Illinois, to his place of employment in Alton, Illinois, on a daily basis. He works a shift that begins at 2:20 P.M. and generally leaves his home in Bunker Hill at approximately 1 to 1:30 P.M. On the afternoon of July 13, 1967, he was en route to work, accompanied by DONALD ELDRIGE, and LOWELL BODENBACK. He was stopped by a police car at approximately 1:35 to 1:40 P.M. He was asked to get out of the car and was asked by the officer where he was going. He was then informed by the police officer that he was free to go. He said that he was stopped by these officers at Broadway and Main in Alton, Illinois. He gave as his normal route Highway 159 from Bunker Hill to Dorsey, then Route 140 into Upper Alton and down Washington Street to his place of employment on Broadway.

*BORN / 10 1940 - BUNKER HILL, ILL.*

—Upon arrival at Owens Illinois Glass, he went to the company credit union and from there went to work.

MOREY said he had no knowledge of the robbery of the Bank of Alton on July 13, 1967, and knew nothing of it until the time he was stopped by the Alton police officers.

The following is a physical description obtained from observation and interview:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5 feet 8 inches
Weight	150 pounds

On 7/13/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

SA LOY F. WEAVER &

by SA CLABORN R. CHEATHAM /app Date dictated 7/17/67

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Date of Birth	October 17, 1940
Place of Birth	Alton, Illinois
Eyes	Hazel
Hair	Brown
Complexion	Ruddy

At the termination of the interview, MOREY was furnished a written "Consent to Search" form and indicated that he had no objection to his car being searched. He executed this form.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 17, 1967

1

DONALD DEVERN ELDRIDGE, Relief Operator, Forming Department, Owens-Illinois Glass Company, was interviewed at his place of employment after being advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents, the purpose of the interview and his rights. He executed a waiver of rights form and furnished the following information:

He stated that at 1:30 P.M., July 13, 1967, he and two co-workers, JOHN MOREY and LOWELL BOUDENBACH, drove by the Bank of Alton on Washington and Edward Streets in MOREY's 1964 Chevrolet. He said they all were en route to their employment at the Owens-Illinois Glass Company from their homes at Bunker Hill, Illinois.

He advised that two blocks west of the Bank of Alton, they were halted by an Alton Policeman and ordered out of their car. He said they were not detained and were allowed to proceed to work.

ELDRIDGE advised he punched his time card in at 2:24 P.M., July 13, 1967 and that he spent the preceding time at the Credit Union and canteen. He stated neither he nor his companions, MOREY and BOUDENBACH held up the Bank of Alton on July 13, 1967. He said he does not know who may have been the robbers and that at the time he passed the bank, he noted nothing unusual.

The following information was obtained through observation and interview:

	Name	DONALD DEVERN ELDRIDGE
	Sex	Male
	Race	White
	Height	5'9"
	Weight	149 pounds
Dat	Date of birth	January 15, 1939
	Place of birth	Brosley, Missouri
	Hair	Blonde/brown
	Eyes	Light green

On July 13, 1967 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3696

by ROBERT J. GEOMS

by SAB RICHARD D. BARIETH, JR. cab Date dictated July 13, 1967

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Wife	LUCILLE ELDRIDGE
Address	7 children 417 North Franklin Bunker Hill, Illinois
Peculiarities	Receding hair line, balding back of head. Born scar, back or right hand $\frac{1}{4}$ " mole, right side of face Crescent scar, Left side under chin
Education	Completed 9th grade Two years U. S. Army Service No. unknown

ELDRIDGE further advised he had never been in the Bank of Alton and that he has no previous arrests.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7-20-67

Mr. **LOWELL WILLARD BODENBACH** was interviewed at his place of employment, Owens - Illinois Glass Company, at which time he furnished the following information. At the outset of the interview, SA **LILL** advised him of his rights and he waived them on an executed warning and waiver form.

He resides at 417 South Putnam Street, Bunker Hill, Illinois. On July 13, 1967, he was picked up at his home at about 1:14 PM by his usual car pool to go to work in Alton, Illinois. The other members of his car pool are **JOHN MOREY** and **DON MERRIDGE**, both of whom also work at Owens - Illinois Glass Company and reside at Bunker Hill, Illinois. The three of them proceeded from Bunker Hill to their place of employment in **JOHN MOREY's** automobile which is a 1960 or 1961 white Chevrolet. It takes about one-half hour for the 19 mile trip from Bunker Hill to Owens - Illinois Glass Company in Alton.

During this trip, at about 1:45 PM, they were stopped by Alton Police on Washington Street about one-half block south of the Bank of Alton, apparently in connection with the robbery of that bank which had occurred a few minutes before. He advised that he had no information concerning the identity of the person or persons who robbed the bank of Alton. He said he has known **JOHN MOREY** for about three years and is aware that **JOHN MOREY** formerly drank rather heavily and apparently has not been drinking heavily recently. He said he is also acquainted with **JOHN MOREY's** brother, **BILL MOREY**, who still drinks heavily and has been in trouble with the law in the past.

**BILL MOREY** lives with his father at Bunker Hill, Illinois. He said that he and his car pool had arrived at Owens - Illinois Glass Company that day at about 1:55 PM. He said the other two in his car pool were due to go to work about 2:30 PM and he was due at work at 3:00 PM.

**LOWELL WILLARD BODENBACH** was described as follows:

On 7-13-67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699  
 by SA ROBERT E. LILL  
SA JOHN W. LEWIS:bb Date dictated 7-19-67

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*Lumber - James S. Chodura*

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Age:	42
Date of Birth:	October 10, 1944 ?
Place of Birth:	Junction, Illinois
Height:	6'
Weight:	193 pounds
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Brown
Voice:	Average
Selective Service Number:	11-164-24-261
Local Board #:	164, Carlinville, Illinois
Military Service:	U.S. Marine Corps July 1, 1943, to November, 1945
	September, 1950, to October, 1951
Marine Serial Number:	850405
Criminal Record:	None admitted
Employment:	Owens - Illinois Glass Company, Alton, Illinois, decorating apartment, for past five months
	Landreth Lumber Yard Bunker Hill, Illinois, from 1965 to 1967
	District Elevator Inspector D.C. Government, Washington, D.C., from 1957 to 1964

SI 91-3699

JMY:tlp

1Re suspect GENE CLARK.

BILL PETERSON, JR., son of Captain BILL PETERSON, Alton, Illinois Police Department, advised that he was at the Stanton Body Shop on Broadway in Alton, Illinois, on the afternoon of the bank robbery, and overheard conversation of individuals in the body shop. One of these individuals stated he had seen a GENE CLARK riding a motorcycle down Broadway on the afternoon of the bank robbery, and that CLARK was carrying a shot gun on his motorcycle. CLARK has been known to frequent the Coeey Island Tavern also on Broadway.

SI 91-3699

JHY:mpb

1Re Suspect JACK JONES *1-2*

On July 14, 1967, Sergeant HAROLD COX, Alton, Illinois, Police Department, advised that he had received information from a police informant, who has furnished reliable information in the past, regarding JACK JONES as a suspect in the bank robbery of the Bank of Alton. The informant stated that on July 3, 5, or 6, 1967, that he had overheard two individuals talking about a bank job in Alton, Illinois. He later determined through a NETTIE STEM that one of the men was named JACK JONES. The other man is an associate of JONES and resides near the Anchor Inn, a tavern in Alton, Illinois. He has determined that JONES has been known to carry a gun, and the associate of JONES believed to have a shotgun which he carries in his car.

JONES also travels to Dayton, Ohio, and while in Dayton, it is believed that he stayed at the home of PAUL RUBY JONES, 375 Kenwood Avenue, Dayton, Ohio.

SI 91-3699

*T-4*  
OTIS LACEY was developed as a suspect based upon his previous activities in connection with known bank robberies in the area and because of similarity in physical description with one of the unknown subjects in this matter.

2. APPROX. 1932



SI 91-3699  
 SI 91-3700  
 SI 91-3702  
 EMD:sjs

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA ELYON H. DAVIS at Pittsfield, Illinois:

On July 14, 1967, Sheriff JAMES WADE, Pike County, Illinois, advised that OTIS LACEY resides at 415 Sycamore Street in Pittsfield. He advised that he has no information concerning any recent illegal activities on the part of LACEY. He stated that LACEY has spent a considerable amount of money over the past several months in the Pittsfield area however, LACEY claims to be a timber buyer and has his own company called the Lacey Lumber Company. He stated that LACEY seems to do very little work, however, he has 3 or 4 timber cutters working for him.

On July 14, 1967, BOB SMITH, Hilltop Shell Service, advised that he also owns the Paradise Restaurant located nextdoor to the service station. He advised that OTIS LEE LACEY spends a considerable amount of time in the restaurant and on July 13, 1967, he had seen LACEY in the Paradise Restaurant sometime during the morning. He could not remember exactly what time this would have been however, estimated it as sometime between 9:00 and 11:00 A.M.

R. APPROX 1932

On July 14, 1967, JAY CURNINGHAM, attendant, Hilltop Shell Service, advised that on July 13, 1967, he had noticed that OTIS LEE LACEY was at the Paradise Restaurant at approximately 4:00 P.M. He stated that LACEY has a girlfriend working at the restaurant who normally drives LACEY's 1967 blue Cadillac convertible. He stated that LACEY normally drives one of his timber cutting trucks or otherwise rides a Honda motorcycle which he recently purchased. He advised that LACEY has also at times had a 1962 green 88 Oldsmobile.

On July 14, 1967, PAT CHUNN, advised that on July 13, 1967, OTIS LEE LACEY was in the Paradise Restaurant sometime between 8:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M. and that he was also in the restaurant on July 13, 1967, at approximately 4:30 P.M. She stated that on July 14, 1967, LACEY came in the restaurant sometime near 3:00 P.M. and she sat at the bar and had a cup of coffee with LACEY. She advised that LACEY has a girlfriend who is working at the restaurant and that he comes in occasionally to speak to his girlfriend. She advised that on July 13, and July 14, 1967, that LACEY had been driving a truck and that the

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1967 blue Cadillac owned by LACEY was driven on both occasions as far as she knew by LACEY's girlfriend.

On July 14, 1967, CLIFF WYLER, City Policeman, Pittsfield, Illinois, advised that he resides behind the OTIS LEE LACEY home. He advised that he had seen no activity at the LACEY home either on July 13 or July 14, 1967. He advised that this was not unusual inasmuch as the garage to LACEY's house opens from the front and that he was normally not in a position to see any activity on the part of LACEY.

On July 14, 1967, CECIL TURNER, manager, Co-Op Livestock Sales, advised that he resides nextdoor to the OTIS LEE LACEY home and that his address is 417 Sycamore Street. He advised that on July 13, 1967 he had seen no activity concerning vehicles at the LACEY home. He advised that also he had seen no activity on July 14, 1967. He stated that LACEY normally keeps his Cadillac, his Honda motorcycle and a 1962 green Oldsmobile parked in the garage.

On July 14, 1967, Mrs. CECIL TURNER, 417 Sycamore Street, advised that she had not observed any cars coming to or leaving the LACEY home on July 13 and July 14, 1967.

On July 14, 1967, ARVIS JENNINGS, owner, Jennings Standard Service Station, Washington Street, advised that OTIS LEE LACEY formerly traded with him at that service station. He stated, however, that on approximately July 8, 1969, he and LACEY became involved in an argument concerning a purchase made by LACEY and that LACEY had not been at the service station since July 8, 1967.

On July 14, 1967, Sergeant E. W. SMITH, Illinois State Police, District 14A, advised that he had no information concerning the activities of OTIS LEE LACEY during the previous 2 days. He advised that normally LACEY's activities are closely watched by the Illinois State Police and that LACEY is seen driving in numerous vehicles as well as logging trucks operated by LACEY.

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On July 14, 1967, Trooper DON LLOYD, Illinois State Police, District 14A, advised that his home is adjacent to the rear of the OTIS LACEY home. He advised however that he had seen no activity at the LACEY home during the past 2 days and that he had not seen LACEY during that period of time. He stated that this was not unusual and that he was not in a position to see the front of the LACEY home.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 27, 1967

A review of the records of the Farmers State Bank of Pittsfield, Pittsfield, Illinois, revealed the following information:

OTIS LEE LACEY has an account at that bank under the name of Lacey Timber Company:

The records were reviewed for the past 3 months and did not show any large amount of money had been deposited into the account and did not show any large withdrawals during that time. The balance at time the account was reviewed was \$738.

The above information is confidential and can be obtained only with the issuance of a Subpoena Duces Tecum directed to EARL GAMBREY, Executive Vice President, Farmers State Bank of Pittsfield, Pittsfield, Illinois.

On 7/27/67 at Pittsfield, Illinois File # SI 91-3699  
SI 91-3700  
SI 91-3701

by PAUL W. HENRY, DAVEN: sja Date dictated 7/28/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 27, 1967

Officer CLIFFORD WYLER, Pittsfield, Illinois Police Department, pointed out an individual sitting at the bar of the Paradise Restaurant, Pittsfield, Illinois, to SA ELYON H. DAVIS at 3:15 P.M., July 14, 1967. Officer WYLER advised that this individual was OTIS LEE LACEY.

LACEY at that time was wearing tennis shoes with white socks and was wearing a light colored sport shirt with dark colored work trousers. LACEY was not wearing a hat.

The following physical description was obtained by SA DAVIS:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Name	OTIS LEE LACEY
Age	Approximately 35
Height	5' 10"
Weight	130 pounds
Hair	Light brown thin in the back

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On 7/14/67 at Pittsfield, IllinoisFile # SI 91-3702by SA ELYON H. DAVIS: diaDate dictated 7/20/67

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SI 91-3899

JWL/jlh

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At Belleville, Illinois

On July 14, 1967, SA EDWARD A. CARPENTER was advised by the dispatcher of the St. Clair County Sheriff's Office, Belleville, Illinois, that two males possibly responsible for the robbery of the Bank of Alton on July 13, 1967, had been apprehended by Officers of the St. Clair County Sheriff's Office in connection with a robbery of the Howard Johnson's Motel at Collinsville, Illinois, on July 14, 1967.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JOHN W. LEWIS:

On July 14, 1967, Deputy RALPH CANTY, St. Clair County Sheriff's Office, Belleville, Illinois, made available the following records in connection with a hold-up of the Howard Johnson's Motel, Collinsville, Illinois, on July 14, 1967. Two males and two females were booked at the County Jail between 5:10 am and 5:45 am on July 14, 1967, and were described as follows:

Sheriff's Number:	1020
Name:	DON ROMAR
Address:	1016 North 5th Street, Springfield, Illinois.
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Age:	26
Date of Birth:	March 11, 1941
Place of Birth:	Massachusetts
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	160
Complexion:	Light
Build:	Medium
Eyes:	Blue
Hair:	Brown
Education:	12 years
Occupation:	Livestock Dealer
Sheriff's Number:	1021
Name:	ZANE REDFORD
Address:	None

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JWL/jlh

2

*Yocum*

Race: White  
 Nationality: American  
 Sex: Male  
 Age: 24  
 Date of Birth: April 16, 1923  
 Place of Birth: Arkansas  
 Height: 6'2"  
 Weight: 170  
 Complexion: Light  
 Build: Medium  
 Eyes: Blue  
 Education: 10 years  
 Hair: Brown  
 Tattoos: Both arms, chest and back  
 Occupation: Laborer

Sheriff's Number: 1022 ✓  
 Name: LINDA LORINITIS  
 aka/Yocum  
 Address: 809 North 9th Street,  
 Springfield, Illinois

Race: White  
 Sex: Female  
 Age: 19  
 Date of Birth: June 16, 1948  
 Height: 5'2"  
 Weight: 110  
 Place of Birth: Illinois  
 Complexion: Light  
 Build: Medium  
 Education: Ten years  
 Marital Status: Divorced; one child, age 21 months.  
 Parents: FRANK and MARIAN  
 YOCUM, 2619 North 19th  
 Street, Springfield, Ill.

Sheriff's Number: 1023 ✓  
 Name: PATRICIA LOCHBAUM  
 Race: White  
 Sex: Female  
 Age: 23  
 U. ANTHROP  
 1023 7-1-48

SI 91-3699

JWL/jlh

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Date of Birth:	July 23, 1943
Place of Birth:	Indiana
Height:	5'6"
Weight:	125
Complexion:	Light
Build:	Slim
Eyes:	Green
Hair:	Brown
Education:	Eight years
Occupation:	Bartender

Deputies JOHN MC FALLS and DEWEY CARPENTER, St. Clair County Sheriff's Office, on July 14, 1967, at 3:27 am located the above subjects at room 111, Interstate Motel, Routes 40 and 203, East St. Louis, Illinois, on the basis of 1957 red Chevrolet, Illinois license RM3899, which had been used in the Howard Johnson robbery. The subjects would not open the door, and when the door was opened with a pass key, a large number of guns were noticed on the bed. The door was then closed and officers obtained assistance of other deputies of the Sheriff's Office, as well as the Illinois State Police, and officers of the East St. Louis, Illinois, Police Department, Fairmount, Illinois, Police Department, and the Caseyville, Illinois, Police Department. The subjects came out of the motel only after tear gas was thrown into the room. A total of 17 shotguns and rifles were found in the motel room, but none of the shotguns were sawed off. Also found in their possession were two revolvers and one automatic pistol. The automatic was an Italian make, black with white hand grips. This automatic is marked "SACH FILI GALESI BRESCCI, Caliber 6.35 millimeters". This automatic measures approximately four inches in overall length and approximately three inches tall.

On July 14, 1967, Sergeant JOSEPH DENTON, St. Clair County Sheriff's Office, advised that the total amount of money found on the four persons mentioned above was \$235.00. \$119.00 was found on one of the men, and \$116.00 in a pillow slip in the motel room.

On July 14, 1967, Mrs. PAUL NEWMAN, Proprietor, Interstate Motel, 2001 Collinsville Road, East St. Louis, Illinois, advised that DEAN ROMER, 29 Wood Avenue, Peoria, Illinois, registered for room 111 at that motel at 8:55 pm



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JWL/jlh

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on July 12, 1967, and registered again for the same room on the following morning. He was accompanied by one man and two women who said they would need no maid service. They were driving a red Chevrolet with Illinois license RM3899. About noon on July 13, 1967, one of these two men came to the office of the motel and asked for directions to Gas Light Square in St. Louis, Missouri, saying that he was supposed to meet a fellow there. He then immediately left in the red Chevrolet with the other man. About between 3:00 pm and 4:00 pm on July 13, 1967, one of the girls from room 111 came to the office and bought a package of cigarettes at which time she said that the boys had not yet come back and she was about to starve. He said that about 4:00 or 4:30 pm on July 13, 1967, all four of these people left in the red Chevrolet and she did not see them return, but noticed that the red Chevrolet was back at the motel as of about 10:00 pm on July 13, 1967. He said that all four of these persons were arrested by the St. Clair County Sheriff's Office during the early morning of July 14, 1967.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 21, 19671

ZANE REDFERN was interviewed at the St. Clair County Jail, where he was being held in connection with a robbery of the Howard Johnson Motel, Collinsville, Illinois, which occurred the same day. At the outset of the interview, he was warned of his rights and he waived them as shown on an executed warning and waiver form.

REDFERN advised that he has lived around Springfield, Illinois, in the past. He said that on the night of July 12, 1967, he had been in a room at the Interstate Motel, East St. Louis, Illinois, until about 6:00 pm on July 13, 1967, and with him there during that period were DON ROMAR and the two girls which had been arrested with them. He said he had no information concerning the identity of the persons who robbed the Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, on July 13, 1967.

It was noted that REDFERN was wearing a plaid, white, red, and blue sport shirt, black levis, and brown loafers.

On 7/14/67 at Bellaville, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA JOHN W. LEWIS /jll Date dictated 7/19/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7-20-67

DENNIS FIGGIE, 1001 Rozier, after being advised of the identity of the interviewing agents, the purpose of the interview, and his rights, and stating he did not wish to execute a waiver form, furnished the following information:

He advised that on July 13, 1967, at 11:30 AM, he was at the Alton Memorial Hospital checking his wife and newborn baby out of the hospital. He said he left the hospital with his wife and baby shortly after 12:00, noon. He said that he was on his way to his home on Rozier Street at 1:30 PM, July 13, 1967.

FIGGIE stated that he did own a shotgun, but this gun was all a part in that it had been chewed by a horse while he had it laying on the pasture fence and that he was working on this gun to get it back in operable condition. FIGGIE exhibited the shotgun in its dismantled state to SAs BARTONE and CONNELLY.

FIGGIE stated that he had not robbed the Bank of Alton, nor had he participated in the robbery of the Madison Bank. He said he had no information regarding the possible robbers, but that if any should come to his attention, he would certainly call the FBI.

The following information was obtained through observation and interview:

Name:	<i>Ill</i> DENNIS FIGGIE
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Height:	5'7"
Weight:	140 pounds
Date of Birth:	October 27, 1947
Hair:	Blonde
Eyes:	Hazel
Build:	Slender
Occupation:	Turret lathe operator

On 7-17-67 at Alton, Illinois File# SX 91-3699

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY  
SA RICHARD D. BARTONE, JR.:bb Date dictated 7-18-67

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No.

Employment:	McDonnell Air Craft Company, St. Louis, Missouri
Wife:	SUEILA FIGGIE
Automobile:	1961 blue Chevrolet
Previous Arrest:	Public intoxication, date unknown

FIGGIE further advised that his father-in-law, ROBERT ORVILLE GRAMM, who resides at Granite City, Illinois, was recently questioned by the FBI for his possible connection with the bank robberies at Alton and Granite City. FIGGIE stated that as far as he knew, there is no connection with either bank robbery.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7-20-67

**SHEILA FIGGIE, 1001 Rozier, furnished the following information:**

She stated she is the wife of DENNIS FIGGIE and that she could corroborate his statement that he was at home all day Friday, July 14, 1967, and that he was with her from 11:30 AM, July 13, 1967, until 4:00 PM, that same date.

She stated that she did not know how the FBI got her husband's name as a possible bank robbery suspect, but she thought it was a former boyfriend, probably, who turned the name in for spite. She said she did not wish to divulge this former boyfriend's identity. She advised she had no further information to furnish at that time.

C 7-17-67 of Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699  
 by WILLIAM G. CONNELLY  
 dictated by RICHARD D. DATESTE, JR.:bb Date dictated 7-18-67

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XI. MISCELLANEOUS INVESTIGATION

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 7/31/67

CAROL LINDBERGER, age 14, 2609 Benbow, furnished the following information:

On the afternoon of July 13, 1967, she and her girl friend, PATRICIA BLAINE, were at the Shell Station one half block southeast of the State Bank of Alton. While they were there putting air in the tires of their bicycles CAROL stated that she saw 2 men run out of the bank and she noticed that one of them was carrying a gun with a long barrel. She stated that she became scared and that she and her girl friend immediately left the station, and went directly to their home down Washington Street and east on Benbow. Shortly after arriving home they recounted the details of what they had seen to Mrs. LINDBERGER who gave them permission to call radio station KMOX and report the "news tip of the day". CAROL stated that the only thing she could recall about the man was that one was carrying a gun and she assumed that the other one also had one although she did not see it. She was unable to give any pertinent information concerning their age, dress, height or weight of the men who left the bank and she stated that she had no idea which direction they were heading. She said that all she remembers was that both of them were running, as they left the door of the bank.

When questioned concerning the time at which they saw these men leave the bank, CAROL stated that she believed it was around 2:00 PM. She said that both men had some type of hood or mask covering their heads or face and she stated that this may have been a nylon stocking but she could not be certain. CAROL gave the name of her girl friend as PATRICIA BLAINE, Rural Route #5, East Delmar Street, Godfrey.

On 7/25/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699  
 Date dictated 7/25/67

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLEY:BN

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 7/23/67

Mrs. ALBERTA LINEBARGER, 2609 Denbow, was present during the interview of her daughter, CAROL, and furnished the following information:

She stated that her daughter CAROL and PATRICIA BLAINE arrived home and recounted to her the details of having seen two men running from the side door of the State Bank of Alton, one of whom was supposedly carrying a gun. Mrs. LINEBARGER was unable to remember the exact time that this occurred but stated that she did give her daughter permission to call the radio station, KEOX, and report what they had seen. Mrs. LINEBARGER said that all this occurred sometime prior to the arrival of the police at the bank, or the report of the robbery over the radio.

On 7/23/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by WILLIAM G. CONNELLEY Date dictated 7/23/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 2, 19671

ABE WITTEL, 204 State Street, provided the following information:

He is the owner of Wittel and Company and sells all kinds of guns. A review of his records provided the following information concerning persons who purchased high caliber automatic hand weapons within the past month:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Serial #</u>	<u>Name and Address</u>
6/30/67	.45 caliber automatic	1812951	THURMAN A. SMITH 532 Minnie (uncertain) Eupo, Illinois
7/3/67	.38 caliber automatic	52344	KEN SAAKE, 9732 Dennis Drive, St. Louis, Missouri.
7/6/67	.45 caliber automatic	511710	MORRIS M. KOTIHAN 501 Old Donhcae Road, University City, Mo.
7/11/67	380 millimeter automatic	606251	TERRANCE A. GRIFFIN, 246 Beach, Wood River, Illinois.

WITTEL stated that he does not know any of these individuals personally and could provide no further information concerning them other than that contained in his records.

On 7/21/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA RICHARD D. BASTIST, JR. and

SA WALTER G. CONNELLY /jlb Date dictated 7/25/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 19, 1967

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W. E. MC BRIDE, Plant Manager, Owens Illinois Glass Company, Alton, Illinois, furnished the following information:

His records reflect that on July 13, 1967, JOHN L. MOREY punched the clock to begin work at 1:55 P.M.; DONALD ELDRIGE began work at 2:24 to 2:30 P.M.; and LOWELL BODENBACK began work at 2:54 to 3:00 P.M.

On 7/13/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699  
by SA LOY F. WEAVER & SA CLABORN R. CHEATHAM /epp Date dictated 7/17/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7-20-67

ROSEBUD ORAM, 1001 Rozier Street, furnished the following information:

She stated she is the aunt of DENNIS FIGGIE and that she can state positively that FIGGIE was home with his wife on the afternoons of July 13 and July 14, 1967. She stated that she was at the Rozier Street address on both those days and that she observed FIGGIE on both occasions at home.

On 7-17-67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY  
EA RICHARD D. PATISTE, JR.:bb Date dictated 7-13-67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 26, 1967

ROBERT ORVIL GRAHAM, 2812 Garatons, was interviewed at his residence at which time he was advised of his rights and waived them as shown on the circled warning and waiver form.

GRAHAM advised that he is currently employed as a merchant seaman. He stated that he has no regular work schedule, but is notified a few hours before he is to report for work. He stated he was home alone all day on Friday, July 14, 1967, and was also home all day on July 13, 1967. GRAHAM advised that his wife works during the day atoney and Roy's Tavern and Restaurant, 25th and Madison, Granite City, Illinois.

GRAHAM advised he owns a 1967 Chevrolet, Impala, convertible, maroon with a black top.

He advised that DENNIS PIGGIE, his son-in-law, resides at 1001 Rosier, Alton, Illinois, and is employed by Mac Donnell Aircraft, St. Louis, Missouri. GRAHAM advised that PIGGIE resides at that address with GRAHAM's daughter, BEBILIA, and with Mr. and Mrs. LESOT GRAM, mother and step-father of GRAHAM. He advised PIGGIE is in his early twenties, about 5'8", 135 pounds, not very slender.

GRAHAM advised he and his present wife, MARGARET GRAHAM nee Mathenia, operated Margies's Restaurant and Lounge, on Route 102 in Granite City, Illinois, which sold out several years ago. He stated the property was owned by his wife MARGARET and her former husband, STANLEY BAYLESKI, of Granite City, Illinois, when she divorced about eight years ago. GRAHAM stated that because of difficulties with BAYLESKI over ownership of this property, that he and his wife sold out as operators of the tavern.

He advised his former wife, WENIE, resides in Alton, Illinois, and has been married several times, since their divorce about four years ago. He advised there was bitterness between him and BAYLESKI and also bitterness between him and relatives of his former wife, WENIE. He stated he believed it was possible that BAYLESKI or one of his relatives may have made an anonymous phone call accusing him and DENNIS PIGGIE of being involved in the robbery of the First National Bank in Madison, Illinois.

On 7/27/67 at Granite City, Illinois File # SI 91-3702

by SAS JOSEPH P. EYRENS & JOHN W. LEWIS/clp Date dictated 7/21/67

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GRAHAM stated he had not been arrested in the past ten years, but had a number of arrests for fighting and disorderly conduct prior to that time. He stated that he was placed on Federal probation in 1947 at Santa Fe, New Mexico on a charge of interstate transportation of stolen motor vehicle.

GRAHAM furnished photographs of himself for display to witnesses and offered to present himself before witnesses if necessary to eliminate himself before witnesses if necessary to eliminate as a suspect.

The following description and background information was obtained through interview and observation:

Sex	Male
Race	White
Age	37
Born	November 28, 1929
Place of birth	Ironton, Missouri
Height	5'9 1/2"
Weight	165 pounds
Build	Stocky
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Medium
Scars and marks	Numerous tattoos on both arms, figures of roses tattooed on back of both left and right hands between thumb and forefinger.
Military service	U. S. Airforce, 1945-1947, He received undesirable discharge because of arrest for ITSMV violation. USAF serial no. RA 16234715
Occupation	Merchant seaman, truck driver, free-lance writer
Social Security No.	332 20 5949

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 28, 1967

Mrs. IRIS STUART, 3713 Berkeley Avenue, telephone 465-5823, furnished the following information:

At approximately 1:40 p.m., July 13, 1967, she was proceeding east on Brown Street and when approaching the intersection of Washington Street she noticed two white males appear from between two houses and proceed to cross Brown Street from the direction of the parking lot of The Bank of Alton. She stated that they crossed Brown Street in such a way that one of the men stopped directly in front of her car, causing her to bring her vehicle to a halt. She said that the man directly in front of her hastily turned towards her and looked backward in the direction of The Bank of Alton, then turned to the other man and said something which she did not hear, at which time the other man proceeded onto the sidewalk on the south side of Brown Street, after which the man directly in front of her followed. She said that they walked between the rear of the Dick & Poole Pharmacy and the house on Brown Street directly next to it and proceeded on foot in the direction of the Calvary Baptist Church parking lot.

Mrs. STUART stated that she had an excellent view of both individuals, but particularly of the man who stopped directly in front of her. She described them as follows:

Number One

Height:	5'10" - 6'0"
Weight:	150 pounds
Build:	Slender
Hair:	Dark brown or black
Age:	Middle to late 20's
Wearing Apparel:	Light grey herringbone coveralls
Characteristics:	Pock nosed; long legs; long, thin hands; prominent Adams'Apple.

Number Two

Height:	5'8"
Weight:	155-160 pounds

On 7/18/67 at Alton, Illinois File# SI 91-3699

by SA ROBERT C. HAINES /css Date dictated 7/24/67

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Age:	40-45 years
Build:	Stocky
Hair:	Russet brown; parted on left; may be dyed
Wearing Apparel:	Light grey herringbone coveralls; brown high-topped shoes, laced half-way up.
Characteristics:	Deep creases around mouth as if wearing ill-fitting dentures; light blue eyes.

Mrs. STUART stated she is positive she would recognize these men if she saw them again. She said that she would testify in Federal Court with regard to her identification, if this became necessary.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 25, 19671

Mrs. MARJORIE COX, Installment and Loan Department, First National Bank and Trust Company, provided the following information:

That bank had accepted the financing of a 1961 Rambler Ambassador, four-door, nine passenger vehicle, purchased on June 16, 1967, by RUTH A. TUCKER, 525 Miami Avenue. The amount shown on this financing agreement was \$615.75 with the first payment due July 15, 1967. The VIN shown for this vehicle is C61346G and the title number for the State of Illinois is B1320744. Background information on TUCKER provided from Mrs. COX's personal knowledge as well as bank records show the following:

Age	30 years old
Height	5'7"
Hair	Black, stringy hair
Former husband	VIRGIL E. TUCKER (divorced)

Employment for TUCKER is shown as Owens, Illinois, Illinois Glass, for a period of three weeks, and previous to that Laclade Steel for thirteen years. TUCKER's credit at the Wedge Bank and at the Alton Finance and Credit Company showed no balance owing.

On 7/19/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3639

SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY

by SA RICHARD D. WATSON, rmw/mpb Date dictated 7/20/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 21, 1967

Sergeant HAROLD COX, Alton Police Department, furnished the following information from records of his office:

DANNY RAY GRESHAM, address 1226 East Broadway, is described as follows:

Date of birth	November 11, 1943
Complexion	Ruddy
Hair	Light brown
Eyes	Blue
Alton Police Department	
Identification #	9597
<u>Arrest record</u>	

Date of arrest	Charge	Disposition
May 25, 1965	Possession of a .22 calibre semiautomatic rifle	Paid \$10.00 fine plus cost.
November 10, 1965	Suspicion stolen vehicle	Released
November 23, 1965	Disturbing the peace	No disposition shown.
January 17, 1966	Disturbing the peace	Paid \$30.00 and costs.

DAVID GRESHAM

Addresses	208 West 7th, Alton 720 Alton Street
Age	13
One complaint	lost draft card June 19, 1967.

On 7/23/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3099

by SA WILLIAM G. CORRELLY:mpb Date dictated 7/23/67

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

SI 91-3699

HENRY GRESHAM

Address 203 West 7th, Alton  
 Alton Police 4742  
 Department  
 Identification #  
 No pertinent information available.

ROBERT DALE GRESHAM

Addresses 203 West 7th, Alton  
 720 Alton Street, Alton  
 Age 18  
 Complexion Medium  
 Hair Brown  
 Eyes Green  
 Arrested February 26, 1965, for a traffic violation.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 8, 19671

A review of the files at the Alton Police Department reflected the following information concerning WILLIAM EDWARD LEE, aka "Willie". LEE has been arrested on various charges on 22 occasions since April 11, 1952. These charges included investigation for burglary, disorderly conduct, purse snatching, assault and battery, AWOL, parole violation, and larceny of a motor vehicle. He was indicted by the Grand Jury for Grand Larceny on January 20, 1957. The files revealed no convictions.

He is described as follows:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Height:	69 inches
Weight:	140 pounds
Eyes:	Hazel
Hair:	Brown
Date of Birth:	November 18, 1941
	November 13, 1940
Place of Birth:	Joliet, Illinois
Addresses:	507 Washington Avenue;
	618 Liberty Street
FBI #:	491 521 C
Alton Police Department #:	8367

On 7/23/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699by SA WILLIAM G. CONNELLY /jlh Date dictated 8/8/67

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

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 11, 1967

ELMER MUDD, 2366 Hudson Drive, St. Louis, Missouri, an employee of Burroughs Business Machine Company, 3408 Lindell Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri, furnished the following information:

Mr. MUDD stated that on July 13, 1967, he was servicing machines in the Bookkeeping Department of The Bank of Alton when one of the tellers made the statement that the bank was being robbed. He said that he thought she was joking and looked out the door leading to the main lobby of the bank and saw that LEE MAAS, a Vice-President of the bank, was standing outside the door with his hands raised. He said that almost immediately MAAS lowered his hands and came into the Bookkeeping Department to make a telephone call to the police, at which time he (MUDD) went out the side door of the bank in an effort to follow the bank robbers. Mr. MUDD said that he was met by an incoming customer, of whom he inquired concerning the men that came out of the bank, and the customer told him they had run around the corner to the rear of the bank. He said that he ran around to the rear of the bank, down the rear drive to Edwards Street, where he stood on the sidewalk and looked in both directions. He said that he saw absolutely nothing, no cars, and no pedestrians, and that he could see for at least one and one-half blocks in each direction. MUDD stated that he heard no car engines running, no tire squeals, or any other sounds to indicate anyone was making a hasty exit from the vicinity of the bank.

On 8/3/67 at Alton, Illinois File # SI 91-3699

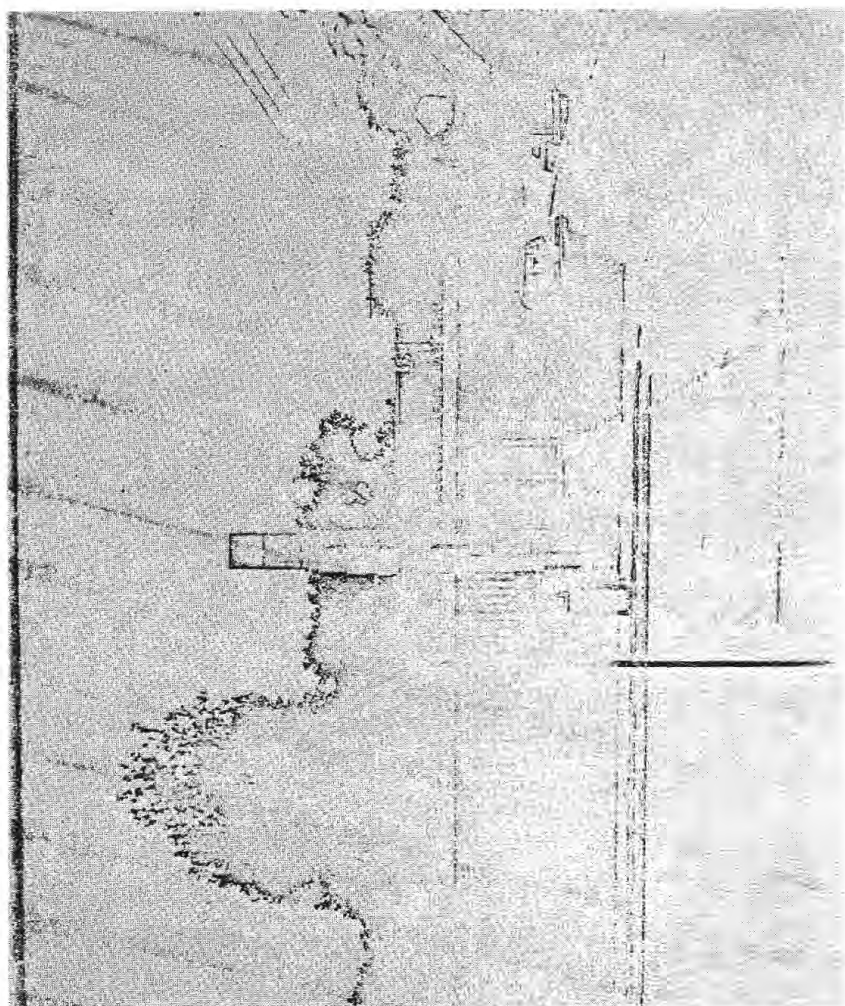
by SA ROBERT C. HAINES /css Date dictated 8/8/67

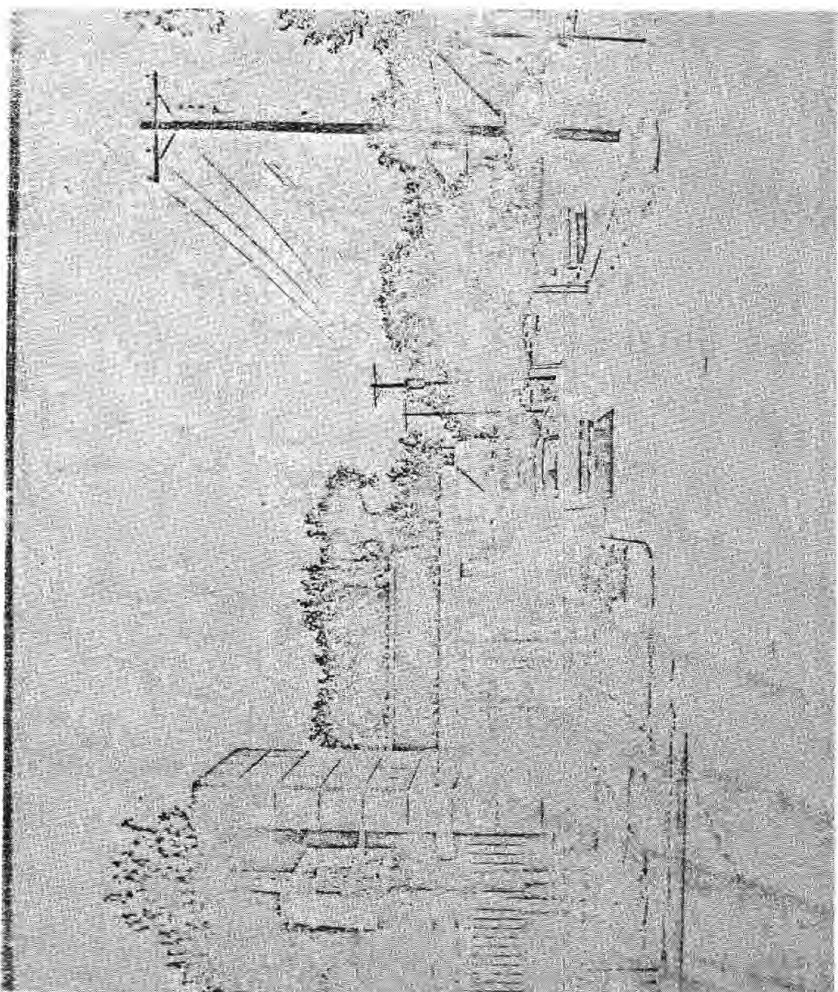
This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

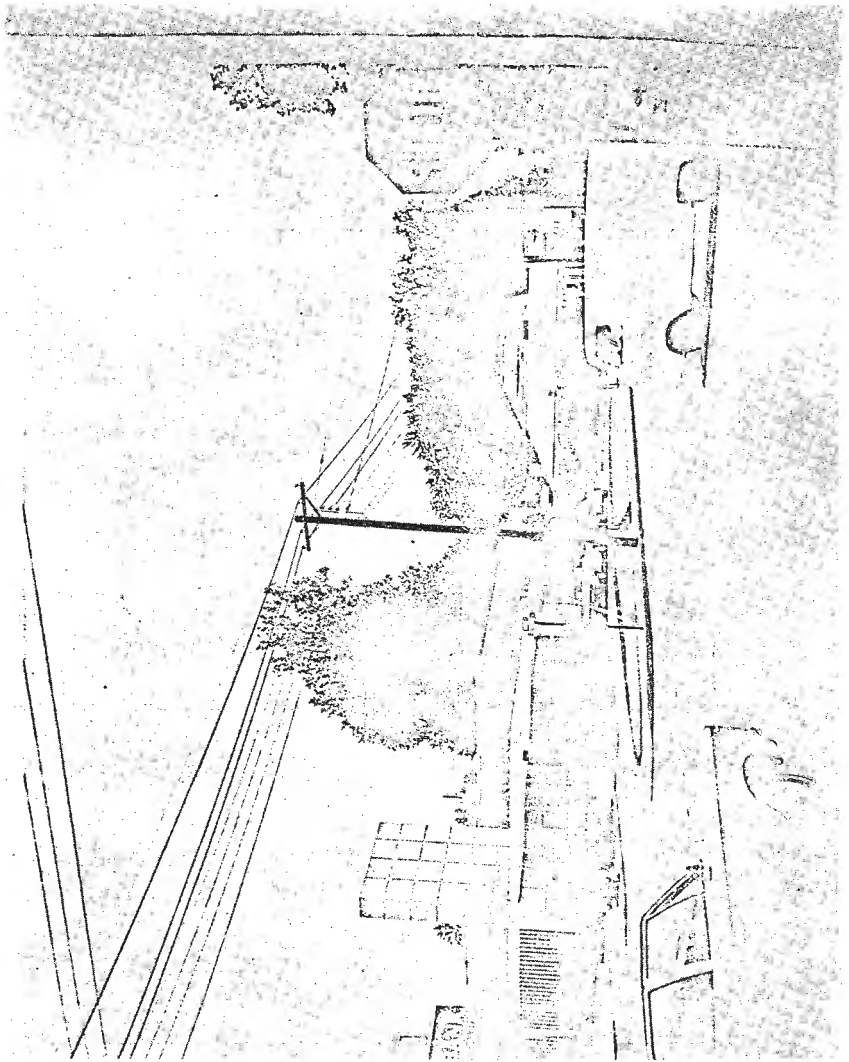
SI 91-3699

Since unknown subjects displayed a shotgun and an automatic pistol in effecting the robbery of The Bank of Alton, they should be considered Armed and Dangerous.

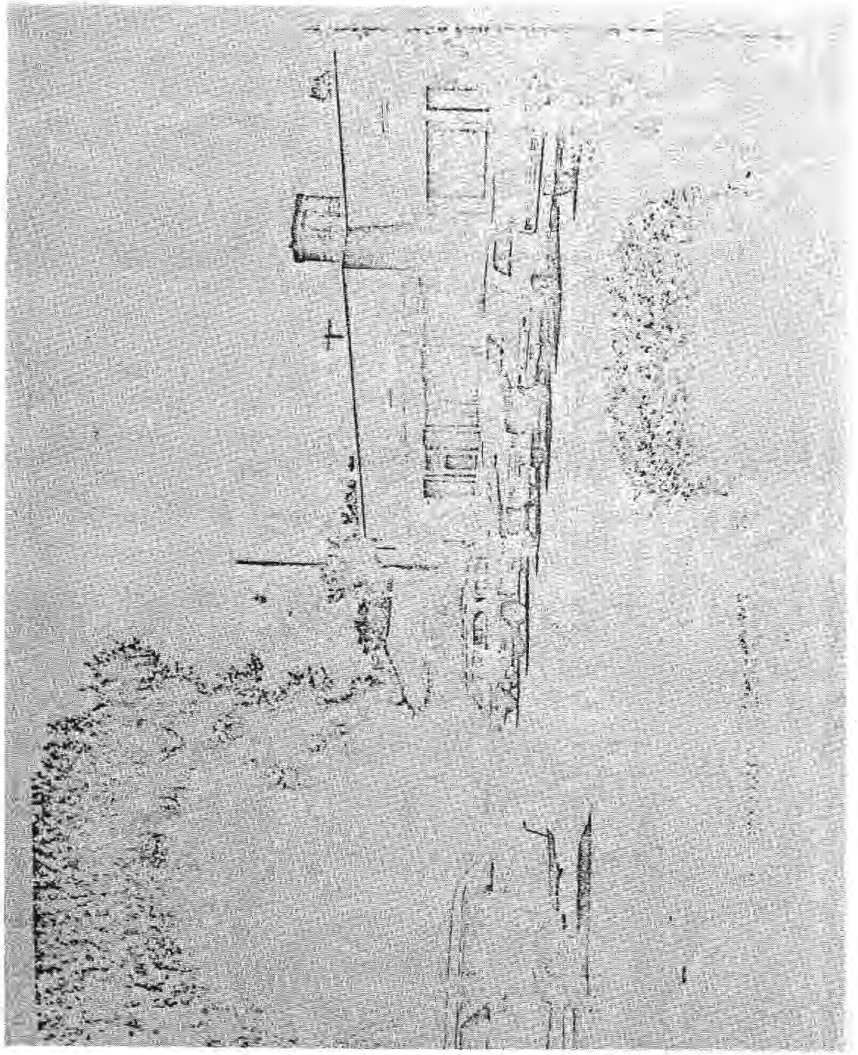
- 123\* -

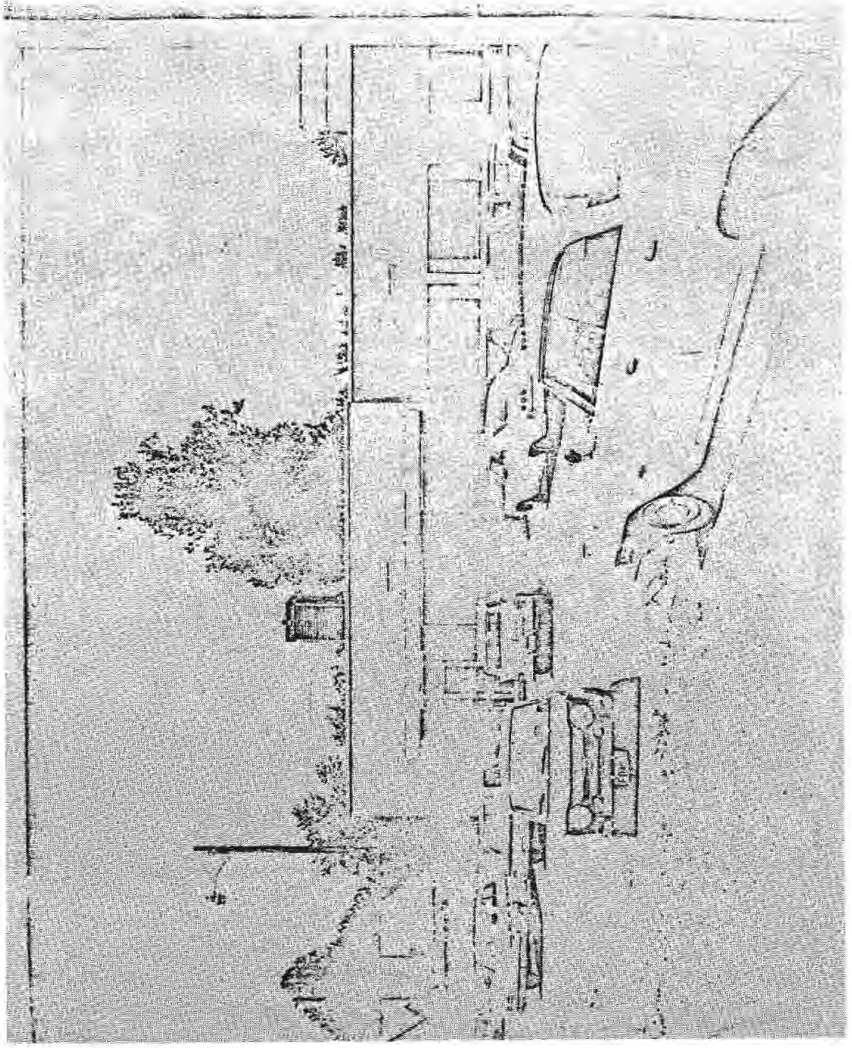


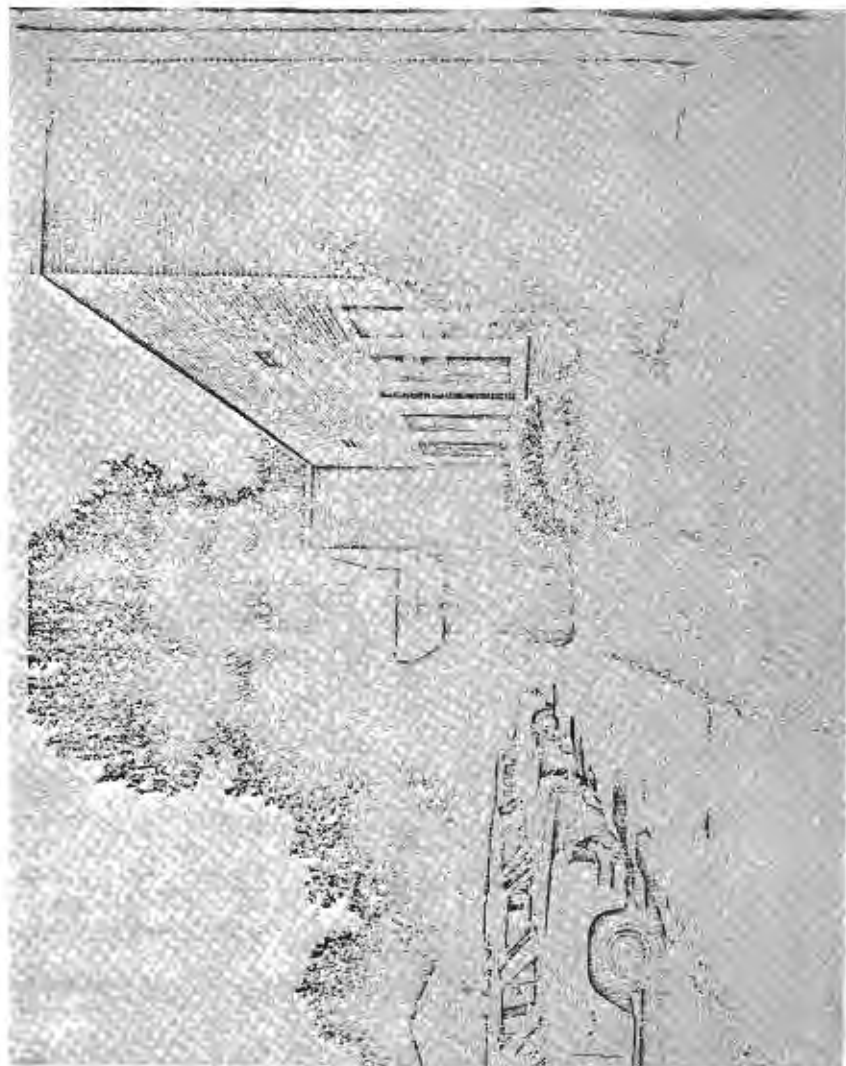












FD-203 (Rev. 12-19-67)

F-671

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	DATE <b>7/20/72</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>5/14/72 - 7/17/72</b>
TITLE OF CASE  <b>UNSUBS (2); The Bank of Alton Alton, Illinois 7/13/67</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON</b>	TYPED BY <b>jab</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>BANK ROBBERY</b>	

REFERENCE:

Springfield report of SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON dated 4/21/72.

- C -

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

The Bank of Alton was robbed at approximately 1:30 PM on the afternoon of July 13, 1967, by two unknown subjects wearing stocking masks. Subjects held employees at gun point with sawed-off shotguns and obtained \$27,230 in US currency. Bank was FDIC insured.

In the succeeding five year period, the Springfield Division has maintained close contact with law enforcement

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

APPROVED  
COPIES MADE:

*J. W. Donaldson*  
SPECIAL AGENT  
IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

- 1 - Bureau (91-27494)
- 1 - Springfield (91-3699)

91-27494-32 REC-28  
EX-114  
JUL 24 1972

Dissemination Record of Attached Report			
Agency			
Request Recd.			
Date Recd.	58	JUL 31 1972	
How fwd.			
By			

Notations

*J. W. Donaldson*  
SPECIAL AGENT  
IN CHARGE

A  
COVER PAGE

SI 91-7699

officers, informants, and have interviewed all possible suspects in connection with this robbery. No items of any evidentiary value obtained during commission of bank robbery and inasmuch as subjects wore stocking masks, facial identification was not possible. Also, it is to be noted as the five year statute of limitations toll and all logical investigation has been completed, this case is being considered closed upon the authority of the SAC.

B\*  
COVER PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	DATE <b>4/21/72</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>3/3/72 - 4/17/72</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>UNSUBS (2); The Bank of Alton Alton, Illinois 7/13/67</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON</b>	TYPED BY <b>jro</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>BR</b>	

REFERENCE: Springfield report of SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON, 2/25/72.

-P-

LEADS:

SPRINGFIELD DIVISION

At Alton, Illinois

Will continue to maintain contact with Detective Lieutenant DONALD SANDIDGE and Detective HAROLD "BUD" GALLOWAY for any possible suspects that department might develop in captioned robbery.

At Maryville, Illinois

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		
							PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED				SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE:						71-27494-31310	
① Bureau (91-27494)						6 APR 24 1972	
2 - Springfield (91-3699)						SE-111	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations	
Agency						<i>RE STATION</i>	
Request Recd.							
Date Fwd.							
How Fwd.							
By							

COVER PAGE

SI 91-3699

Will maintain contact with Detective Lieutenant  
JULE LUBER, District 11, Detachment 25, Illinois State Police,  
for any possible suspects he may develop in captioned matter.

-B\*-  
COVER PAGE

FD-202 (Rev. 12-19-67)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	DATE <b>2/25/72</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>1/10/72 - 2/10/72</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>UNSUBS (2); The Bank of Alton Alton, Illinois 7/13/67</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON</b>	TYPED BY <b>vh</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>BANK ROBBERY</b>	

REFERENCE:

Springfield report of SA JOSEPH P. BENSON dated 12/20/71,  
St. Louis letter to Springfield dated 1/28/72,  
Denver letter to Springfield dated 2/14/72.

-P-

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Copies being furnished St. Louis Division due to pending investigation in that division.

LEADS: SPRINGFIELD DIVISIONAT ALTON, ILLINOIS

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:		
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		PENDING OVER ONE YEAR	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
							PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE				DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW				
COPIES MADE					71-27474		30	REC-109	
1 - Bureau (91-27494)					15 FEB 28 1972				
2 - St. Louis (91-3877)									
2 - Springfield (91-3699)									
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations			
Agency									
Request Recd.									
Date Fwd.									
How Fwd.									
By									

-A-

MAR 6 1972

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GPO : 1969 O - 277-713



SI 91-3699

Will continue to maintain contact with Alton, Illinois Police Department for any information concerning possible suspects in this matter.

AT BETHALTO, ILLINOIS

Will attempt to locate and interview GARY VANDERGRIF, for any information he may possess concerning his participation in or knowledge of captioned bank robbery.

AT CHESTER, ILLINOIS

Will interview inmate RONALD LEE OGDEN, Illinois State Penitentiary, Menard, regarding any information he may possess concerning bank robbery.

FD-203 (Rev. 12-19-67)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SPRINGFIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN SPRINGFIELD	DATE 12/20/71	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 10/13/71 - 12/10,
TITLE OF CASE  UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2); The Bank of Alton Alton, Illinois 7/13/67		REPORT MADE BY SA JOSEPH P. BENSON	TYPED BY kks
		CHARACTER OF CASE  BR	

REFERENCE:

Springfield report of SA JOSEPH P. BENSON dated 10/27/71;  
St. Louis letter to Springfield dated 11/30/71 (IO);  
Springfield letter to Denver dated 12/16/71 (IO).

-P-

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

The period of this report precedes the date of referenced report since results of investigation incorporated in current report were not received at date of dictation.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO			
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES						
APPROVED						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE			DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW		
COPIES MADE:									11-27477	29	REC 16
① Bureau (91-27494)									18 DEC 22 1971	EX-101	
2 - Springfield (91-3699)											
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations					
Agency						B-7 - SECT.					
Original Recd.											
Date Fwd.						57 DEC 29 1971					
How Fwd.											

-A-  
COVER PAGE

GPO : 1968 O - 270-793

SI 91-3699

Referenced St. Louis letter to Springfield sets forth lead for St. Louis to interview suspect RALPH PAGE after disposition of local robbery charge against PAGE.

Referenced Springfield letter to Denver sets forth lead for Denver to interview HARRY J. VANDERGRIF.

LEADS:      SPRINGFIELD DIVISION

AT ALTON, ILLINOIS

Will maintain contact with Alton Police Department and other law enforcement agencies for any information of value pertaining to this case.

AT O'FALLON, ILLINOIS

Will interview GARY VANDERGRIF for any information regarding captioned bank robbery.

AT CHESTER, ILLINOIS

Will interview RONALD LEE OGDEN, an inmate of Illinois State Penitentiary, regarding any information he may have regarding captioned bank robbery. It being noted that his former wife indicated he was closely associated with suspects in this case.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SPRINGFIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN SPRINGFIELD	DATE 10/27/71	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 8/4/71 - 10/14/71
TITLE OF CASE UNSUBS (2); The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois 7/13/67		REPORT MADE BY SA JOSEPH P. BENSON	TYPED BY jao
		CHARACTER OF CASE  BR	

REFERENCE: Springfield report of SA JOSEPH P. BENSON, 7/24/71.  
Los Angeles letter to Springfield, 7/29/71 (10).  
Springfield letter to St. Louis, 9/29/71.  
Indianapolis letter to Springfield, 10/4/71.  
Cincinnati letter to Springfield, 10/13/71. *K*

-P-

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Referenced Springfield letter to St. Louis set forth lead for the St. Louis office to locate and interview RALPH PAGE as a possible suspect in captioned bank robbery.

LEADS:SPRINGFIELD DIVISION

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					NONE		ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:	
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES	PENDING OVER ONE YEAR		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
						PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	
APPROVED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE				DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW				
COPIES MADE:					71-100-28		REC-2		
1 - BUREAU (91-27494)					16 OCT 29 1971		EX-112		
2 - SPRINGFIELD (91-3699)					STAT SECT.				
Dissemination Record of Attached Report					Notations				
Agency									
Request Recd.									
Date Fwd.	11/4								
How Impl.	91-27494	971							

SI 91-3699

At Alton, Illinois

Will recontact Mrs. ESTHER SOTO, 511 State Street, to determine the present whereabouts of her daughter, PAT SOTO.

Will maintain contact with Alton PD and other law enforcement agencies for information of value pertaining to this case.

At Cottage Hills, Illinois

Will identify brother of BOB VANDERGRIF, a Cottage Hills insurance agent, and interview regarding information he may have set up captioned bank robbery.

-B\*-  
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FD-203 (Rev. 12-19-67)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	DATE <b>7/24/71</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>5/27/71 - 7/19/71</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>UNSUBS (2); The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, 7/13/67</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA JOSEPH P. BENSON</b>	TYPED BY <b>lsb</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>BR</b>	

REFERENCE:

Springfield report of SA JOSEPH P. BENSON dated 3/22/71, Springfield report of SA JOSEPH P. BENSON dated 5/18/71, Springfield letter to Indianapolis 7/24/71, and Springfield letter to Cincinnati 7/24/71.

- P -

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Referenced letter to Indianapolis requested that Indianapolis locate and interview PAT SOTO at Elkhart, Indiana, regarding knowledge she may have regarding captioned bank robbery.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:	
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES	PENDING OVER ONE YEAR		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
								PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE:								7-27	REC-73
① - Bureau (91-27494)								JUL 28 1971	EX-105
2 - Springfield (91-3699)									
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations			
Agency						SIX STAT SECT.			
First Recd.									
Date Fwd.									
Fwd.									
6 AUG 1971									

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GPO : 1969 O - 211-011

SI 91-3699

Referenced Cincinnati letter requested that JO SPARROWK be interviewed at the Ohio State Penitentiary, Columbus, Ohio, regarding any knowledge he may have regarding captioned bank robbery.

LEAD:        SPRINGFIELD DIVISION

AT ALTON, ILLINOIS:

Will maintain contact with the Alton Police Department and other area law enforcement agencies for any information of value pertaining to this case.

AT COTTAGE HILLS, ILLINOIS:

Will identify brother of BOB VANDERGRUFF, a Cottage Hills insurance agent, and interview regarding information he may have set up captioned bank robbery.

AT VANDALIA, ILLINOIS:

Will interview RALPH PAGE at the Illinois State Farm concerning his alleged participation in captioned bank robbery.

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COVER PAGE

FD-204 (Rev. 12-19-67)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	DATE <b>5/18/71</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>3/30/71 - 5/6/71</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>UNSUBS (2); The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois 7/13/67</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA JOSEPH P. BENSON</b>	TYPED BY <b>vh</b>
CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>BR</b>			

REFERENCE:

Report of SA JOSEPH P. BENSON dated 3/22/71 at Springfield.

-P-

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

By letter dated 5/17/71, Los Angeles was requested to conduct investigation at Van Nuys, California to determine if there was any record of JOHN MC CLINTOCK having appeared in Los Angeles County Traffic Court on 7/13/67. ck

No leads have been set forth regarding information from CHARLES WILLIAM BAZE being employed in California, since prior investigation definitely determined that he was in Alton, Illinois on the day of the bank robbery.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:  PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		
APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
COPIES MADE: <b>1 - Bureau (91-27494)</b> <b>2 - Springfield (91-3699)</b>						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW  <b>91-27494-26</b> <b>REC-52</b>  <b>29 MAY 21 1971</b>  <b>EX-112</b>	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations  <b>EX-112</b> <b>REC-52</b>	
Agency							
Request Recd.							
Date Fwd.							
How Fwd.							

**5 MAY 26 1971**  
**NOV 2 1971**

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SI 91-3699

LEADS:      SPRINGFIELD DIVISIONAT ALTON, ILLINOIS

Will continue efforts to locate PAT SOTO, JO ANN JOHNSON, and HILDA RHOADES in the Alton area.

Will maintain contact with the Alton, Illinois Police Department and other area law enforcement agencies for any information of value pertaining to this case.

AT EAST ST. LOUIS, ILLINOIS

Will contact the General Services Administration to determine if there is any record of LOUIS EUGENE CARTER having been employed at the Federal Building at East St. Louis, Illinois on 7/13/67.

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COVER PAGE

Rev. 12-19-67

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SPRINGFIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN SPRINGFIELD	DATE 3/22/71	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 11/30/70 - 3/16/71
TITLE OF CASE UNSUBS (2); The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, 7/13/67		REPORT MADE BY SA JOSEPH P. BENSON	TYPED BY jac
		CHARACTER OF CASE  BR	

**REFERENCE:** Springfield report of SA JOSEPH P. BENSON, 11/4/70.  
Springfield letter to St. Louis, 12/17/70 (IO).  
St. Louis letter to Springfield, 2/26/71 (IO).

-P-

LEADS:

SPRINGFIELD DIVISION  
At Alton, Illinois

1) Will contact ESTHER SOTO, 511 State Street, mother of PAT SOTO, in an effort to arrange to interview SOTO when she returns to the Alton area. It is noted that SOTO moves frequently. If it is determined she is permanently established in Elkhart, Indiana, will set forth leads for

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:	
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
								PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
APPROVED						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE:								11	25
① - Bureau (91-27494)								REC-83	
2 - Springfield (91-3699)								EX 101	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations			
Agency						STAT/SECT.			
Request Recd.									
Date Fwd.									
How Fwd.									
By	024675 1971								

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SI 91-3699

Indianapolis to interview her.

- 2) Will locate and interview JO ANN JOHNSON, 714 Elfgan.
- 3) Will locate and interview HILDA RHOADES.
- 4) Will maintain contact with Alton PD and other area law enforcement agencies for any information of value coming to their attention in this matter.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

On 11/30/70,  *Informant* advised SA ROBERT C. HAINES that JO ANN JOHNSON was employed as a go-go dancer at the Trolle Lounge in St. Louis, Missouri. Lead was set forth for St. Louis in referenced Springfield letter to locate and interview JOHNSON.

The following investigation was conducted by SA ROBERT C. HAINES: *Informants*

On 2/11/71 and 3/11/71,  were contacted concerning their knowledge of PAT SOTO and HILDA RHOADES. Both advised that they understood that HILDA RHOADES had left the area and they had thus far been unable to develop information concerning her current whereabouts or activities. Informants further advised PAT SOTO has also left the Alton area and that she is believed to be in the vicinity of Gary, Indiana, however, they were unable to develop information concerning the exact whereabouts of PAT SOTO.

FD-204 (Rev. 12-19-67)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SPRINGFIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN SPRINGFIELD	DATE 11/4/70	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 8/11/70 - 11/2/70
TITLE OF CASE UNSUBS (2); The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois 7/13/67		REPORT MADE BY SA JOSEPH P. BENSON	TYPED BY bjl
		CHARACTER OF CASE BR	

REFERENCE:


Springfield report of SA GERALD W. DONALDSON dated 7/23/70.

-P-

LEADS: SPRINGFIELD DIVISIONAT ALTON, ILLINOIS

Will locate and interview the following regarding any knowledge they may have regarding captioned matter: HILDA RHOADES, PAT BOTO, and JO ANN JOHNSON. pg

Will maintain contact with Alton PD for any information of value coming to the attention of the PD in this matter.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:		
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES	PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO			PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
APPROVED 						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE			DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE:									91-27494-24	
0 - Bureau (91-27494)									REC-33	
2 - Springfield (91-3699)									ST-116	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations			NOV 9 1970	
Agency						STAT				
Request Recd.						STAT				
Date Fwd.						STAT				
How Fwd.						STAT				
						STAT				

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GPO : 1968 O - 274-255

SI 91-3699

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

*Informant* Review of file in this matter reflected information that [redacted] on 8/7/67 advised SA ROBERT C. HAINES that the following were involved in captioned bank robbery: JOHN MC CLINTOCK, LOUIS CARTER, RALPH PAGE, and CHUCK BAZE. The informant advised that CARTER'S wife, RITA, worked at the Bank of Alton, and that the subjects had gone to California after the bank robbery. *Informant*

[redacted] who is presently confined in the Illinois State Penitentiary, advised SA JOSEPH P. BENSON on 9/29/70 that his source of the above information was HILDA, a barmaid at Phil's Tavern in Wood River, Illinois. The informant advised that he overheard HILDA make remarks in this regard to his, the informant's, wife.

On 11/2/70 it was determined through contact with PHIL STASSI, Owner of Phil's Tavern, Wood River, Illinois, that HILDA is HILDA RHOADES, nee Ivester. Further investigation established that she is the former girlfriend of JIMMY JOE WHITE, an associate of MC CLINTOCK. Efforts to locate HILDA RHOADES on 11/2/70 by SA's JOSEPH P. BENSON and ROBERT C. HAINES met with negative results.

*Informant*  
[redacted] in August, 1968, advised SA HAINES that JOHN MC CLINTOCK, HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON, and DELMAR GRINDSTAFF had planned to rob the Bank of Alton, that MC CLINTOCK was to be the wheelman, and that GRINDSTAFF and COVINGTON had robbed the bank and met MC CLINTOCK, who used a 1953 Buick as the getaway car. The informant indicated they changed to a 1957 Plymouth and later drove the 1953 Buick to Missouri and pushed it into a stone quarry. *Informant*

[redacted] was recontacted by SA HAINES in October, 1970, and advised that the source of this information was CAROLINE WYATT, MC CLINTOCK'S sister-in-law, and PAT SOTO, a barmaid who frequented the Pioneer Club which was also frequented by MC CLINTOCK and his associates. It was determined that CAROLINE WYATT is deceased. Attempts to locate PAT SOTO by SA's JOSEPH P. BENSON and ROBERT C. HAINES on 11/2/70 met with negative results.

SI 91-3699

*Informant*

On 10/13/70 ~~██████████~~ former PCI who has furnished both reliable and unreliable information in the past, advised SA JOSEPH P. BENSON that JOHN MC CLINTOCK and HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON had robbed the Bank of Alton. He stated he had been present when MC CLINTOCK and COVINGTON were discussing the robbery and COVINGTON stated he had been in on the job and his car had been used. FAULKNER stated that he did not actually hear MC CLINTOCK make any admissions as to participation in the robbery.

Information is set forth in the details of the report regarding the fact that JO ANN JOHNSON had indicated that LOUIS CARTER and JOHN MC CLINTOCK were two of the men involved in the robbery of the Bank of Alton in 1967. This information was received by Detective Sergeant DONALD SANDIDGE, Alton Police Department, from DICK LARA, a bartender at the Red Garter, Alton, Illinois. LARA contacted SANDIDGE and advised that JOHNSON had a few too many drinks and made a statement that she knew who robbed the Bank of Alton. SANDIDGE contacted LARA on 10/1/70 and suggested names of possible suspects and on 10/2/70 LARA contacted the Alton Police Department and stated that JOHNSON said that LOUIS CARTER and JOHN MC CLINTOCK were two of the men involved. At the time of the robbery, JOHNSON, nee Wilson, was employed as a go-go dancer at the Pioneer Tavern, Alton, Illinois, which was frequented by CARTER and MC CLINTOCK. SANDIDGE

SANDIDGE indicated that LARA desired that his name be kept confidential.

-C\*-

COVER PAGE

FD-204 (Rev. 7-3-67)

7074

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	DATE <b>7/23/70</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>4/20 - 7/6/70</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>UNSUBS (2); The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois 7/13/67</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON</b>	TYPED BY <b>vh</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>BR</b>	

REFERENCE:

Springfield report of SA H. MAX LOUDERMAN dated 4/24/70.

-P-

LEADS: SPRINGFIELD DIVISION

AT ALTON, ILLINOIS

Will maintain contact with bank officials, law enforcement officers, and sources in the Alton, Illinois area in an effort to develop new information concerning captioned robbery.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					NONE		ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:	
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES	PENDING OVER ONE YEAR		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
							PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
APPROVED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE				DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW				
① - Bureau (91-27494) 2 - Springfield (91-3699)					11 / 11 / 23 25 JUL 27 1970 REC-86 ST-100				
Dissemination Record of Attached Report					Notations				
Agency					SIX STAT. SECT.				
Request Recd.									
Date Fwd.									
By Fwd.									

5 AUG 5 1970

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FD-302 (Rev. 12-19-67)

15-20

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SPRINGFIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN SPRINGFIELD	DATE 4/24/70	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 3/6-26/70
TITLE OF CASE UNSUBS (2); The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois 7/13/67		REPORT MADE BY SA H. MAX LOUDERMAN	TYPED BY ral
		CHARACTER OF CASE BR	

REFERENCE: Report of SA ROBERT C. HAINES, 2/27/70.

- P -

LEADS: SPRINGFIELD DIVISION

At Alton, Illinois

Maintain contact with bank officials, police officers and informants in the Alton, Illinois area in effort to identify unknown subjects involved in this matter.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA: *Informants*

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ were contacted on 3/26/70, regarding this matter, but could furnish nothing of a helpful nature. 4

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

APPROVED *JHF/cey* SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

COPIES MADE:  
① - Bureau (91-27494)  
2 - Springfield (91-3699)

11	22	REC-34
17 APR 30 1970		

Agency	Request Recd.	Date Fwd.	How Fwd.	By

Notations  
*STY. SECT.*

APR 24 1970

- A\* -

GPO 1969 O-374-001



FD-203 (Rev. 3-8-57)

487

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SPRINGFIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN SPRINGFIELD	DATE 2/27/70	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 1/12/70 - 2/18/70
TITLE OF CASE UNSUBS (2), The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois 7/13/67		REPORT MADE BY SA ROBERT C. HAINES	TYPED BY
		CHARACTER OF CASE  BR	

REFERENCE:

Springfield report of SA ROBERT C. HAINES dated 12/30/69.

- P -

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:*Informant*

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ contacted between 1/12/70 and 2/3/70, could provide no current or additional information which would be of value in this matter.

LEADS:      SPRINGFIELD DIVISION

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:			
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		PENDING OVER ONE YEAR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		
							PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		
APPROVED						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE			DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE:									91-27494-21	
① - Bureau (91-27494)									REC-64	
2 - Springfield (91-3699)									16 MAR 4 1970	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations				
Agency						SIX SECT. SECT.				
Request Recd.										
Date Fwd.										
How Fwd.										

MAR 11 1970

SY 91-3699

At Alton, Illinois

Will maintain contact with bank officials, police agencies and informants in order to develop current or additional information in this matter.

- B\* -  
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FD-263 (Rev. 12-19-67)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SPRINGFIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN SPRINGFIELD	DATE 12/30/69	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 11/10/69 - 12/17/69
TITLE OF CASE UNSUBS (2), The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois 7/13/67		REPORT MADE BY SA ROBERT C. HAINES	TYPED BY ral
		CHARACTER OF CASE BR	

REFERENCES: Springfield report of SA ROBERT C. HAINES dated 10/31/69.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

*Informant*  
[REDACTED]  
have been contacted during the investigative period set forth above concerning instant BR and have advised that they have been unable to develop any further positive information concerning suspects in this matter.

*Informant*  
[REDACTED] advised on 12/17/69, [REDACTED] JOHN MC CLINTOCK, a suspect in this matter, is not currently in the Alton, Illinois area and she is not aware of his whereabouts. [REDACTED] stated that should she hear from her son, she would contact this Bureau promptly in order that he could be re-interviewed as a suspect in this matter.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		
APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: ① - Bureau (91-27494) 2 - Springfield (91-3699)						91-27494-20 REC-55	
						JAN 2 1970 EXTRA	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations	
Agency						<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>	
Request Recd.							
Date Fwd.							
By Fwd.							

69 JAN 2 1970

- A -  
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GPO : 1964 O - 222-122

SI 91-3699

LEADS:     SPRINGFIELD DIVISIONAt Alton, Illinois

Will maintain contact with bank officials, police agencies and informants in an effort to develop positive information in this matter.

- B\* -  
- COVER PAGE -

*1/14/69*

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	DATE <b>10/31/69</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>8/27/69 - 10/20/69</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>UNSUBS (2); THE BANK OF ALTON ALTON, ILLINOIS 7/13/67</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA ROBERT C. HAINES</b>	TYPED BY <b>par</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>BANK ROBBERY</b>	

**REFERENCE:**

Springfield report of SA ROBERT C. HAINES dated 8/29/69.  
Chicago letter to Springfield dated 8/28/69.

- P -

**ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:**

*Informants*

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ have been contacted on a regular basis concerning this matter and have been unable to provide any positive information. #

**LEADS: SPRINGFIELD DIVISION****AT ALTON, ILLINOIS**

Will contact Lieutenant Robert Churchich, Alton, Illinois

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED				NONE		ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
INVIC	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		
APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: ① - Bureau (91-27494) ② - Springfield (91-3699)						11- 747-1-19	REC-82
						15 NOV 4 1969	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations	
REC'D						<i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT	
Dist Recd.							
NOV 15 1969							

SI 91-3699

Police Department for information concerning possible identity of (FNU) CRAIN, who was reportedly acting in a suspicious manner as set out in referenced report.

Will maintain contact with informants, police agencies, and bank officials in an effort to develop current or additional information in this matter.

- B\* -

FD-204 (Rev. 5-22-64)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	DATE <b>8/29/69</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>6/12/69 - 8/22/69</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>UNSUBS (2); THE BANK OF ALTON ALTON, ILLINOIS 7/13/67</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA ROBERT C. HAINES</b>	TYPED BY <b>mpb</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>BANK ROBBERY</b>	

REFERENCES:

Springfield report of SA ROBERT C. HAINES 6/20/69.  
Chicago letter to Springfield 6/18/69 (10).

- P -

LEADS:CHICAGO DIVISION

At La Grange, Illinois

An information copy of this report is furnished  
Chicago in view of pending investigation at La Grange.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						ACQUIT- TALS.	CASE HAS BEEN:				
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		PENDING OVER ONE YEAR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO			
							PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO			
APPROVED						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE			DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW		
COPIES MADE:						71-1111-18			REC-73 EX-104		
1 - Bureau (91-27494)						3 SEP 2 1969					
1 - Chicago (91-5375) (info)											
2 - Springfield (91-3699)											
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations			STAT. SECT.		
Agency											
Request Recd.											
Date Fwd.											
By Fwd.											

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SI 91-3699  
(LEADS CONTINUED)

SPRINGFIELD DIVISION

At Alton, Illinois

Will establish identity of FNU CRAIN; determine background and whereabouts on 7/13/67.

Will maintain contact with informants, police agencies and bank officials in an effort to develop current or additional information in this matter.

- B\* -  
- COVER PAGE -



FD-204 (Rev. 12-13-56)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORT MADE AT SPRINGFIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN SPRINGFIELD	DATE 6/20/69	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 5/5/69 - 6/13/69
TITLE OF CASE BURFORD (2); THE BANK OF ALTON, ALTON, ILLINOIS 7/13/67		REPORT MADE BY FA ROBERT C. HAINES	TYPED BY vh
		CHARACTER OF CASE  BR	

REFERENCE:

Springfield report of FA ROBERT C. HAINES dated 4/24/69.

-P-

LEADS: CHICAGO DIVISION

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

An information copy of this report is designated for Chicago since that office has a pending investigation in this matter.

SPRINGFIELD DIVISION

AT ALTON, ILLINOIS

Will maintain contact with police agencies, informants and

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

APPROVED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: ① - Bureau (91-27494) 1 - Chicago (Info) 2 - Springfield (91-3699)		JUN 20 1969	REG 45 117

Dissemination Record of Attached Report					Notations  6 STATE SECT.
Agency					
Request Recd.					
Date Fwd.					
How Fwd.					

55 JUN 30 1969

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SI 91-3699

bank officials for current or additional information or for information concerning possible suspects in this matter.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

During the course of this investigation, the following listed informants have been contacted on a regular basis and during the most recent contact advised that no current or additional information has come to their attention concerning possible suspects in this matter other than those previously reported.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

*Informants*

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SPRINGFIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN SPRINGFIELD	DATE 4/24/69	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 2/24/69 - 4/18/69
TITLE OF CASE UNSUBS (2); The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois 7/13/67		REPORT MADE BY SA ROBERT C. HAINES	TYPED BY mpb
		CHARACTER OF CASE  BR	

REFERENCES:

Springfield report of SA ROBERT C. HAINES 2/27/69.  
St. Louis letter to Springfield 2/26/69.

- P -

LEADS:CHICAGO DIVISION

At Joliet, Illinois

Will contact officials at American Institute of Laundering, Joliet, to determine if they recognize laundry marks appearing in indelible ink in trouser pockets of clothing recovered subsequent to bank robbery, which notation is "3107-3".

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:		
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		
							PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		
APPROVED						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE:						11-2777-16		REC-31	
1 - Bureau (91-27494)						APR 28 1969			
2 - Chicago									
2 - Springfield (91-3699)									
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations			
Agency						BB			
Request Recd.									
Date Fwd.									
How Fwd.									
APR 2 1969									
- A -									
COVER PAGE									

SI 91-3699  
(LEADS CONTINUED)

SPRINGFIELD DIVISION

At Alton, Illinois

Will maintain contact with police agencies, informants, and bank officials for current or additional information in this matter.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

During the course of this investigation and most recently on 4/9/69, the following listed informants were contacted and could provide no current or additional information concerning captioned matter:



*Informants*

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	DATE <b>2/27/69</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>1/15-2/24/69</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>UNSUBS (2); The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois 7/13/67</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA ROBERT C. HAINES</b>	TYPED BY <b>dm</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>BR</b>	

REFERENCE:


Springfield report of SA ROBERT C. HAINES, 12/31/68.

- P -

LEADS:ST. LOUIS DIVISIONAT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

An information copy of this report is designated for St. Louis in view of pending investigation in that division.

SPRINGFIELD DIVISION

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:	
ONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		PENDING OVER ONE YEAR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
							PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW		
COPIES MADE:						91-27494-15		
1 - Bureau (91-27494)						REC-12		
1 - St. Louis (INFO) (91-3877)						FEB 28 1969		
2 - Springfield (91-3699)								
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations		
Copy								
Dist. Recd.								
Dist. As								
Dist. MAR 11 1969								

SI 91-3699

LEADS CONTINUED:AT ALTON, ILLINOIS*Informant*

Will maintain contact with [redacted] regarding information set forth below.

Will attempt to verify information independently by contacting police agencies and informants.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:*Informant*

On 2/13/69, [redacted] advised that he has continued to make inquiry in a discreet fashion concerning captioned matter. He stated that he believes from information he has been able to develop over the recent past that suspects DELMAR GRINDSTAFF, JOHN MC CLINTOCK and HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON are involved in some manner with the robbery of the Bank of Alton on 7/13/67. He said further that RALPH PAGE and LEON KOHLER, both of whom are known to local police agencies, are also believed to have pertinent knowledge and very likely are involved in instant robbery. Informant went on to say that KOHLER has been the ring leader of a burglary ring operating in southwest Illinois as well as the Greater St. Louis, Missouri, area, and has been involved in fencing stolen merchandise of burglars from the area.

He stated further that KOHLER posts bond for the burglars when they are apprehended by local police agencies and always seems to have a great deal of money available for this purpose; in fact, more than would be required or expected from the fruits of the burglary. He stated that KOHLER is closely associated with a "politician" named JACK MC GRATH, who resides in Granite City and has been active in local politics in that area. He said that MC GRATH wields a great deal of influence among the political hierarchy of Madison County and is able to use his influence to have burglary cases reduced or dismissed.

Informant said that for this reason and based upon information he has developed recently, he feels that this burglary ring is involved or has knowledge of the identity of unsubs in this matter.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	DATE <b>12/31/68</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>10/17/68 - 12/18/68</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>UNSUBS (2); The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois 7/13/67</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA ROBERT C. HAINES</b>	TYPED BY <b>jah</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>BR</b>	

REFERENCES:

Springfield report of SA ROBERT C. HAINES dated 11/4/68  
Chicago letter to Springfield dated 10/30/68.

- P -

LEADS:

ST. LOUIS DIVISION

At St. Louis, Missouri

Will contact officials at Excelsior-Leader Launderers to determine if they recognized laundry marks appearing on white shirt or if indelible notation "3107-3" in trouser pocket is known to them.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS		
						PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED <i>RC/SMB</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: 1 - Bureau (91-27494) 2 - St. Louis (91-3877) 2 - Springfield (91-3699)		91-27494-14 10 JAN 3 1969	REC 93

Dissemination Record of Attached Report				Notations
Agency	Request Recd.	Date Fwd.	Remarks	
				- A - - COVER PAGE -

*ST. LOUIS SECT.*

SI 91-3699

SPRINGFIELD DIVISIONAt Alton, Illinois

Will upon receipt of information from above lead, consider feasibility of contacting publishers of "Dry Cleaning World" and American Dry Cleaner" with request to publish information regarding laundry and dry cleaning marks.

Will maintain contact with bank officials, police agencies, and informants for current or additional information in this matter.

Will initiate necessary background investigation regarding suspect JERALD SWETLAND.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:*Informants*

~~Informants~~ have been contacted on a regular basis. On each contact, instant BR is discussed, however, they have been unable to provide any additional information to that already reported.



FD-204 (Rev. 3-8-67)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SPRINGFIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN SPRINGFIELD	DATE 10/4/68	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 8/28; 10/24/68
TITLE OF CASE UNSUBS (2); The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, 7/13/67		REPORT MADE BY SA ROBERT C. HAINES	TYPED BY BLH
		CHARACTER OF CASE  BR	

REFERENCES Springfield rpt. of SA ROBERT C. HAINES dated 8/26/68.  
St. Louis let to Springfield dated 9/25/68.

- P -

LEADS SPRINGFIELD DIVISION

AT CAHOKIA, ILLINOIS:

Will contact Cahokia Cleaners and attempt to identify customer "JOH" whose laundry mark is believed to have originated with that firm.

AT ALTON, ILLINOIS:

Will maintain contact with police agencies, bank officials and informants in order to develop further information concerning Unsubs.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CRIM.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS		
						PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE				DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE:	10				11-13	REC 58
1 - Bureau (91-27494)					NOV 6 1968	
3 - Springfield (91-3699)						
Dissemination Record of Attached Report					Notations	
Exec					COVER PAGE	
Asst. Dir.						
Ident.						
Files						

SI 91-3699

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Investigation in this matter has been conducted on virtually a daily basis in order to correlate investigation in instant BR with the Murkin case.

*Subornants*  
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] have been continuously contacted and results reported to the Bureau in the form of a weekly summary airtel. No substantial new information has been received since submission of rerep concerning possible suspects in this matter.

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Routing Slip  
FD-4 (Rev. 6-14-66)Date 11/5/68.

To:

 Director  
Att.: (91-27494)FILE SI 91-3699Title UNSUBS (2); The Bank  
of Alton, Alton, Ill.  
7/13/67  
BR SAC \_\_\_\_\_ ASAC \_\_\_\_\_ Supv. \_\_\_\_\_ Agent \_\_\_\_\_ SE \_\_\_\_\_ IC \_\_\_\_\_ CC \_\_\_\_\_ Steno \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

RE: \_\_\_\_\_

 Rotor #: \_\_\_\_\_

## ACTION DESIRED

 Acknowledge Assign \_\_\_\_\_ Reassign \_\_\_\_\_ Bring file Call me Correct Deadline \_\_\_\_\_ Deadline passed Delinquent Discontinue Expedite File For information Handle Initial & return Leads need attention Return with explanation or notation as to action taken. Open Case Prepare lead cards Prepare tickler Recharge serials Return assignment card Return file Return serials Search and return See me Send Serials \_\_\_\_\_

to \_\_\_\_\_

 Submit new charge out \_\_\_\_\_ Submit report by \_\_\_\_\_ Type

RE: Rpt. of SA ROBERT C. HAINES dated 10/4/68.

Above report should be dated 11/4/68 on FD-263.  
FD-204 has correct date of 11/4/68. Please  
correct Bureau copy. Springfield copies have  
been corrected.SAC TROY COLEMANOffice SPRINGFIELD

\_\_\_\_ See reverse side

9-26

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	DATE <b>8/26/68</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>6/20/68 - 8/19/68</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>UNSUBS (2); The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois. 7/13/67</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA ROBERT C. HAINES</b>	TYPED BY <b>ral</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>BR</b>	

**REFERENCES:**

Springfield report of SA ROBERT C. HAINES dated 6/26/68.

- P -

**LEADS:      SPRINGFIELD DIVISION***Enforcements* **At Alton, Illinois**

Will maintain contact with, and direct activities of, ~~the bank~~ to develop further information concerning the perpetrators of this bank robbery.

Will continue to correlate investigation in this case with investigation under the Murkin caption to resolve any question concerning the complicity of JAMES EARL RAY in instant bank robbery.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:	
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		PENDING OVER ONE YEAR	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
							PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED: <i>C/S</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW		
COPIES MADE: ① - Bureau (91-27494) 2 - Springfield (91-3699)						91-27494-12	REC-47	
						25 AUG 28 1968		EX-100
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations		
Agency						<i>6/25</i> <b>BANK SECT.</b>		
Dist. Recd.								
Per Fwd.								
By Fwd.								

SI 91-3699

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

Investigation has been conducted on a daily basis in connection with this matter and in correlation with the Murkin case, and daily teletypes have been submitted to the Bureau under the Murkin caption, concerning efforts to resolve possible complicity of JAMES EARL RAY in instant bank robbery or to solve this case in order to resolve the matter definitely.

In connection with daily contacts, and the Murkin investigation, a summary of information furnished by [REDACTED] during the captioned period is as follows:

*Informant*

Informant has developed information indicating that on July 13, 1967, JOHN MC CLINTOCK, HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON, and DELMAR GRINDSTAFF were together on the morning of July 13, 1967 in a stolen 1953 Buick. The three, according to information developed by the informant and which he has been unable to substantiate, had planned to hold up the Bank of Alton, and to this end, COVINGTON was wearing a dark blue wind-breaker jacket, and had gloves in his possession. GRINDSTAFF was wearing light blue air force type coveralls. MC CLINTOCK was assigned the job of being wheelman, and parked the get-a-way car, the 1953 Buick, behind the building, near the parking lot of the bank. According to the informant, GRINDSTAFF and COVINGTON, on making their escape, headed west through a ten foot hedge, and met MC CLINTOCK on Brown Street, when they emerged after going through a series of back yards. They then proceeded in a 1953 Buick to the vicinity of Fourth Street and Broadway, where they changed to a 1957 Plymouth. Later in the day, when the 1953 Buick was not noticed, and was not covered by any Police investigation, they drove it to Missouri where they pushed it into a stone quarry filled with water.

Informant is continuing his efforts to locate persons who could testify to the presence of the above three suspects in Alton on July 13, 1967, and to the fact they were wearing the attire which he described.

- B\* -  
- COVER PAGE -

8/23/68

AIRTEL

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114)

SUBJECT: UNSUBS (2);  
The Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois  
7/13/67  
BR  
OO: SPRINGFIELD

On 8/21/68, circulars regarding laundry and dry cleaning marks obtained at captioned bank robbery were furnished to all laundries in the Chicago Division through the Illinois Launderers Association, mailing list and to all dry cleaners in the Chicago Division, through the National Dry Cleaning Institution mailing list furnished by the Baltimore Office.

3-Bureau  
(1-91-27494)  
2-Springfield (44-561)  
(1-91-3699)  
2-Chicago  
(1-91-5375)  
JHW/nah  
(7)

RECORDED  
45 AUG 27 1968

5106

RECORDED FILED IN

170  
AUG 27 1968

FD-204 (Rev. 3-8-67)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SPRINGFIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN SPRINGFIELD	DATE 6/26/68	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 4/26 - 6/19/68
TITLE OF CASE UNSUBS (2); THE BANK OF ALTON, ALTON, ILLINOIS 7/13/67		REPORT MADE BY SA ROBERT C. HAINES	TYPED BY SMH
		CHARACTER OF CASE BR	

REFERENCES:

Springfield report of SA ROBERT C. HAINES dated 4/24/68;  
Los Angeles letter to Springfield dated 4/26/68;  
Kansas City airtel to Springfield dated 6/6/68 captioned

"MURKIN".

- P -

LEADS:

SPRINGFIELD DIVISION  
AT ALTON, ILLINOIS

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		
APPROVED						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE						91-27494-11 REG-15	
COPIES MADE: 1 - Bureau (91-27494) 2 - Springfield (91-3699)						EX-115 25 JUN 28 1968	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations	
Copy						SIX STAT. SECT. 4.1, 8.3 for review at HSCA re James G. P. 7-10-77 JTA:aw	

COVER PAGE

SI 91-3699

*Informant*  
 Will maintain contact with and direct activities of [redacted] in light of information developed by him set forth below.

Will correlate investigation in this case with investigation regarding JAMES EARL RAY in effort to resolve allegation he may have been involved in instant BR.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

Considerable investigation has been conducted with regard to the MURKIN case in an effort to resolve information that JAMES EARL RAY cased instant bank in 1959 and may have perpetrated this BR with an accomplice. This investigation has been reported to the Bureau on a daily basis under the MURKIN caption and has been essentially negative. *Informant*

On 6/19/68 [redacted] advised that he had received information which he had been unable to verify to date concerning suspect HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON, also known as DICK COVINGTON. Informant stated that the information available to him at this time indicates that COVINGTON was living on East 4th Street, Alton, Illinois, in 7/67 at about the time The Bank of Alton was held up. He stated that further COVINGTON at about that time was harboring an individual unknown to the informant and gave out the story that this person was a "draft dodger". He said that COVINGTON would not allow anybody into his apartment while this person was there. Informant said that one girl who is believed to be a cousin of COVINGTON saw this man; however, it is uncertain whether or not she could identify him. Informant stated that this man was in the apartment of COVINGTON on 4th Street for seven to nine days during the time The Bank of Alton was victimized and that subsequent to that time it is alleged that COVINGTON attempted to burn some clothing and dispose of a shotgun. Informant was instructed to follow this information vigorously and attempt to develop all pertinent aspects of the allegations. He stated that he would devote his full time to this endeavor and would report results promptly.

- B\* -  
 COVER PAGE



F B I

Date: 5/31/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

*SMC  
LAP  
G  
PC-A6725  
30-17*

UNSUBS (2);  
The Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois,  
7/13/67;  
BR

Re Springfield airtel to the Director, Attention FBI Laboratory, dated 5/28/68, captioned as above, and Laboratory letter to Memphis dated 4/17/68 concerning examination PC-A5198-BX.

Being submitted under separate cover by AMSD Registered Mail are the following hairs and fibers identified in referenced Laboratory communication:

- Q 29 and 30
- Q 38 (2 slides)
- Q 46
- Q 26 (2 slides)
- Q 24
- Q 15 (4 slides)
- Q 1 (2 slides)
- Q 13 (2 slides)
- Q 2

*91-2 1077*

- ② - Bureau (3 - 44-38861)  
(1 - 91-27494)
- (1 - Package) (AMSD) (RM)
- 2 - Springfield  
1 - 44-531  
1 - 91-3699
- 2 - Memphis
- TCH:gap
- (3)

Airtel \_\_\_\_\_

Teletype \_\_\_\_\_

A.M. \_\_\_\_\_

A.M.S.D. \_\_\_\_\_

Spec. Del. \_\_\_\_\_

15 JUN 7 1968

RECEIVED

JUN 12 1968

Registered \_\_\_\_\_ Per \_\_\_\_\_

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-38861-4822

ME 44-1987

The slides listed on the previous page are contained on a total of 12 slide cartons which were obtained in connection with the MURKIN case.

The Laboratory is requested to compare the above submitted evidence with the items submitted in referenced Springfield airtel to determine if there is any similarity or identification between the two cases.

Upon completion of the examination, the Laboratory is requested to return the submitted items to the Memphis Division that they may be returned to the State Attorney General's Office for retention as evidence.

LABORATORY OF THE MISSISSIPPI  
JAN 3 3 23 PM '68  
MEMPHIS, MISSISSIPPI

F B I

Date: 5-29-68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

By AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM SAC, SPRINGFIELD (66-1175)  
RE: MURKIN

UNSUBS (2);  
THE BANK OF ALTON,  
ALTON, ILLINOIS, 7-13-67  
BR

Re telephone call from Section Chief C. L. MC GOWAN, May 24, 1968, and telephone call from No. 1 Man, J. C. KELLY, May 29, 1968.

The above telephone calls were received in the Springfield Office in the late afternoon.

Upon receiving instructions from Mr. MC GOWAN on May 24, 1968, with regard to the possible connection between the MURKIN subject JAMES EARL RAY and the possibility of his involvement in the Bank of Alton robbery of July 13, 1967, I immediately contacted SA ROBERT C. HAINES, SRA of the Alton Resident Agency. I furnished the information to SA HAINES and emphasized the importance of the investigation.

SA HAINES had previously been in contact with SA JOSEPH DOBSON of the St. Louis Office at which time he learned that the reliability of JOHN EUGENE GAWRON was not known. For this reason and the fact that the Alton Bank was closed at the time I spoke with SA HAINES and was not open for business until Monday, May 27, 1968, SA HAINES displayed the clothing bearing laundry marks and also the shotgun to the Bank of Alton witnesses on Monday, May 27, 1968.

Because of the possibility that RAY was connected with the robbery of the Bank of Alton and because the physical evidence recovered three weeks subsequent to the robbery has not been definitely established as being connected with the robbery of the bank, we desired to be on as firm ground as

- 2 - Bureau
- 1 - Springfield

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

NOT RECORDED  
165 JUN 18 1968  
JUN 1 1968

SEE ADDENDUM GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION, PAGE 4

4553  
ORIGINAL FILED IN

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

(Priority)

SI 66-1175

possible in submitting the evidence for comparison insofar as at least a tentative identification by the witnesses concerned. At the same time SA HAINES displayed photographs of RAY and his known associates in an additional effort to determine if any of the pertinent witnesses might identify RAY or his known associates.

I had instructed SA HAINES that as soon as the pertinent investigation was completed that he was to proceed to the headquarters city with the evidence so that the evidence could be submitted to the FBI Laboratory as Mr. MC GOWAN had instructed.

SA HAINES arrived in the Springfield Office on Tuesday morning at which time he reviewed portions of the file and then prepared item Q3, a Van Heusen shirt, item Q6, a man's brown trousers, and slides of hair samples prepared by the Laboratory of hair recovered from previously submitted evidence. An airtel was prepared dated May 28, 1968, advising the Bureau that under separate cover, registered mail, these items of evidence were being submitted to the Laboratory for a determination of any similarities or identification between the two cases. In the same airtel the Memphis Division was requested to submit items of clothing bearing laundry marks and hair samples recovered in the MURKIN investigation for comparison with the above items.

We are continuing the investigation to develop additional information concerning that furnished by GAWRON.

The Springfield Office has been very conscientious in its effort to develop information in the MURKIN case, particularly since JAMES EARL RAY was reportedly born in this area. Because of this we have felt that the answer to RAY's whereabouts may be developed in our division. This investigation's importance has been continuously emphasized in this division.

- 2 -

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Agent in Charge

FD-204

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Priority \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

SI 66-1175

Under the circumstances shown above, I recommend  
no further administrative action.

- 3 -

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

BACKGROUND:

John Eugene Gawron, known to have been an associate of James Earl Ray, stated that in 1959 he and Ray had cased a bank for a possible robbery. Gawron related that this bank had been robbed in July, 1967, and he had learned that Ray and another individual had robbed the bank. Gawron at first declined to identify the other individual or to furnish the exact name and location of the bank. Gawron later identified the bank as the Bank of Alton in Alton, Illinois. Bureau files disclose that this bank was robbed by two unidentified individuals on 7/13/67, and the description of one of the unknown subjects approximates the description of subject Ray. In view of the above facts SAC, Springfield was telephonically instructed on Friday, 5/24/68, to immediately submit evidence in the bank robbery case to the FBI Laboratory for comparison with evidence in instant case. The material from the bank robbery case was not received in the Laboratory until 5/31/68.

RECOMMENDATION OF SAC, SPRINGFIELD:

SAC, Springfield recommends no administrative action in this matter in view of fact it was necessary for the Agent handling the bank robbery case to conduct additional investigation at the bank, which was not opened for business until Monday, 5/27/68, to possibly establish relationship between the evidence obtained in bank robbery case and any connection it might have with Ray and evidence in the MURKIN case.

SAC, Springfield advises that since the physical evidence obtained in the bank robbery case, which occurred on 7/13/67, had not been recovered until more than three weeks after the robbery; namely, on 8/10/67, and it has not been definitely established that this evidence was, in fact, connected with the bank robbery, he desires to be on as firm ground as possible in submitting the evidence for comparison in the MURKIN case. To this end, the case Agent reviewed the available evidence in the bank robbery case with witnesses in order to possibly effect tentative identification of this evidence with them, and at the same time he displayed photographs of Ray and his associates to these witnesses for possible identification.

ADDENDUM, CONTINUED:

A communication was prepared on the next day, 5/28/68, advising the Bureau that certain items of evidence were being submitted to the Bureau under separate cover, which were then received in the Laboratory on 5/31/68. The pertinent evidence included a shirt, a pair of trousers, and slides of hair samples.

RECOMMENDATION OF GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION:

In view of fact Agent did handle the additional investigation at the bank at the earliest possible time and he took action the very next day regarding the evidence, the General Investigative Division does not recommend any administrative action. The SAC has been impressed with the necessity for promptly handling and following through on any leads which might be relevant to the MURKIN case.

*Spivey* *ch* *Hengler* *W*  
*R* *J*

5/29/68

- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. Hudson

Airtel

To: SACs, Kansas City (44-760)  
 St. Louis (44-775)  
 Springfield (44-531)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

ReSLtel 5/23/68 to Bureau, Memphis and Springfield re information furnished indicating bank of Alton, Illinois, was the bank which Gawron and Ray had cased.

If not already handled, Springfield should take necessary action to see that following items are covered:

Photographs of Ray should be exhibited to the bank robbery witnesses.

Advise Kansas City of complete description of clothing found and Kansas City will determine whether any items of clothing are possibly prison issued.

Springfield also furnish Kansas City with pertinent identity of laundry marks so that Kansas City can determine if any of these marks were possibly placed on items of clothing at the Missouri State Penitentiary.

Springfield should contact local sporting goods stores with respect to the cap which was found which contains a fishing emblem.

REC-12 44-38861-4043

If not already handled, have Louisville attempt to identify the Mens' Style Shop, Gray and Wilson, Louisville, Kentucky, for any information regarding purchaser of the hat.

1 - Memphis (44-1987) (for info)

6 MAY 29 1968

SEARCHED SERIALIZED INDEXED FILED

SEARCHED  
 SERIALIZED  
 INDEXED  
 FILED  
 JUN 5 1968  
 FBI - MEMPHIS

100-44-38861-4043  
 JUN 5 1968  
 FBI - MEMPHIS

*R. Polk*

*Sp*

NOT RECORDED  
 78 JUN 5 1968

*H. J. [unclear]*

ORIGINAL FILED IN 44-38861-4043

*E*



Airtel SACs, Kansas City, St. Louis, Springfield  
 RE: MURKIN

The manufacturer of the sawed-off shotgun should be contacted for any pertinent information that firm may be able to furnish.

The bank robbery file discloses that laundries in Alton, Illinois, have been checked with respect to the laundry marks on the clothing found; however, there is no indication of laundries having been checked in surrounding areas. Be certain this is done.

Springfield request the Laboratory to compare the hair specimens obtained in the bank robbery case to hair specimens obtained in the Murkin case.

Recontact suspects and informants for any information they may have regarding Ray and whether or not he could have been involved in the bank robbery.

Recontact Ray's uncle, William E. Kayher, 118 East Seventh Street, Alton, Illinois, for any information he may have regarding the bank robbery.

All leads are to be given continuous and expeditious attention.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

Sutel daily results of investigative activity concerning this bank robbery. Such teletypes are to be submitted under the "MURKIN" caption and are to continue until the issue is fully resolved as to whether Ray was or was not involved in the bank robbery.

Laboratory Transmittal Form



1 - Office  
1 - Lab File

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: SAC, Memphis (44-1937)

Date: June 4, 1968

Re: MURKIN

UNCEDS (2);  
The Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois,  
7/13/67;  
ER

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
John Edgar Hoover, Director

FBI File No. 44-38861  
Lab. No. PC-A6692 JV  
PC-A6725 JV

Examination requested by: Memphis - Springfield

Reference: Airtels 5/31/68, 5/28/68

Examination requested: Microscopic

Remarks: Specimens Q3, Q9 and the resubmitted glass microscope slides containing hairs (PC-A1071) are being returned to the Springfield Division under separate cover by registered mail.

The 17 resubmitted glass microscope slides containing hairs and the 6 resubmitted glass microscope slides containing fibers (PC-A5433) are being returned to the Memphis Division under separate cover by registered mail for return to the State Attorney General's Office.

REC-24

91-27444-10

MAILED 22  
JUN 4 - 1968  
COMM-FBI

19 JUN 6 1968

Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)  
2 - Springfield (44-531) Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

EMS:jc (7)

25 JUN 1968

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

REPORT  
of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: **FBI, Memphis**

Date: **June 4, 1968**

Re: **MURKIN**

FBI File No. **~~44-33881~~**

Lab. No. **PC-A6332 JV  
PC-A6725 JV**

**UNSUBS (2);  
The Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois,  
7/13/37; ER**

Specimens received **5/31/68**, from FBI, Springfield, with airtel dated  
**5/28/68, PC-A6332 JV**

**Resubmission: Q3 Shirt (PC-A1071 JV)  
Q3 Trousers (PC-A1071 JV)  
Glass slides Q3, Q5 and Q8 (PC-A1071 JV)**

**Specimens received 6/2/68**, from FBI, Memphis, with airtel dated  
**5/31/68, PC-A6725 JV**

**Resubmission: 17 glass microscope slides containing hairs  
6 glass microscope slides containing fibers**

**Results of examination:**

The brown head hairs previously recovered from specimens Q3, Q5 and Q8 are dissimilar to the head hairs found in the evidence recovered in the Murkin Case, (PC-A5498) and did not originate from the same person.

PMS:jc (7)

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

RECORDED  
6-3-68  
10.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Work Sheet

Re: MURKIN

File # 44-38861  
Lab. # PC-A6692 IZ JV

UNSUBS(2);  
The Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois,  
7-13-67;

EXPEDITE

BR  
Examination requested by: FBI, Springfield (44-561) Airtel 5-28

Examination requested: Micro(Fibers) Date received: 5-31

Result of Examination: Examination by: CLARK

2 cc airtel to SAC, SI-

STC 5/31/68  
Cm

Specimens submitted for examination

Resubmission: Q3 <sup>Shirt</sup> Q6 Shirts (PC-A1071 JV)  
Glass slides Q3, Q5 and Q8 (PC-A1071 JV)

*Sal...*  
*...*

F B I

Date: 5/20/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
Attention: FBI Laboratory

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) - P -

SUBJECT: MURKIN

UNSUBS (2);  
The Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois,  
7/13/67  
BR

Being submitted under separate cover via Registered Mail are the following items of evidence recovered in connection with captioned bank robbery.

1. Item Q3 - A Van Heusen Shirt
2. Item Q6 - Man's brown trousers
3. Slides of hair samples prepared by the Laboratory of hair recovered from previously submitted evidence.

The Laboratory is requested to compare the above submitted evidence with items to be submitted by the Memphis Division in connection with the MURKIN investigation to determine if there is any similarity or identification between the two cases.

- ④ - Bureau (3) 44-38861  
(1: 91-27494)
- 1 - Package (RM)  
2 - Memphis (44-1987)  
2 - St. Louis (44-775)  
3 - Springfield (2: 44-561)  
(1: 91-3699)

RCH/smr  
(12)

*Emergency Copy*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

SI 44-561

The Memphis Division is requested to submit items of clothing bearing laundry marks and hair samples recovered by the Laboratory in the MURKIN investigation for comparison with the above submitted items.

The St. Louis Division is requested to reinterview JOHN EUGENE GAWRON in depth; develop in detail his complete association with JAMES EARL RAY, together with all knowledge he has concerning RAY's movements and plans, particularly with reference to the casing of The Bank of Alton in 1959. Will also determine from GAWRON all known associates of RAY in order that they might be investigated as possible suspects in instant bank robbery. Will submit results to the Springfield Division in order that all future investigation concerning MURKIN and the bank robbery matter might be coordinated.

For information of the Bureau, the Springfield report of SA ROBERT C. HAINES dated 10/10/67 beginning of page 23 sets forth results of Laboratory examination of recovered evidence in this matter. With particular reference to the shotgun recovered, the Laboratory pointed out that there was no physical evidence to indicate the shotgun had ever borne a serial number and that there are some shotguns which do not bear a serial number.

For further information of the Bureau, inquiry of employees and officials at The Bank of Alton has disclosed that no exact figure or breakdown of the bills incorporated in the loot money obtained is available since the bank was robbed near the end of the business day and the tellers had no exact accounting of denominations taken. It is the opinion of employees that a large amount of \$20 bills was obtained and further that one teller specifically recalls she had twenty-one \$100 bills in her teller's cage.

Investigation continuing Springfield Division to develop information concerning information furnished by GAWRON.

PC-A492

Q3, Q5, + Q8 hair for Alta Bank dis. to hair  
 in Munich co - color lighter, dig more down  
 fine - no dandruff - certain not to think, much  
 in mouth - Munich hair - most about - dig in all  
 ways - not for same person

6/3/68

AMJ

40-258~~40-058~~ - 0394

RECORDED  
6-3-68  
10.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Work Sheet

Re: MURKIN

File # 44-38861-  
Lab. # PC-A6725 JV

UNSUBS(2);  
The Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois,  
7-13-67;

EXPEDITE

BR  
Examination requested by: FBI, Memphis (44-1987) Airtel 5-31

Examination requested: Micro(Fibers)

Date received: 6-2

Result of Examination:

rm  
Examination by: STOMBAUGH

Specimens submitted for examination.

Resubmission: 17 glass microscope slides containing hairs  
6 glass microscope slides containing fibers

*Lab. # 44-38861-  
PC-A6725 JV  
rm*



5/31/68

#1

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

*Exhibits*  
*3. W*

ENCLOS (2);  
The Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois,  
7/13/67;  
EC

PC-A 725

Re Springfield airtel to the Director, Attention FBI Laboratory, dated 5/28/68, captioned as above, and Laboratory letter to Memphis dated 4/1/68 concerning examination PC-A4498-2A.

Being submitted under separate cover by AMSD Registered Mail are the following hairs and fibers identified in referenced Laboratory communication:

- Q 29 and 30
- Q 36 (2 slides)
- Q 45
- Q 26 (2 slides)
- Q 24
- Q 15 (4 slides)
- Q 1 (2 slides)
- Q 13 (2 slides)
- Q 2

*Resubmitted.*  
*17 Glass microscope slides containing hairs.*  
*6 Glass microscope slides containing fibers.*

- 4 - Bureau (3 - 44-38861) (1 - 91-27404)
- (1 - Package) (AMSD) (RM)
- 2 - Springfield
  - 1 - 44-3881
  - 1 - 44-3889
- 2 - Memphis
- YCR:jap
- (8)

- Airtel \_\_\_\_\_
- Teletype \_\_\_\_\_
- A.M. \_\_\_\_\_
- A.M.S.P. \_\_\_\_\_
- Spec. Del. \_\_\_\_\_
- Reg. Mail \_\_\_\_\_
- Registered \_\_\_\_\_

ME 44-1987

The slides listed on the previous page are contained on a total of 12 slide cartons which were obtained in connection with the MURKIN case.

The Laboratory is requested to compare the above submitted evidence with the items submitted in referenced Springfield airtel to determine if there is any similarity or identification between the two cases.

Upon completion of the examination, the Laboratory is requested to return the submitted items to the Memphis Division that they may be returned to the State Attorney General's Office for retention as evidence.

SEARCHED

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SPRINGFIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN SPRINGFIELD	DATE 4-24-68	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 2/9 - 4/18/68
TITLE OF CASE UNSUBS (2) The Bank of Alton Alton, Illinois 7-13-67		REPORT MADE BY SA ROBERT C. HAINES	TYPED BY blw
		CHARACTER OF CASE BR	

REFERENCES:

Springfield report of SA ROBERT C. HAINES dated 2-19-68;  
Los Angeles letter to Springfield dated 2-23-68.

-P-

LEADS: SPRINGFIELD DIVISIONAT ALTON, ILLINOIS

Will maintain contact with informants and police agencies as well as bank officials in an effort to develop further positive information in this matter.

Will locate and interview all persons with family name JOHNSON as indicated in details of this report, in an effort to trace the clothing recovered at Alton, Illinois, subsequent to instant bank robbery.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:	
CONVIC	AUTO	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
							PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED					DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW		
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE							
COPIES MADE:					REC-4		
1 - Bureau (91-27494)					9		
1 - USA, Springfield					APR 25 1968		
2 - Springfield (91-3699)							
Dissemination Record of Attached Report					Notations		
Name					STAY SECT.		
Request Recd.							
Date Fwd.							
Date Recd.							
Date Fwd.							
Date Recd.							
Date Fwd.							
Date Recd.							

APR 30 1968

SI 91-3699

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

There is an overlap in investigative period in this report occasioned by the fact that the Los Angeles letter referred to above was received in Springfield subsequent to submission of rerep.

-B\*-  
COVER PAGE

(Rev. 3-8-57)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SPRINGFIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN SPRINGFIELD	DATE 2/19/68	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 10/24/67-2/12/68
TITLE OF CASE UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (2); The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, 7/13/67		REPORT MADE BY SA ROBERT C. HAINES	TYPED BY da
		CHARACTER OF CASE  BR	

REFERENCES:

Springfield report of SA ROBERT C. HAINES, 12/18/67;  
San Francisco letter to Springfield, 12/8/67 (IC);

- P -

LEADS:

Information copies of this report are designated  
for Los Angeles, San Francisco and St. Louis in view of pending  
investigation in those divisions.

SPRINGFIELD DIVISIONAT LINCOLN, ILLINOIS

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
CONVIC	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		
APPROVED						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE						REC-24	
COPIES MADE: 3 - Bureau (91-27484) 1 - USA, Springfield 1 - Los Angeles (INFO) 1 - San Francisco (INFO) (91-6621) 1 - St. Louis (91-3877) (INFO) 3 - Springfield (91-3699)						FEB 21 1968	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						NOTATIONS	
Agency						STAT. SECT.	
Request Recd.							
Date Recd.							
How Fwd.							

SI 91-3699

LEADS CONTINUED:

Will interview EDWARD RICHARD CESARZ at Logan County Jail; determine his activities in July, 1967, and his alibi for 7/13/67, bearing in mind he made a phone call from Alton about that period of time.

AT ALTON, ILLINOIS

Will recontact RUTH ANN TUCKER, 525 Miami, for information concerning NANCY HARPER, her current whereabouts or activities in order that she might be located and interviewed in this matter.

Will continue display of clothing and gun recovered at Alton in order to effect identification.

Will maintain contact with HELEN GRABLE, mother of JOHN MC CLINTOCK, a suspect in this matter, for information she might develop of pertinent value.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

The overlap in investigative period in this report is occasioned as a result of receipt of referenced San Francisco letter to Springfield which was received subsequent to preparation and submission of rerep.

COVER B\* PAGE

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	DATE <b>12/18/67</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>10/5/67 - 12/9/67</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>UNSUBS (2): The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, 7/13/67</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA ROBERT C. HAINES</b>	TYPED BY <b>skt</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>BR</b>	

REFERENCES:

Springfield report of SA ROBERT C. HAINES dated 10/10/67;  
St. Louis letter to Springfield dated 10/9/67;  
Las Vegas letter to Springfield dated 10/24/67;  
Springfield letter to San Francisco dated 11/22/67.

- P -

LEADS:LOS ANGELES DIVISIONAT NORTH HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

Will locate and interview JOE GREENWOOD, 6403 Gentry, to determine when JOHN MC CLINTOCK arrived in California and began living with him. It should be noted that MC CLINTOCK'S mother claims that he was not in California as he states, but was in the Alton, Illinois area.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED : None

Case has been: Pending over 60 days  Yes  No; Pending prosecution over six months  Yes  No

APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: ① - Bureau (91-27494) 1 - USA, SDI, Springfield, Illinois 2 - Los Angeles 2 - St. Louis (91-3877) 3 - Springfield (91-3699)		91-27494-17	REC 16 SI-115
		18 DEC 26 1967	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report		Notations <i>[Signature]</i> STAT. SECT.	
1967			
1968			
1969			
1970			
1971	1968		

- A -  
COVER PAGE

SI 91-3699

LEADS (Cont'd):ST. LOUIS DIVISIONAT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI *Informant*

Will recontact [redacted] to determine, if possible, when LARRY AUGUST KAHLE had the sawed off shot gun with a home made sling, which he carried under his arm.

SPRINGFIELD DIVISIONAT SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

Will interview EDWARD RICHARD CESARZ at the Sangamon County Jail, and determine his activities in 7/67 and his alibi for 7/13/67 bearing in mind he made a phone call from Alton about that period of time.

AT ALTON, ILLINOIS

Will display clothing and sawed off shot gun recovered at Alton, to associates and acquaintances of LARRY AUGUST KAHLE and attempt to effect identification of clothing and shot gun with KAHLE.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

On 10/5/67, [redacted] advised SA EDWARD M. MORELAND as follows: *Informant*

[redacted] 9/1/67, with a prostitute identified only as EDIE, who advised him that one LARRY AUGUST KAHLE, white, male, 26 or 27 years old (appears 40 to 45 years old), 5'10", 200 lbs., hair black - balding on top, was carrying a sawed-off shot gun hung by a string under his coat. PCI also stated that through this prostitute he received information indicating that KAHLE committed an armed robbery at an Edwardsville, Illinois, bank by use of a toy pistol. PCI also stated that KAHLE has a large amount of money in wrappers deposited in a safety deposit box, location unknown.



SI 91-3699

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA (Cont'd):

PCI said he has done considerable discreet inquiry through various individuals near East St. Louis, Illinois, and has ascertained that KAHLE up until about 9/20/67, resided in Cabin #3 at the Fairmount Motel, Black Lane. He always parked his car in the rear of the motel, it being described as a 1964 Plymouth, Fury, brown with gold top, bearing Illinois License ET3-337. While at this motel, KAHLE probably used an alias, name unknown. He also frequented the VFW Bar near to the Fairmount Motel, and is closely associated with GEORGE STUBBLEFIELD. STUBBLEFIELD it is noted may have some of the proceeds of KAHLE'S robberies in that he intends to open a business, possibly a tavern. STUBBLEFIELD is also associated with a blonde prostitute by the name of SHERRY.

PCI stated he obtained information from one JOHNNY WILLIAMS, who resides in Glen Carbon, Illinois, and who is also acquainted with KAHLE, who told him that KAHLE is responsible for the robberies of the Edwardsville, Illinois, Bank and also of the Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, and that on the Edwardsville job, KAHLE used a toy pistol. PCI also stated he learned from WILLIAMS that KAHLE when robbing the Edwardsville Bank was in a dirty jacket or old clothes, and immediately after the robbery he drove his car around a corner and parked it. He then went back to the area of the bank and inquired of a police officer what the excitement was, whereupon the officer told him that the bank had been robbed. The officer then, in KAHLE'S presence, radioed a communication to his dispatcher in which he described the bank robber as being in a "dirty car, a Chevrolet or Plymouth". With this, KAHLE then drove his car to a nearby service station and had it washed, as well as changing his jacket or shirt.

Sometime around the first of September, KAHLE went to the bank of Hamil, Hamil, Illinois, intending to rob it; however, did not commit this robbery because it was closed and he noticed a police car in the vicinity which scared him off. KAHLE has in the past few months been in the State of Indiana as well as in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and probably has committed robberies in these areas. His MO is buying and selling antiques which he keeps in the back of his car.

PCI said subsequent to one of the above bank robberies, the FBI or police received a telephone call from a tavern from a man who indicated that the waitress in Judy's Inn, Glen Carbon Crossing, Route 157, Illinois, knew some information about the

SI 91-3699

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA: (Cont'd):

bank robbery. She was subsequently interviewed, however, denied any knowledge of the robber or robbery. KAHLE it is noted was at this time in the vicinity of Judy's Inn and frequents this tavern.

The overlap in the investigative period in this matter was occasioned because of the receipt of St. Louis letter to Springfield dated 10/9/67 reflecting interview with [REDACTED] on 10/5/67 subsequent to submission of referenced report.

*Informant*

- D\* -  
COVER PAGE

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SPRINGFIELD</b>	DATE <b>10/10/67</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>7/18/67 - 10/2/67</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>UNSUBS (2); The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois 7/13/67</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA ROBERT C. HAINES</b>	TYPED BY <b>sjs</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>BR</b>	

REFERENCES:

Springfield report of SA ROBERT C. HAINES, dated 8/11/67.  
 Springfield airtel to Bureau, dated 8/22/67.  
 Springfield airtel to San Francisco, dated 9/20/67.  
 Bureau letters to Springfield, dated 9/13/67 and 9/14/67 and 9/21/67.  
 Indianapolis letter to Springfield, dated 9/15/67.

- P -

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED **None**How long: Pending over one year  Yes  No; Pending prosecution over six months  Yes  No

APPROVED

SPECIAL AGENT  
IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

COPIES MADE:

*[Signature]*  
 1 - Bureau (91-27494)  
 1 - USA, Springfield  
 3 - Springfield (91-3699)

OCT 12 1967

REC-64

Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Notations

1				
2				
3				
4				
5				

*[Signature]*  
 OCT 12 1967

SI 91-3699

LEADS:SPRINGFIELD DIVISIONAt Centralia, Illinois.

Will reinterview ETHEL MAYS at Sell's Tavern re details concerning suspect EDWARD RICHARD CESARZ and develop information concerning his activities and any weapons he may have possessed.

At Alton, Illinois.

Will conduct logical investigation which will identify marks on recovered shirt.

Will continue efforts to locate and interview suspects PAGE and BAZE and their associates.

Will maintain contact with police agencies, bank officials and informants concerning additional information which might be reported.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

There is an overlap in the investigative period of this report due to the fact transcription and receipt of investigation was received subsequent to the preparation of the initial report in this matter.

INFORMANT DATA:

The following informants were contacted on the indicated dates and advised they could furnish no current or additional information concerning captioned matter:

INFORMANT:*Informant*DATE OF CONTACT:

7/24/67

AGENT:

SA ELYON H. DAVIS

- B -  
Cover Page

SI 91-3699

*Informants*

7/28/67

SA ELYON H. DAVIS

7/28/67

SA ELYON H. DAVIS

7/28/67

SA ELYON H. DAVIS

7/28/67

SA ELYON H. DAVIS

7/28/67

SA ELYON H. DAVIS

8/28/67

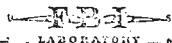
SA RICHARD D. BATISTE, JR.

*Informant*

On August 10, 1967, [redacted] advised 2 white males and 1 white female were staying at Room 207 of the Acme Hotel, 4040 Olive Street, St. Louis, Missouri, and this is a low class hotel. Informant stated he learned the trio had some "money" and had on a previous occasion in 1966, registered at the hotel under a name other than the ones they were now using.

Informant stated he recalls reading of the Alton, Illinois bank robbery involving 2 men and feels these individuals may relate to that incident.

- C\* -  
Cover Page



1-Office, 7133  
1-Mr. Laddock

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: FBI, Springfield (91-3399)

Date: September 21, 1967

Re:

UNSUBS (2);  
Bank of Aiton,  
ALEXIA, Illinois,  
7/13/67  
BR

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
John Edgar Hoover, Director

FBI File No. 91-27494  
Lab. No. PC-A1071 JV CW

Examination requested by: Springfield

Reference: Airtel 8-22-67

Examination requested: Microscopic - Miscellaneous - Number Restorations-  
Remarks: Fingerprint

*10/13/67*

*ck*

The evidence is being returned to your office under separate cover by Railway Express.

It is pointed out that the 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ " long barrel of the Q2 sawed-off 12-gauge shotgun is shorter than the minimum set forth in the Federal Firearms Act.

*5715 ✓*

Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

REC 39 91-27-5  
*82*

MAILED 2  
SEP 21 1967  
COMM-FBI

19 SEP 26 1967

ENCLOSURE (5)

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

REPORT  
of the



1-Office, 7133  
1-Dr. Larock

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: FBI, Springfield

Date: September 21, 1967  
FBI File No. 91-27494 - 5  
Lab. No. PC-A1071 JV CW

Re: UNSUBS (2);  
Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois,  
7/13/67  
BR

Specimens received

Results of examination:

This report supplements the Laboratory's report to you dated September 14, 1967, and completes the examination of the evidence listed in that communication. For a listing of the evidence, please refer to that report.

Specimen Q2 is a Stevens Model 94 12-gauge, single shot, single barrel, sawed-off shotgun. There is no stock on the weapon. The present length of the barrel of specimen Q2 is 12" and it was observed that the barrel is filled with dirt or dried mud. The surface dirt and corrosion adhering to the outside of the weapon were removed and no physical evidence was observed to indicate that the shotgun had ever borne a serial number. It is pointed out that there are some shotguns which do not bear a serial number and apparently specimen Q2 is one of them.

LABORATORY (3)

MAIL ROOM [ ]

7-2

RECORDED  
8/31/67  
jfx

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LATENTS

Laboratory Work Sheet

Re: UNSUBS (2);  
Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois,  
7/13/67  
BR

File # 44-27497-5  
Lab. # PC-A1071 JV CW

Examination requested by: FBI, Springfield (91-3699) Atl. 8/22/67

Examination requested: Micro. (Fibers) - Misc. - Date received: 8/30/67 rex  
Number Restorations -

Result of Examination: Fingerprint Examination by: STOLBAUGH  
LA ROCK

*Steno do not list the evd. in the report as it  
was previously listed in our preliminary report  
dated 9/14/67.*

Specimens submitted for examination

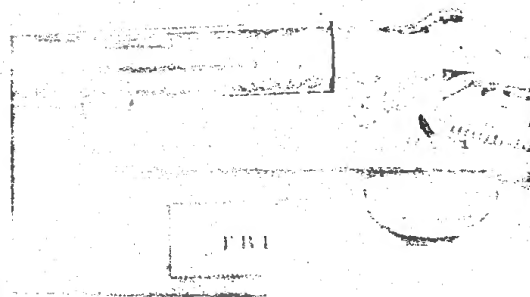
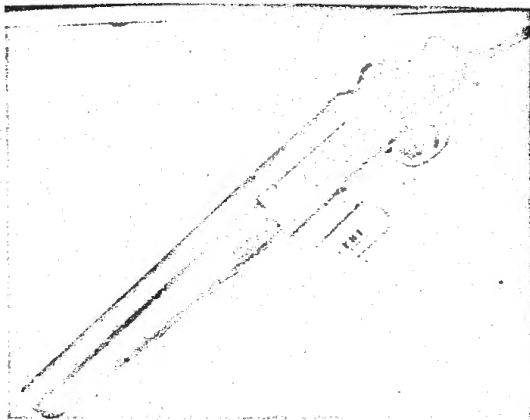
Q1 Windbreaker  
Q2 Sawed-off shotgun (*stock missing*)  
Q3 Shirt  
Q4 Brown cap  
Q5 Felt hat  
Q6 Trousers  
Q7 Stocking  
Q8 Stocking foot

Also Submitted: Four 12-gauge shotgun shells  
Wooden stock  
Leather belt  
Matchbook  
Cigarette pack  
Finger and palm prints of:  
Kim Bruns  
Ernest Pursley  
Thomas Noel  
Dennis Bruns  
Fingerprints of Raymond Parton

*Handwritten notes:*  
10/1/67  
421-67  
L W H  
11



4-18-67



Present length of slit is 12 1/2"  
 Barrel in good condition on the inside with about 1000

Shot small rotary wire brush used cleaned the barrel  
 corrosion and dirt adhering to the outside of barrel.  
 At no time during the examination did I find any  
 physical evidence of an obliterated serial number  
 on specimen Q2.

Forensic contacted.

Atlas Sporting Goods contacted

Gun shop at 320 NW 5th - myr advised Atlas  
 type product usually does not have serial

No SN on Q2 in space occupied by primer

No serial number was located on Q2 and  
 there is any evidence found of an obliterated  
 area on the weapon.

Atlas Sporting Goods - no weapons of this type  
 in stock  
 Gun shop at 320 NW 5th - no weapon of this type  
 in stock  
 Manager of this weapon  
 has seldom seen one

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

DATE: September 14, 1967

Re: UNSUBS (2); Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois,  
7/13/67; BR

SAC, Springfield

Invoice of Contents

Q1 - Q3  
ALSO SUBMITTED

RAILWAY EXPRESS

*SK 724202X*

Special Instructions:

Room: Show shipment date and registry number.  
Shipping Room: Show shipment date; bill of lading number;  
and invoice; return to Section checked in block; after  
packing in block, invoice to be placed in administrative file.

*276*

*Ret*  
*Sent 9-22-67*  
*9-21-67*  
*9-21-67*

- Crypt.-Trans.
- Document
- P & C
- Radio Engineering
- LFPS

FBI File No. 91-27494

9-14-67

PC-A1071 JV CW



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Washington, D. C. 20537

REPORT

of the

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION

YOUR FILE NO. 91-3599  
FBI FILE NO.  
LATENT CASE NO. 93191

September 13, 1967

TO: SAC, Springfield

RE: MURDER (2);  
DINA OF ALGERIA  
MURKIN, ILLINOIS  
7-13-67  
BR

REFERENCE: Airtel 9-22-67  
EXAMINATION REQUESTED BY: Springfield  
SPECIMENS: Shotgun

Four shotgun shells  
Leather belt  
Match book EX 104  
Cigarette pack  
Elimination finger and palm prints of four individuals  
Elimination fingerprints of one individual

REC-59 91-3599-4

No latent impressions of value were developed on specimens.

MAILED 2  
SEP 13 1967  
COMM-FBI

19 SEP 14 1967

You will receive a separate report concerning the results of the laboratory examinations and disposition of all submitted specimens.

DNB:cmg  
(4)

J. Edgar Hoover  
John E. ...  
Special Agent in Charge

THIS REPORT IS FURNISHED FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

RECORDED

3/31/67

JFK

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED: 9-11-67 10:30 a.m. RECEIVED:  
Laboratory Work Sheet

LATENTS  
9-11-67 SM

Re: UNSUBS (2);  
Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois,  
7/13/67  
BR

File # *44-21194-4*  
Lab. # FC-41071 JY/CW  
LC# 83191

Examination requested by: FBI, Springfield (91-3699) Atl. 8/22/67

Examination requested: Micro. (Fibers) - Misc. - Date received: 8/30/67 rex

Result of Examination: Fingerprint - Examination by: STOMBAUGH  
LA ROCK  
Bailey

Rec. LFPS Q2 & A5

LFPS rep. cap. & return Q2 & A5 to Stombagh  
9-8-67

*No latent value*  
*Specs returned to Stombagh 9/13/67*  
Specimens submitted for examination

- Q1 Windbreaker
- Q2 Sawed-off shotgun
- Q3 Shirt
- Q4 Brown cap
- Q5 Felt hat
- Q6 Trousers
- Q7 Stocking
- Q8 Stocking foot

- Also Submitted:
- Four 12-gauge shotgun shells
  - Wooden stock
  - Leather belt
  - Matchbook
  - Cigarette pack
  - Finger and palm prints of:
    - Kim Bruns
    - Ernest Parsley
    - Thomas Noel
    - Dennis Bruns
  - Fingerprints of Raymond Parton

Examination completed 9/15/67 9/13 Dictated 9/13/67

F 3 I

Date: 8/22/67

8-30  
/

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
Attention: FBI Laboratory  
FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (91-3699) - P -  
SUBJECT: UNSUBS (2);  
Bank of Alton  
Alton, Illinois  
7/13/67  
BR

TC #1071  
3027  
115  
6-Old  
d/p

Re Springfield report of SA ROBERT C. HAINES dated 8/11/67.

Transmitted under separate cover by REA Express under U. S. Government Bill of Lading Number D-4942139 are the following items of evidence:

- ✓ 61 Navy blue windbreaker jacket
- ✓ 62 4 twelve gauge shotgun shells
- ✓ 63 1 Sawed-off shotgun
- ✓ 64 Wooden stock for shotgun
- ✓ 65 Man's white shirt
- ✓ 66 Man's brown cap
- ✓ 67 Man's brown felt hat
- ✓ 68 Man's leather belt
- ✓ 69 Man's brown trousers

cc: b/p  
8-30

- ③ - Bureau (Enc. 5) (RM)
  - 1 - Package
  - 2 - Springfield (91-3699)
- RCH/tlp  
(6)

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
AUG 24 1967

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

SI 91-3699

Q7 ✓ Woman's nylon hose

Q8 ✓ Foot of woman's nylon hose

X5 ✓ Matchfolder bearing advertising for King Edward  
✓ Cigarillos

A5 ✓ Partial package of Lucky Strike Cigarettes

For information of the Latent Fingerprint Section, the shotgun shells are located in the jacket pocket of the navy blue windbreaker, and have not been touched by any investigating officer.

The following latent fingerprint investigation is requested for examination of the shotgun shells, the sawed-off shotgun, the wooden stock, the leather belt, the matchfolder, and the Lucky Strike Cigarette package should be examined for latent fingerprints.

For elimination purposes, fingerprints of Sergeant RAYMOND PARTON, Alton Police Department, and of KIM BRUNS, ERNEST PURSLEY, THOMAS NOEL, and DENNIS BRUNS are enclosed herewith.

The laboratory is further requested to examine the clothing being submitted for laundry and dry cleaning marks. The laboratory is also further requested to compare the two submitted samples of nylon hose to determine if they make up an identical woman's hose.

The laboratory is also requested to raise the serial number on the submitted shotgun, in order that it might be traced to its ultimate owner.

Upon completion of requested examination, it is requested that the evidence be returned to the Springfield Division.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Office, 7133

To: FBI, Springfield (91-3699)

Date: September 14, 1967

Re: UNSUBS (2);  
Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois,  
7/13/67  
BR

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
John Edgar Hoover, Director

EX-102  
FBI File # 133  
Lab. REC-133

Examination requested by:

91-27494 - 3  
PC-A1071 JV CW

Reference:

Springfield

Examination requested:

Airtel 8-22-67

Subject:

Microscopic - Miscellaneous - Number Restorations -  
Fingerprint

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED  
73  
9/14/67  
FBI - ALTON

You will be advised of the results of the fingerprint examination of Q2 and the "Also Submitted" items by a separate report. The attempt to raise the obliterated serial number on Q2 is continuing and you will be advised of the result in a separate report. Upon completion of the examinations, the submitted evidence will be returned to you under separate cover by Railway Express.

Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

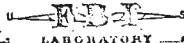
PMS:elk (4)

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT



7-1b

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

To: FBI, Springfield

Date: September 14, 1967

Re: UNSUBS (2);  
Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois,  
7/13/67  
BRFBI File No. 91-27494  
Lab. No. PC-A1071 JV CW

Specimens received 8-30-67

- Q1 Windbreaker
- Q2 Sawed-off shotgun
- Q3 Shirt
- Q4 Crown cap
- Q5 Felt hat
- Q6 Trousers
- Q7 Stocking
- Q8 Stocking foot

Also Submitted: Four 12-gauge shotgun shells  
Wooden stock  
Leather belt  
Matchbook  
Cigarette pack  
Finger and palm prints of:  
Kim Bruns  
Ernest Pursley  
Thomas Koel  
Dennis Bruns  
Fingerprints of Raymond Parton

## Results of examination:

Brown to light brown head hairs of Caucasian origin were found on specimens Q3, Q5 and in Q8. These hairs have been mounted for possible future comparisons with known head hair samples from any suspect you may develop.

No hairs were found on any of the other items.

"JH" or "JH" "JOH-U" or "JOH-O" have been stamped to the inside collar of Q3.

Visible laundry markings "44" and "3107-3" are present on the right front pocket of Q8. Visible laundry markings "10/10" and "3107" are also present on the right rear pocket of Q8.

PAGE 1 of 1 ( ) TELETYPE ( )

(continued on next page)

The identity of the laundry causing these markings is unknown to the Laboratory.

No other visible and no invisible laundry markings were found on any of the submitted items.

Specimen Q7 is a complete stocking having one end tied in knots.

Specimen Q8 is the foot portion of a stocking. Specimens Q7 and Q8 are different types and colors of stockings and could not be mates.

Nothing else of significance was noted about the submitted evidence.

RECORDED  
6/21/67  
JIL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LATENTS

Laboratory Work Sheet

Re: UNSUBS (2);  
Bank of Alton,  
Alton, Illinois,  
7/13/67  
BR

File # 91-27494-3  
Lab. # PC-41071 JV CW

Examination requested by: FBI, Springfield (91-3699) Atl. 6/22/67

Examination requested: Micro. (Fibers) - Misc. - Date received: 6/30/67 rev  
Number Restorations -

Result of Examination: Fingerprint Examination by: STONEBAUGH  
LA ROCK

Rec. LFPS QZ & AS

LFPS rep. rep. + net QZ + AS to Stonebaugh

9-8-67

P-7

Specimens submitted for examination

Q1 Windbreaker - NO H. OR F.  
Q2 Sawed-off shotgun  
Q3 Shirt  
Q4 Brown cap NO H. OR F.  
Q5 Felt hat  
Q6 Trousers NO H. OR F.  
Q7 Stocking  
Q8 Stocking foot

Also Submitted: Four 12-gauge shotgun shells

Wooden stock  
Leather belt  
Matchbook  
Cigarette pack  
Finger and palm prints of:

Kim Bruns  
Ernest Pursley  
Thomas Noel  
Dennis Bruns

Fingerprints of Raymond Parton

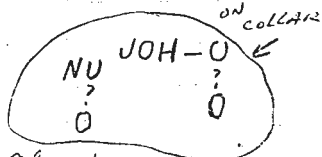
Submitt  
9-15-67  
P-7

PC-111071 JV

- Blue synthetic (nylon) windbreaker. No label present. Badly burned. No hairs or fibers. Dry clean and stainable.
- 7 Long-sleeved white dress shirt. Burned. "convertible cuff" length: 33", neck: 15½" no laundry mark.

Label: Van Heusen  
VANGUARD

65% dacron polyester  
35% fine cotton



- 44 Brown fishing cap. Size undetermined  
No label.

Patch on front:



(red blue yellow black)

- 45 Gray felt hat  
Burned.



Band torn off one side.

Label: MEN'S STYLE SHOP, Gray & Wilson  
MAYFIELD, KY

Product by name: STAY-FAST HAT

PC-A1071 5V

Q6 light brown trousers, very bunched  
(legs bunched off)



Numbers inside on pockets:

right front: 44

3107-3?

right rear: T6276

U 7703

removed  
away  
laundry

No labels.

Q7 piece of a nylon hose, soiled.  
Regular type nylon hose, several knots in end.

Q8 foot of nylon hose. <sup>mesh</sup> mesh type hose

Q7 & Q8 could not have been joined together  
due to difference in color & construction  
Also Q7 is a complete stocking.

Q6 - trousers Q1-Q3 → Q8 have bunched areas.  
Q7 - No identifiable laundry marks

PC11071

Q3- Lg. <sup>th</sup> lt bro. hd, long, chd. br. Cam-

Q5- med. bro. hd. br., Cam-  
- anal hair - black

Q8- lt bro. hd. br., Cam-

9/12/67

Q

FBI

Date: 8/22/67

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
Attention: FBI Laboratory  
FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (91-3699) - P -  
SUBJECT: UNSUBS (2);  
Bank of Alton  
Alton, Illinois  
7/13/67  
BR

*3007  
115 JV  
(LM)  
TO ALTON  
6-0A  
RHP /*

Re Springfield report of SA ROBERT C. HAINES dated 8/11/67.

Transmitted under separate cover by REA Express under U. S. Government Bill of Lading Number D-4942139 are the following items of evidence:

- ✓ Navy blue windbreaker jacket
- ✓ 4 twelve gauge shotgun shells
- ✓ 1 Sawn-off shotgun
- ✓ Wooden stock for shotgun
- ✓ Man's white shirt
- ✓ Man's brown cap
- ✓ Man's brown felt hat
- ✓ Man's leather belt
- ✓ Man's brown trousers

*A-1*

*ST-115*

- ③ - Bureau (Enc. 5) (RM)
  - 1 - Package
  - 2 - Springfield (91-3699)
- RCH/tlp  
(6)

REC 30

*cc 11/10  
8/30/67  
91-21411-3*

14 AUG 24 1967

*L. C. District*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

SI 91-3699

- 57 ✓ Woman's nylon hose
- 66 ✓ Foot of woman's nylon hose
- ✓ Matchfolder bearing advertising for King Edward Cigarillos
- ✓ Partial package of Lucky Strike Cigarettes

For information of the Latent Fingerprint Section, the shotgun shells are located in the jacket pocket of the navy blue windbreaker, and have not been touched by any investigating officer.

The following latent fingerprint investigation is requested for examination of the shotgun shells, the sawed-off shotgun, the wooden stock, the leather belt, the matchfolder, and the Lucky Strike Cigarette package should be examined for latent fingerprints.

For elimination purposes, fingerprints of Sergeant RAYMOND PARTON, Alton Police Department, and of KIM BRUNS, ERNEST PURSLEY, THOMAS NOEL, and DENNIS BRUNS are enclosed herewith.

The laboratory is further requested to examine the clothing being submitted for laundry and dry cleaning marks. The laboratory is also further requested to compare the two submitted samples of nylon hose to determine if they make up an identical woman's hose.

The laboratory is also requested to raise the serial number on the submitted shotgun, in order that it might be traced to its ultimate owner.

Upon completion of requested examination, it is requested that the evidence be returned to the Springfield Division.



PC A1071

T. Lams Page

You will be advised of the results of the fingerprint exam of QV and the "Also Submitted" items by a separate report. The attempt to raise the obliterated serial number on QV is continuing and you will be advised of the result in a separate report. Upon completion of the exam, the submitted suit case will be returned to you under separate cover by Railway Express.

Results -

Seven to light brown head hairs of Caucasian origin were found on specimens Q3, Q5 and in Q8. These hairs have been mounted for possible future comparisons with known head hair samples from any suspect you may develop.

No hairs were found on any of the other items.

"NO" or "NO", "JOH-U" or "JOH-O" have been returned to the inside collar of Q3.

Visible laundry markings "44" and "3107-3" are present on the right front pocket of Q6. Visible

Secondary markings "T6276" and "U7703" are also present on the right rear pocket of Q6.

The identity of the laundry causing these markings is unknown to the Laboratory.

No other visible and no invisible laundry markings were found on any of the submitted items.

Specimen Q7 is a complete stocking having one end tied in knots.

Specimen Q8 is the foot portion of a stocking. Q7 and Q8 are different types and colors of stockings and could not be matched.

Nothing else of significance was noted about the submitted specimens.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10  
MAY 1962 EDITION  
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27  
5010-104

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

RESULTS OF SEARCH  
SPRINGFIELD  
SEP 15 1967

COMM. CONTROL NO. 2

TO : Director, FBI (Attn: Bank Robbery Unit)

(DATE) DATE: 7-16-67

FROM : SAC, SPRINGFIELD (CI-3899)

OO: SPRINGFIELD

SI Office File 91- 3699

Bureau File 91- 27477

SUBJECT: UNSUBS (2); THE BANK OF ALTON,  
ALTON, ILLINOIS, 7-13-67,  
Complete Title) BR

Lead #

MO-PA Control Number

If prior form submitted on this subject for this robbery, advise date of form

BANK ROBBERY (MO-PA FILE)

FBI Number

600-12

Name of subject to which this form applies:

UNSUB # 1.

Bank Robbery Suspect

Bank Robbery Suspect - File

1 - Bureau  
1 - Springfield (61-2450)  
RCH:db  
(2)

NOT RECORDED

9 JUL 21 1967

Handwritten initials and stamps at bottom right.

MODUS OPERANDI - PERSONAL APPEARANCE  
SEARCH REPORT 9/ 9/67

BASE CASE	MO-PA CONTROL NO. 08400
TITLE BANK ROBBERY SUSPECT 7/13/67	OFFICE SPRI OFFICE FILE 91- 3699
NAME 1	FBI NO.

## CODES

SEX	MALE	RACE	CAUCASTAN	BIRTH YEAR	32
HEIGHT	NOTICE TALL	HAIR	BROWN	DDMINT HND	RIGHT
CLOTHING	WORK				

NO POSSIBLES

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10  
MAY 1962 EDITION  
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27  
5010-104

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

SUSPECT SEARCH  
SENT TO FIELD  
SEP 13 1957  
DATE 7-19-57

SEARCHED  
INDEXED  
SERIALIZED  
FILED  
FBI - SPRINGFIELD

TO : Director, FBI (Attn: Bank Robbery Unit)

FROM : SAC, SPRINGFIELD (91-3699)

OO: SPRINGFIELD

SI Office File 91- 3553

Bureau File 91- 22477

SUBJECT: UNSUBS (2); THE BANK OF ALTON,  
ALTON, ILLINOIS, 7-19-57,  
ER

Loot \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
MO-PA Control Number \_\_\_\_\_

If prior form submitted on this subject for this robbery, advise date of form \_\_\_\_\_

BANK ROBBERY (MO-PA FILE)

FBI Number 060-12

Name of subject to which this form applies:

UNSUB #2.

Bank Robbery Suspect

Bank Robbery Suspect - File

1 - Bureau  
1 - Springfield (91-2450)  
RCH:bb  
(2)

91-2-94  
NOT RECORDED  
JUL 21 1957

Handwritten initials and scribbles at the bottom right of the page.

MICUS OPERARDI - PERSONAL APPEARANCE  
SEARCH REPORT 9/ 9/67

BASE CASE	MO-PA CONTROL NO. 08401
TITLE BANK ROBBERY SUSPECT 7/13/67	OFFICE SPRI OFFICE FILE 91- 3699
NAME 2	FBI NO.

## CODES

SEX	MALE	RACE	CAUCASIAN	BIRTH YEAR	27
VOICE	GRUF/HOARSE	DOMINT HND	RIGHT	CLOTHING	WORK

NO POSSIBLES

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SPRINGFIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN SPRINGFIELD	DATE 8/11/67	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 7/13/67 - 8/7/67
TITLE OF CASE UNSUBS (2); THE BANK OF ALTON, ALTON, ILLINOIS, 7/13/67		REPORT MADE BY SA ROBERT C. HAINES	TYPED BY CSS
		CHARACTER OF CASE BR	

REFERENCE: Springfield airtel to Bureau dated 7/13/67.

- P -

ENCLOSURES:

TO BUREAU:

Six photographs of exterior of The Bank of Alton.

LEADS:

CHICAGO DIVISION

At Chicago, Illinois

Conduct appropriate background investigation regarding W. L. YOUNG, 1020 Valley Drive, to determine whether he or an associate by the name of "SPEERT" should be considered a suspect in instant matter.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED NONE.

It has been: Pending over one year  Yes  No; Pending prosecution over six months  Yes  No

APPROVED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: 1 - Bureau (Enc.6) 1 - USA, Springfield 2 - Chicago 2 - Indianapolis 1 - St. Louis (Info) 3 - Springfield (91-3699)		71. 97494-2	85-22
		1 AUG 17 1967	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report		Notations	
Recd.		STATISTICAL	
Fwd.			
Ret.			
Cover Page			

AUG 22 1967





SI 91-3699

was requested to make inquiries of his associates regarding possible suspects or other information of value.

On 7/15/67 ~~informant~~ was contacted by SA JOHN W. LEWIS concerning captioned bank robbery, with negative results. *informant*

On 7/18/67 ~~informant~~ was contacted by SA HERMAN O. LYLE concerning captioned matter, with negative results. *informant*

On 7/13/67 ~~informant~~ was contacted by SA RICHARD D. BATISTE, JR., re captioned matter, with negative results. He was advised of the facts of the bank robbery and requested to make inquiries of his associates regarding possible suspects or other information of value. He stated he has no knowledge at this time of any suspects but that he would make the necessary inquiries to determine what information he could pick up. *informant*

On 7/15/67 ~~informant~~ was contacted by SA JOHN W. LEWIS re captioned matter, with negative results. *informant*

On 7/16/67, ~~informant~~ was contacted by SA JOHN W. LEWIS and advised he had no information of value concerning the above matter. *informant*

On 7/17/67 ~~informant~~ was contacted by SA HERMAN O. LYLE re captioned matter, with negative results. *informant*

On 8/7/67 ~~informant~~ advised SA ROBERT C. HAINES that he has developed information that four individuals were involved in the robbery of The Bank of Alton, as follows:

JOHN MC CLINTOCK  
LOUIS CARTER  
RALPH PAGE  
CHUCK BAZE

He stated that CARTER's wife (RITA) worked at the bank and would have access to information regarding the physical setup inside the bank. He further advised that NANCY HARPER, who is to appear in Madison County Circuit Court on 8/9/67 on a bad check charge out of Wood River, has knowledge of all details of the bank robbery and is with

SI 91-3699

the subjects. He stated that from his information, all went to California shortly after the bank robbery, with a large amount of cash.

It is to be noted that on the evening of 8/7/67 WILLIAM BEARDSMORE, Executive Vice-President, The Bank of Alton, advised that RITA CARTER was at one time Head Bookkeeper at The Bank of Alton. He said that she was fired because her husband, LOUIS, made advances to the other female employees while in the bank, ostensibly waiting for his wife to finish up in the evenings.

F B I

Date: 7-13-67

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO DIRECTOR, FBI  
 FROM SAC, SPRINGFIELD (91-3699)  
 RE: UNSUBS (2); THE BANK OF ALTON,  
 ALTON, ILLINOIS, 7-13-67  
 BR  
 OO: SI

*[Handwritten signature]*

At 1:35 p.m., 7-13-67, two white males wearing stocking masks entered captioned bank, FDIC insured. Unsub No. 1 immediately walked behind tellers' cages, told teller to move out of way and emptied cash drawer; moved to adjoining cage and did likewise. Unsub No. 2 stood by side door of bank at customer counter and covered interior of bank with sawed off shotgun. After emptying cash drawers Unsubs left on foot by side door. No getaway car identified to date. Loot, \$27,230.

Unsub No. 1 described white, male, 6', 160, slender, well modulated voice, wearing light blue-gray coveralls, carrying small blued automatic pistol, approximately 35 years of age.

Unsub No. 2 described white, male, 5'8", 170, stocky, wearing light clothing, possibly coveralls, carrying sawed off shotgun, deep gruff voice.

No one in bank harmed. No bait money taken. Tellers' area and exit door processed for latent fingerprints with negative results.

All offices contact CIs, PCIs, PDS, and logical sources to develop suspects who might be involved in instant matter.

UNSUBS ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

71-27494-1

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - Chicago
- 2 - Indianapolis
- 2 - Louisville
- 2 - St. Louis
- 2 - Milwaukee
- 2 - Omaha
- 2 - Springfield

MCT-14  
 REC 27  
 EX 101

20 JUL 15 1967

*[Handwritten initials]*

RCH:VLS

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Agent in Charge

Mr. LESAR. Will we be provided with copies of the documents?

Chairman STOKES. Every document entered into the record will be made available to counsel.

Mr. LESAR. All right.

One further request, Mr. Chairman. There is a second FBI teletype that I would also like to have admitted, and I would like to read—

Chairman STOKES. I think that one may already be in our record.

Mr. LESAR. Well, I don't know, I think it is important.

Chairman STOKES. You can refer to it. If it is already in the record, then there would be no need for you to move at this point for it to be entered into the record.

What is the date of the document?

Mr. LESAR. Let me give you the—

Chairman STOKES. I asked you the date of the document.

Mr. LESAR. Yes. It's May 31, 1968.

Chairman STOKES. Isn't that part of the Alton bank robbery file?

Mr. LESAR. No. Well, that depends. You see, I have handled a number of Freedom of Information Act suits and I have learned that the FBI has very bizarre filing systems; it has such things as "do not record" files and dead files and new dead files.

Chairman STOKES. Does the document in your hand relate to the Alton bank robbery?

Mr. LESAR. Yes, it does.

Chairman STOKES. Read it. Go ahead and read it.

Mr. LESAR. "FBI, Washington, D.C., FBI, St. Louis."

It is a teletype.

9:50 p.m. Urgent 5-31-68 JLS.  
To Director, Memphis and Springfield.  
From St. Louis (944-775).  
MURKIN—Summary.  
Re-Deleted.

Reinterviewed. Photo of blank blank exhibited. Positively identified same as being of person who visited him July sixty-seven, told him he and Ray had robbed Alton, Illinois, bank, and gave \$250. Identified positively as person who visited him May 13-14 last with blank was then advised that person was in jail at times of robbery and alleged visits sixty-seven.

Blank hesitated, then said had realized past eight days he had give FBI quote bumsteer unquote and quote bum beef unquote on Alton Bank and blank whose name he then recalled, stated had been thinking about it and decided it was another blank—

Last name unknown, in parenthesis.

whose identity would be known only to Ray, who had visited and told him of Ray participation in Alton robbery. Was reminded that if he had lied about blank he might also be lying about Ray participation. He insisted the otherwise unknown blank had visited him in sixty-seven as previously stated and told him of Ray participation in robbery. Could think of no one other than Ray would know this individual's identity.

Then an entire paragraph is deleted.

It says:

Re ex-con blank.

Ex-con blank has previously advised of ex-con whose identity he had not been asked to reveal from whom he had received impression that Ray had been seen briefly in St. Louis by him two weeks following MSP escape. On last interview blank revealed identity of this person as blank. Blank interviewed. Was in MSP blank to blank, unable to recall Ray but believed photo vaguely familiar. Believed Ray must have spent much time in solitary or would know him. Positively denied having seen

Ray after escape or having any knowledge of whereabouts. Volunteered recent conversation with blank concerning Ray in which they both unsuccessful in recalling Ray at MSP. Remembered they speculated on methods he might use to escape.

There is a following page, page 3.

Re Jerry Raynes, Carol Pepper, John Larry Ray. Sources and spot checks disclosed no significant activity.

Subject armed and dangerous.

Drops down and says, "Following MSP escape, one last interview revealed identity of this person as blank blank."

And then: "Blank interviewed."

I would request this be admitted. I would also request that if the committee has a copy which is unexcised or if it has the names of the people in here, that they be provided us so that we may assist in this inquiry.

Chairman STOKES. The document that you have just read is already one of the documents the Chair has ordered made a part of the complete file with reference to all FBI documents relating to the Alton bank robbery, and therefore has already been made a part of this record.

Proceed, Mr. Speiser.

Mr. SPEISER. Mr. Ray, I would like you to focus your attention on the reduced photograph of the chart that appears over to your right. Notice several facts that are depicted on that chart. There are two people in the bank with masks and hats, one had a shotgun and that person stood guard, and one had a pistol, and he was the one who retrieved the money. Masks and clothes worn in the crime were discarded near the scene. The second chart that is exhibited over there shows the relationship of the Alton Bank and the short distance between that bank, where the evidence was discarded, and your uncle's home.

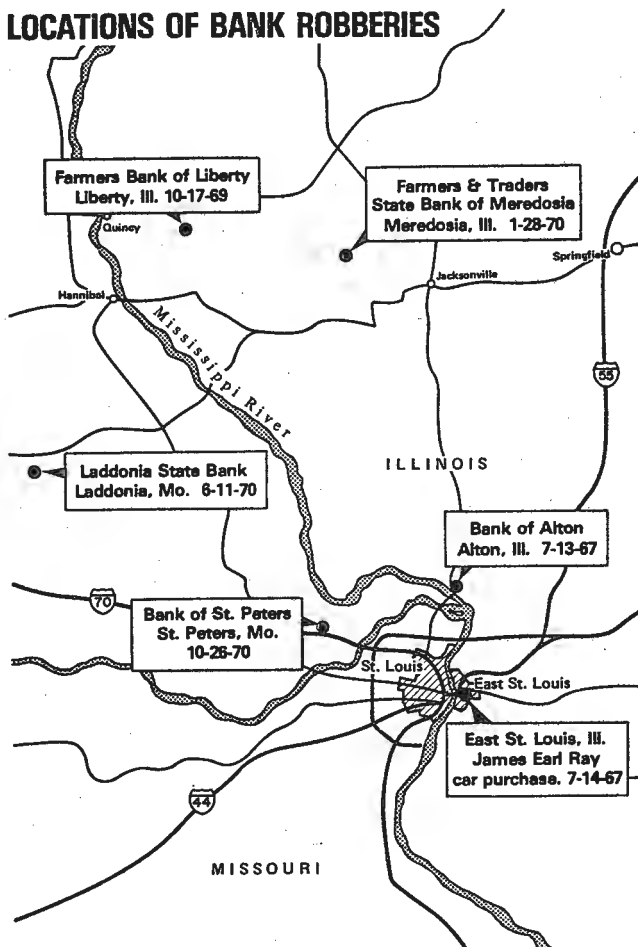
At this time, Mr. Chairman, I would request that certain additional charts be exhibited, these charts having previously been entered into the record. These exhibits are as follows: MLK exhibits F-648, F-649, F-650, F-651, and F-652.<sup>1</sup> And last, MLK exhibit F-653, which is the last chart appearing on the right, which shows the geographical relationship of five of these six banks to one another. I would ask at this point that MLK exhibit F-653 be incorporated in the record.

Chairman STOKES. Without objection, so ordered.

[MLK exhibit F-653 follows:]

<sup>1</sup> See text, supra, at 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20.

## LOCATIONS OF BANK ROBBERIES



MLK EXHIBIT F-653

Mr. LESAR. May I note a couple of observations?

Mr. SPEISER. Let me just make one more point.

We have reduced photocopies of these exhibits, and I would request that the clerk furnish your client at this time.

Mr. LESAR. Yes. I want to raise a couple of questions after you finish. Are you finished?

Chairman STOKES. Do you have an objection to raise to the Chair? The Chair is not going to entertain observations.

Mr. LESAR. Yes. I have a number of objections to raise.

Mr. SPEISER. I have not asked the question yet.

Mr. LESAR. I am objecting to the admission of these exhibits in evidence, although since they were admitted prior to our appearing here—

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Lesar, these exhibits have already been made a part of the record.

Mr. LESAR. I would move to strike them. They are prejudicial and highly suggestive in some ways, and yet if you look at them there are all kinds of questions that just pop out.

Chairman STOKES. At this point, sir, you may register your objection.

Mr. LESAR. Let me state the factual basis for it. My objection is that here it says on the one hand it has the residence of James Earl Ray for mid-1940's, it has the Bank of Alton, Ill., over here. We don't know that the Bank of Illinois even existed in the mid-1940's. This map does not tell that. It says residence of William Maher, 1945, 1967. When in 1967, before or after the bank was robbed?

Chairman STOKES. Sir, all your objections to the introduction of these exhibits pursuant to your motion to strike are hereby noted in the record, and at this point counsel is requested to proceed to any question he has relative to these documents.

Mr. SPEISER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. These charts, six in number, are based upon information retrieved by local police departments and the Federal Bureau of Investigation in connection with their investigation of each one of those bank robberies beginning with the Bank of Alton robbery and the succeeding five robberies reflected by those charts.

Mr. LESAR. I note for the record there is no scale of miles reflected on the chart.

Mr. SPEISER. I am making a representation in connection with the Alton bank robbery, the distance between the bank, Mr. Maher's residence, and the evidence—where the evidence was retrieved.

Mr. Ray, I remind you that your testimony is being solicited solely for assistance to this committee and that the statute of limitations covering each and every one of those bank robberies has expired, that in addition to that fact you have been granted immunity, so keep that in mind when you are responding to my questions, please.

Mr. RAY. Yes, sir.

Mr. SPEISER. Mr. Ray, focusing upon the second chart which is the chart depicting the robbery of the Farmers Bank of Liberty, Ill. Did you partake in the robbery of that bank?

Mr. LESAR. Objection, Mr. Chairman. I have the basic objection that I am going to make. But before I make it, I would request under the Watkins ruling that the committee state the purpose of this line of inquiry.

Chairman STOKES. Counsel may state the purpose of the line of inquiry.

Mr. SPEISER. The line of inquiry is several-fold, Mr. Chairman. First of all, this committee has reviewed each and every one of these robberies and determined that the modus operandi which transpired in each and every one of these robberies that took place subsequent to the capture of James Earl Ray were practically identical to the robbery modus operandi in the Bank of Alton which took place in July 1967 while James Earl Ray was a fugitive. So we feel that the robberies that we are about to question Mr. John Ray about, that occurred postcapture of James Earl Ray,

serve as a good indicator of earlier conduct of James Earl Ray and perhaps the witness John Ray.

In addition, we have evidence, which I will confront Mr. Ray with as soon as I get to the questions, which would suggest Mr. Ray partook in these robberies, so another purpose for which these questions will serve will be to ascertain the credibility of the witness John Larry Ray.

Our committee's mission is multifold. One is to investigate the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and one line of inquiry will be to determine whether the FBI properly handled the investigations of the Bank of Alton robbery and the other robberies. So that is the nature of my inquiry.

Mr. LESAR. Counsel, the mandate of the committee, as I recall it, is to investigate the circumstances surrounding the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King which occurred on April 4, 1968. It seems apparent that bank robberies which occurred after James Earl Ray was arrested and convicted have no pertinence or relevance or materiality to that inquiry, so I am objecting, first and foremost, on the simple ground that it is not relevant, it is beyond the scope of this committee's inquiry.

Second, I am objecting because there are representations made that the modus operandi here is similar, and yet it is apparent from our examination of the documents that were provided us, after working hours last night, that there are differences in the modus operandi; in fact, there is, among other things, a 2-year gap between the Alton, Ill., bank robbery and the rash of these bank robberies which occurred in 1969 and 1970.

Chairman STOKES. Your objection is overruled. Counsel's objections are noted for the record.

Proceed, Mr. Speiser.

Mr. LESAR. May I state my advice to my client? I am advising my client to refuse to answer the question.

Mr. SPEISER. Mr. Ray, my pending question to you is, did you partake in the robbery—

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Speiser, suspend for a moment.

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman, I neglected to state a couple of additional points that I wish to make in my objection. One of these is that these questions were previously asked to Mr. Ray in executive session. At that time I felt that I had no recourse but to advise him, even though I felt it was unconstitutional and improper and beyond the scope of this committee's inquiry, to answer those questions. The record of his answers is already contained in these transcripts, and you have the information available. So there is no purpose being served other than sheer harassment and intimidation by pursuing this line of inquiry at this time.

Chairman. STOKES. Counsel has stated his objections. They will be made a part of the record. The Chair at this point rules Mr. Ray's testimony on this issue is both relevant and material to the committee's inquiry. As has been stated by counsel for the committee, it is relevant and material because of three separate issues on which it is substantially based:

First, it is material for the committee to ascertain whether John Ray participated in the Bank of Alton robbery in 1967. If John Ray participated in the Bank of Alton robbery, the possibility that the



robbery was the source of James Earl Ray's finances, either by John giving James some of the proceeds or James' direct participation in the robbery, might be probed in depth by the committee.

Demonstrating subsequent similar acts to the Alton robbery by John Ray materially affects the committee's determination as to whether he committed the Alton robbery.

Second, it is material for the committee to assess the credibility of John Ray on all the pertinent issues he has been asked to testify upon. These issues would include, for example, John's knowledge of James' escape from Missouri State Prison, the number of times the two of them might have met subsequent to that escape, as well as his participation in the Bank of Alton robbery.

Third, the committee is mandated to determine the adequacy of all prior investigations conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Justice into the assassination of Dr. King. John Ray's testimony concerning these bank robberies is material to determine if the bureau and department adequately and properly investigated all possible connections John Ray may have had to James or to the assassination.

For example, the select committee must determine whether the Department of Justice task force report in 1977 was deficient in failing to probe the possibility of John Ray's involvement in the bank robbery as evidence of his participation in the Alton robbery.

Accordingly, since the testimony sought is both relevant and material to the committee's inquiry, the objections of counsel are hereby overruled, and the Chair directs Mr. Ray to answer the question.

Counsel's other objections go to the weight of the evidence, not its admissibility, and will be considered by the committee at an appropriate time.

The witness is directed to answer the question.

Mr. SPEISER. I will restate the question, Mr. Ray.

Mr. RAY. I would like to ask him a question. I would like to comment on his question.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Ray, at this time you just answer the counsel's question. If you have something after that, the Chair will entertain your question.

Mr. SPEISER. On October 17, 1969, the Farmers Bank of Liberty, Ill., was robbed. My question to you is, did you participate in the robbery of that bank?

Mr. RAY. I would like to confer with counsel for a minute.

Mr. LESAR. Your Honor, he had already testified that he has not participated in any bank robberies. He has answered questions about this and every other bank robbery in executive session. The committee's purposes, if they are within the scope of the committee's mandate, which I do not believe they are, have already been fulfilled. Therefore there is no purpose. I note that when this committee held—

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Lesar, the Chair provided you adequate opportunity in support of your objection to argue to the Chair. Subsequently the Chair has ruled. The witness has been directed to answer the question. The witness has been directed to answer the question.

He has now conferred with you and is being directed to answer the question. The Chair does not care to hear from counsel further. The witness is directed to answer the question.

Mr. LESAR. Let me say—

Chairman STOKES. Maybe you don't understand. The witness is directed to answer the question.

Mr. LESAR. I object.

Chairman STOKES. Your objection has been overruled. The witness at this point is being directed to answer the question and the Chair will not entertain any further objections from you.

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman—

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Ray, do you understand at this point that unless counsel complies with the order of this Chair, that you will not be represented in this room by him? Do you understand that?

Mr. RAY. What he is trying to ask you is, he would like to have a 5-minute recess to talk this over.

Chairman STOKES. He said objection; he didn't say anything about requesting a recess.

Mr. LESAR. But you didn't let me. You overrode me. You have not let me get a word in edgewise all morning, and I think it is sickening.

Chairman STOKES. You are a disgrace.

Mr. LESAR. I would ask you to recess and make that statement outside where you do not enjoy congressional immunity and while we are about that, Mr. Blakey—

Chairman STOKES. The motion for a recess at this time is denied.

Sir, you are directed to answer the question.

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman, I think the Chair's remarks place counsel for James Earl Ray—excuse me, for John Ray—in a position which may be untenable, and I would request a ruling from the Chair as to whether or not I can properly continue to represent John Ray.

Chairman STOKES. The Chair at this time, pursuant to counsel's request, will request the chairman of the subcommittee to assume the chair.

Mr. LESAR. I do not think that answers the question. I am placed in a position where I have a very difficult decision to make. My client has an extraordinarily difficult decision to make. He has already spent 3 months in jail because on June 7, Mr. Blakey of this committee represented to the parole commissioner that the committee had conclusively established that my client was involved in these bank robberies. The wording of the statement, which was read this morning for Mr. Blakey by Mr. Wolf, is at variance with that.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Mr. Lesar, inasmuch as I am now chairing the hearings, I am going to grant you the request for a 5-minute recess. The committee is recessed for 5 minutes. I am going to remind all persons in the room that, pursuant to requests of the Office of the U.S. Marshal, no person is to stand while the witness is exiting the room.

The committee is recessed for 5 minutes.

[Recess.]

Mr. FAUNTROY. The committee will resume at this point. And I caution and respectfully request that all persons in the room will be seated preparatory to the return of the witness and his counsel.

May we now have the witness.

The requested recess having been granted, I yield now to counsel to continue questioning of the witness.

Mr. LESAR. Excuse me, Mr. Chairman. I wish to raise a couple of matters, and then the questioning will proceed.

Mr. FAUNTROY. I take it that you have an objection to—

Mr. LESAR. It is in the nature of an objection. I have two or three things.

One is, first, I would request a ruling from this Chair whether or not I can continue to represent Mr. Ray and to properly advise him, given the extreme hostility and disparaging attitude that has been expressed toward me by members of this committee, who have, for what I regard as quite proper and diligent representation of my client. To be quite honest with you, I feel very helpless because my client is being railroaded, he has been prejudicially damaged by statements to which we have no opportunity to respond, or to produce evidence, or to produce witnesses, or to raise any proper questions about.

My client—so that I would make that—I would request a ruling on that.

In addition, I would also request that the remarks by the former presiding chairman, Mr. Stokes, about me, characterizing me, be stricken from the record. I think that it was highly unprofessional for a distinguished Member of Congress to make such remarks about counsel.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Let the Chair state in response to your first objection that the Chair will not rule that the committee—

Chairman STOKES. Does the chairman recognize me?

Mr. FAUNTROY. Does the gentleman wish to be recognized?

Chairman STOKES. Yes, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. FAUNTROY. I recognize the distinguished chairman of the full committee.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Chairman, as chairman of the full committee, the Chair did address some remarks to counsel for the witness, which remarks are regrettable, and I would at this time request leave of the Chair to, and unanimous consent, to withdraw those remarks from the record.

Mr. FAUNTROY. The unanimous consent request has been made by the distinguished chairman.

Without objection, the request is granted.

Now, with respect to your objection, on the grounds of the—

Mr. LESAR. Excuse me.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Do you have another objection to raise? You told me you had two or three.

Mr. LESAR. Yes. Well, I think I have an earlier ruling which was never ruled upon and I request a ruling on it. It is in the form of an objection to the narration. I think I made a motion to strike the narration which was read into the record today.

I construe it, quite frankly, as—

Mr. FAUNTROY. When did you make that motion?

Mr. LESAR. Well, I think sometime back.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Let me deal with each objection that you have as you raise it.

Mr. LESAR. Right.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Now, would you refresh the Chair's memory as to what the first objection you raised was since we have resumed this session.

Mr. LESAR. The first request was a ruling on whether or not I could continue as counsel. The second one was that there be a motion that the remarks about me by Chairman Stokes be stricken from the record.

The second motion has been acted upon. The first has not.

Mr. FAUNTROY. All right.

Mr. FITHIAN. Mr. Chairman?

Mr. FAUNTROY. If the gentleman would allow me just to rule on his objection.

With respect to your first objection relative to your competency to represent the witness, I would rule that you are perfectly acceptable to the Chair to represent the witness.

However, the Chair would accept your tender of withdrawal if you wish so to do.

Your second objection had to do with the statement made by the chairman of the full committee which, as you know now, has been stricken—those statements have been stricken from the record.

Do you have other objections before I yield to counsel for questioning of the witness?

Mr. LESAR. Well, I want to explain—

Mr. FAUNTROY. Do you have any objections?

Mr. LESAR. Well, my explanations are objections, yes.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Are you objecting to the fact that you are not able to testify here?

Mr. LESAR. No, I am not objecting to that.

Mr. FAUNTROY. What is your objection?

Mr. LESAR. Well, I guess my objection is one that I feel—

Mr. FAUNTROY. How many more objections do you have, so that we can allocate our time?

Mr. LESAR. Well, let me finish. Let me just outline what I would like to say and—

Mr. FAUNTROY. No. If you have an objection, give it to us, and I will rule on the objection.

Mr. LESAR. Well, I think it would be helpful to the committee if I could explain some circumstances which have arisen vis-a-vis me and my client.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Does this relate to an objection you plan to raise?

Mr. LESAR. No, it relates to the question that you posed to me, that you put on my back, which was whether or not I felt I could—I wished to withdraw.

Mr. FAUNTROY. I made a very specific response to your specific request as to whether in the opinion of the Chair you were competent to represent the witness. The answer is, in the opinion of the Chair, you are competent to represent the witness.

Is there any other objection before we return to the business at hand which is the interrogation of the witness?

Mr. LESAR. Well, I am not sure that competence is really the ruling that I requested.

Mr. FAUNTROY. What ruling did you request? Maybe I didn't understand your question.

Mr. LESAR. The question is whether or not I have been placed in an untenable position because of the threatening and intimidating remarks of the Chair which influence and I think are calculated to influence my judgment as to what I can do on behalf of my client.

Mr. FAUNTROY. I understand your objection now. The specific answer to your question is that in my judgment you are not—you have not compromised your ability to represent the witness.

Mr. LESAR. Now, I wish to explain. Before we left, I had advised my client—

Mr. FAUNTROY. Do you have any other objections?

Mr. LESAR. I wish to explain my client's position on a difficult question which has arisen as to whether or not—

Mr. FAUNTROY. May I have for the record the last question posed to the witness, posed to refresh the witness as to what we are asking of him now?

Mr. Speiser, you may pose the question.

Mr. SPEISER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

If you would permit me, if I can make one statement prior to posing that question, in response to a point made by Mr. Lesar, we are not at this point attempting to ask Mr. Ray to state publicly what he stated privately to us. We are not here for that purpose. We are asking Mr. Ray questions similar to those that were posed to him in executive session—

Mr. LESAR. Identical, I believe.

Mr. SPEISER. Excuse me?

Mr. LESAR. Identical, I believe.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Proceed.

Mr. LESAR. Not similar, identical.

Mr. FAUNTROY. If you want to address the committee, counsel, kindly address the Chair.

Counsel, would you proceed to pose the question?

Mr. SPEISER. I am asking these questions—we are asking these questions to you, Mr. Ray, because we have uncovered evidence subsequent to your appearance before this committee in executive session. That evidence suggests that you testified falsely and perjurally before this committee in executive session. That is the reason why we are repeating the questions, certain questions, to you at this time.

Now, the question I posed to you is that on October 17, 1969, the Farmers Bank of Liberty, Ill., was robbed. Did you participate in the robbery of that bank?

Mr. LESAR. Objection. Until—I would like to explain that Mr. Ray has decided now to answer the question. I want to explain—

Mr. FAUNTROY. What is your objection about his answering?

Mr. LESAR. My objection is that I should be allowed to explain why he has changed his—why he has refused to accept my advice.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Mr. Lesar, this is a hearing called to hear testimony from Mr. Ray. If Mr. Ray's decision is to answer the question, I direct now that he answer it.

Mr. Ray, will you answer the question?

Mr. LESAR. It is relevant, I think, however, to whether or not I should continue to represent him perhaps. And I would—

Mr. FAUNTROY. You will have 5 minutes at the end, as you know, to amplify, modify or otherwise——

Mr. LESAR. That's meaningless and we both know it——

Mr. FAUNTROY. Mr. Lesar, two people cannot talk at the same time. Will you allow me to speak?

Mr. LESAR. Yes.

Mr. FAUNTROY. You understand that as counsel for the witness, who is here to testify, you will have an opportunity at the conclusion of the testimony to summarize, modify, or otherwise amplify the testimony of the person whom you represent.

I, therefore, now direct the witness to respond to the question posed by counsel.

Mr. Ray——

Mr. RAY. Excuse me a minute.

Yes. Please reread the question.

Mr. SPEISER. You want me to repeat the question again?

Mr. RAY. Yes.

Mr. SPEISER. On October 17, 1969, Farmers Bank of Liberty, Ill., was robbed of \$10,995. My question to you is: Did you participate in the robbery of that bank?

Mr. RAY. I did not participate in that bank robbery.

Mr. SPEISER. When I say participate, I mean either be present in the bank during the course of the robbery or be outside of the bank and assisting the perpetrators of the crime in their getaway.

Did you play any function in either one of those roles?

Mr. RAY. I did not participate in any way.

Mr. SPEISER. Do you know James R. Rogers?

Mr. RAY. Yes.

Mr. SPEISER. How do you know Mr. Rogers?

Mr. RAY. Through association in the tavern I had. He is a carpenter.

Mr. SPEISER. He is a what?

Mr. RAY. He is a carpenter and I employed him to remodel the tavern I owned.

Mr. SPEISER. I would like to advise you, Mr. Ray, Mr. Rogers has testified before this committee and——

Mr. LESAR. Excuse me. We have not been provided with any testimony of Mr. Rogers. Could we please see it?

Mr. SPEISER. May I finish my question?

Mr. Rogers has testified before this committee that he participated in the Farmers Bank of Liberty, Ill. robbery with you, that just the two of you robbed that bank.

In view of Mr. Rogers' testimony, do you still assert that you did not participate in the robbery of that bank?

Mr. LESAR. Objection.

Mr. FAUNTROY. The Chair will hear the counsel's objection.

Mr. LESAR. Yes.

The objection is that we have not been provided with any testimony of Mr. Rogers, and I would ask at this time that it be provided us.

Mr. FAUNTROY. The request is granted. Will counsel please provide the witness and his counsel with a copy of the testimony of Mr. Rogers.

I direct the clerk to show the witness the relevant testimony from Mr. Rogers.

Mr. SPEISER. For your edification, Mr. Lesar, I do not have copies of the transcript. But I will give you the transcript itself and ask that you read pages 10 and 11 which reflects the testimony of Mr. Rogers on June 8, 1978, where he was questioned about the subject bank robbery.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Do I understand from counsel that this testimony was taken under oath?

Mr. SPEISER. Yes, Mr. Chairman. This testimony was taken in executive session, under oath.

Mr. LESAR. Excuse me. You said——

Mr. SPEISER. Pages 10 and 11.

Have you had an opportunity to read pages 10 and 11?

Mr. LESAR. Just about finished.

Mr. SPEISER. Are you ready to respond to the question?

Mr. LESAR. Yes, I think he is ready to respond to the question. Let me——could I——

Mr. FAUNTROY. Does counsel have objection?

Mr. LESAR. Just a request that he restate the question.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Will counsel for the committee restate the question?

Mr. SPEISER. My question is, having had the opportunity to read the sworn testimony of James Rogers who testifies that he and you robbed the Farmers Bank of Liberty, Ill., having had an opportunity to read that testimony, is it still your position that you did not participate in that robbery?

Mr. RAY. First, can I ask a question myself concerning, you know——instead of answering yes or no, can I explain about anything pertaining to any bank robbery instead of saying yes or no?

Mr. SPEISER. Feel free to.

Mr. RAY. James Rogers said——he testified that I helped him rob this bank; right? Is that what you said?

Mr. SPEISER. Yes, sir.

Mr. RAY. James Rogers, you see, has a bad heart, and he is under Federal parole for bank robbery. And I believe when he saw this committee, incarcerated me in solitary confinement for 60 or 70 days, he probably would testify to anything.

So I would say Jim Rogers is testifying falsely.

Mr. SPEISER. So, again, just for the report, your testimony is that you did not participate in that bank robbery?

Mr. RAY. No.

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman——

Mr. FAUNTROY. Does the gentleman have an objection to raise?

Mr. LESAR. Yes, I have an objection that these two pages have not been admitted into the record, and I would request that they——in fact, I would request that the entire transcript be admitted into the record.

Mr. FAUNTROY. I would be very happy to honor the gentleman's request that the relevant pages which were given to you be made a part of the public record as MLK exhibit F-667. But not the entire executive session.

Mr. LESAR. It would seem to me that the entire thing would be relevant. But I understand the Chair to have ruled otherwise.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Thank you. Then you understand.

[The information follows:]

## MLK EXHIBIT F-667

*Executive Session Transcript  
Testimony of James Russell Rogers  
June 8, 1978*

9

1 Mr. Eberhardt. Who obtained those weapons?

2 Mr. Rogers. Carl Kent and I.

3 Mr. Eberhardt. Did John Larry Ray have a weapon during  
4 the Bank of Hawthorn robbery?

5 Mr. Rogers. No.

6 Mr. Eberhardt. Are you sure of that?

7 Mr. Rogers. He was not even close, he picked us up on  
8 the highway.

9 Mr. Eberhardt. Now what other bank robberies have you  
10 been involved in with John Larry Ray?

11 Mr. Rogers. It was a small bank in Illinois, I cannot  
12 remember the name of it.

13 Mr. Eberhardt. Let me see if I can refresh your recollec-  
14 tion. The Farmers and Traders Bank of Meredosia, Illinois.

15 Mr. Rogers. Yes.

16 Mr. Eberhardt. That was it. That bank was robbed on  
17 January 28, 1970. Does that refresh your recollection?

18 Mr. Rogers. Yes.

19 Mr. Eberhardt. Was John Larry Ray involved in that bank  
20 robbery with you?

21 Mr. Rogers. Yes.

22 Mr. Eberhardt. What role did he play?

23 Mr. Rogers. He drove the car.

24 Mr. Eberhardt. Who else was involved in that?

25 Mr. Rogers. Ronald Goldstein.



1 Mr. Eberhardt. Anybody else?

2 Mr. Rogers. No, that's it.

3 Mr. Eberhardt. Were weapons used in that robbery?

4 Mr. Rogers. Yes.

5 Mr. Eberhardt. Did John Larry Ray have a weapon during  
6 the Farmers and Traders Bank robbery?

7 Mr. Rogers. No, he didn't. He was just setting in the  
8 car.

9 Mr. Eberhardt. Did he obtain the weapons that were used  
10 by you and Mr. Goldstein during the robbery?

11 Mr. Rogers. I really don't remember who obtained the  
12 weapons used in that bank robbery.

13 Mr. Eberhardt. Was there any other bank robbery in which  
14 John Larry Ray was involved along with you?

15 Mr. Rogers. Yes, one other little one.

16 Mr. Eberhardt. Another one, the fourth one that you were  
17 involved with John Larry Ray?

18 Mr. Rogers. Yes.

19 Mr. Eberhardt. Do you recall the name of that bank?

20 Mr. Rogers. A little town, 350 population.

21 Mr. Eberhardt. Let's see if I can refresh your recollec-  
22 tion again. Does the Farmers Bank of Liberty, Liberty,  
23 Missouri, refresh your recollection?

24 Mr. Rogers. Liberty, Missouri, no. Liberty, Illinois.

25 Mr. Eberhardt. Liberty, Illinois.

Mr. Rogers. Yes.

Mr. Edgar. Would counsel yield at that point?

Mr. Eberhardt. Yes, certainly.

Mr. Edgar. Could we take a three and a half to five minute recess.

Mr. Eberhardt. Certainly.

(Whereupon, a brief recess was taken.)

Mr. Fauntroy. The hearings will now resume and counsel may continue to question the witness.

Mr. Eberhardt. Mr. Rogers, let me go back over the last bank robbery series of questions that I have of the Farmers Bank of Liberty bank robbery which occurred on October 17, 1969. Do you recall that you were involved in the Farmers Bank of Liberty robbery on that date?

Mr. Rogers. I want to say I know the bank but I don't remember the name of the town so I am not sure it is Liberty.

Mr. Eberhardt. I think I misspoke, in fact I am sure that I did. The Farmers Bank of Liberty is in Liberty, Illinois, and it was robbed on October 17, 1969.

Mr. Rogers. I was not sure of the name.

Mr. Eberhardt. I apologize for confusing the states. Do you recall robbing the bank that was called the Farmers Bank of Liberty?

Mr. Rogers. Yes, if it is in Illinois.

Mr. Eberhardt. Does the name Liberty refresh your

Mr. FAUNTROY. So that counsel may now proceed? We have questions.

Mr. LESAR. Yes.

Mr. SPEISER. Thank you.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Counsel, proceed.

Mr. SPEISER. With respect to the third bank, the Farmers & Traders State Bank of Meredosia, Ill., did you participate in the robbery of that bank?

Mr. RAY. No; I did not.

Mr. SPEISER. Do you know who robbed that bank?

Mr. RAY. I do not.

Mr. SPEISER. I would like to advise you, Mr. Ray, that we have received testimony again from Mr. Rogers and from a Mr. Goldenstein who also admits participating in that bank robbery. Both of them have testified that they robbed that bank together with you and Jerry.

In view of their testimony, do you still continue to deny that you participated in the robbery of the Farmers & Traders State Bank of Meredosia, Ill.?

Mr. LESAR. Objection. We have not been provided with copies of that testimony. May we have that?

Mr. FAUNTROY. I am very pleased to sustain counsel's objection. Provide him with a copy of the relevant testimony.

Mr. LESAR. We will be provided with a copy?

Mr. FAUNTROY. Do you have another objection?

Mr. LESAR. No. My understanding is we are going to get it.

Mr. FAUNTROY. I made a simple statement. Provide him—

Mr. LESAR. I was distracted at the moment.

Mr. FAUNTROY. I am sorry. Excuse me.

Mr. SPEISER. Mr. Chairman, I have no problem in furnishing Mr. Lesar with the evidence that is the basis of my question. I am only posing that evidence, not to prove the substance of the offense, but merely to attempt to assist Mr. Ray in refreshing his recollection.

I don't personally feel that it is necessary to show Mr. Ray each and every one of these documents if his continued position is that he did not participate in the bank robberies.

Mr. LESAR. May I state my objection to that line of reasoning?

Mr. FAUNTROY. He has addressed the Chair. The Chair does rule that the witness be provided with the statements made by persons implicating him in the relevant robbery, and we will await his response as to whether he was involved, whether he wants to change his testimony. Let him see the page.

Mr. SPEISER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

With respect to Mr. Goldenstein's statement, that appears in MLK exhibit F-663,<sup>1</sup> which I request the clerk to furnish the witness at this time with respect to the statement of Mr. Rogers that appears in the executive session testimony of Mr. Rogers on page 9.

Mr. LESAR. You are referring to the same transcript you previously gave me?

Mr. SPEISER. Page 9.

Mr. LESAR. Before the witness answers the question—

Mr. FAUNTROY. Do you have an objection?

<sup>1</sup> See text, supra, at 24.

Mr. LESAR. Yes. I have an objection that I have been allowed to review these pages, but I would appreciate being provided copies so that we may review them during the proceedings today, particularly during the recess when it occurs.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Yes. We will be very happy to do that. And I do anticipate your requesting that this be made part of the record, the specific pages referenced.

Mr. LESAR. Yes.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Now, will the witness respond to the questions by counsel?

Counsel, would you repeat the question so that he may be sure that he is answering the right question?

Mr. SPEISER. Mr. Ray, in view of the statement of Mr. Goldenstein which you have before you, and the testimony of Mr. Rogers that they both participated in the robbery of the Farmers Bank of Meredosia, Ill., with you and Jerry Ray, do you continue to deny that you partook in that robbery?

Mr. LESAR. Objection.

Mr. FAUNTROY. The objection is heard.

Mr. LESAR. Yes. The counsel has, I believe, represented MLK F-663 as a statement of Mr. Goldenstein. Actually, it appears to be the statement—the statement appears to have been drawn up by Mr. Conrad Baetz, not by Mr. Goldenstein. It is not notarized or under oath. It is also hearsay.

And, in addition, as I have previously stated, Mr. Baetz is under a cloud. And I do not feel that evidence of this character should be accepted in evidence by this committee.

Mr. FAUNTROY. The objection is sustained. I will request counsel to rephrase his question.

Mr. SPEISER. Certainly, Mr. Chairman.

MLK exhibit F-663—and I beg your pardon, Mr. Lesar—is a report prepared by Mr. Baetz, not drawn up by Mr. Baetz—a report prepared by Mr. Baetz, based upon an interview he had with Mr. Goldenstein. It is not under oath—the report.

Now, in view of this report, and in view of the sworn testimony of Mr. Rogers, I again propound the question to you, Mr. Ray, did you participate in the robbery of the Farmers Bank of Meredosia, Ill.?

Mr. RAY. I did not participate in the robbery of that bank in Meredosia.

Mr. SPEISER. Did you participate in the robbery of the Laddonia State Bank in Laddonia, Mo.?

Mr. RAY. I did not participate in the robbery of the Laddonia State Bank.

Mr. SPEISER. Did you participate in the robbery of the bank of Hawthorne, Fla.?

Mr. RAY. Hawthorne, Fla.?

Mr. SPEISER. Hawthorne, Fla.

Mr. RAY. No. But James Rogers was convicted of it, and a guy named Carl Kent. There is another guy in the Federal penitentiary who claimed they robbed this bank.

Mr. SPEISER. My question is, did you?

Mr. RAY. No.

Mr. LESAR. I think he has said that. I think he is trying to be helpful and provide the committee with information about these banks. I think the committee should be very receptive to that.

Mr. SPEISER. The last bank I want to question you about, and this will be my last question to you, concerns the Bank of St. Peters, Mo.

Did you participate in the robbery of that bank?

Mr. RAY. I would like to explain that more—since I am convicted of this bank robbery here, right. I should have the opportunity to explain this more fully.

I was charged with picking up a certified individual in court—his name is Ronald Seibert Goldenstein—who stated I participated in this bank, this third bank. Ronald Goldenstein was tried as the principal, and I was tried as the aider and abetter.

There was two other principals missing. One was James Allen Benny and Jerry Lee Miller, but the court said James Allen Benny was deceased, and Jerry Lee Miller was—could not be located. So they tried me for picking up on the highway Ronald Seibert Goldenstein. They conduct—they conduct a legal search and seizure hearing in the courtroom of the Federal District Judge William H. Webster, who is now the Director of the FBI. The head of the office of the FBI, of the Federal Bureau of Investigations in St. Louis at the time, was J. Wallace LaPrade, who subsequently took office in New York City. They didn't have no evidence that Goldenstein robbed the bank, but they gave him a suitcase full of money. While they was conducting this illegal search and seizure, Goldenstein would not take to the stand to explain the only evidence was this suitcase full of money. So, the prosecuting attorney said it was found in his room, so his room was, he was arrested in the Cornelius Hotel in Portland, Oreg. Prior to—his arrest—prior to his arrest—prior to his arrest, Ronald Goldenstein in the Cornelius Hotel, and James Benny and another suspect was shot to death in the hotel and, on the, over—the night before James Benny asked for a prostitute to be sent to his room, and the prostitute—James Benny woke up that night and caught the prostitute leaving his room with a suitcase full of money. Subsequently, the next night, James Benny gave Ronald Seibert Goldenstein his suitcase full of money, and while he go downstairs and drink in the tavern. And subs—and subs—then James Benny had a fight in the lobby with the prostitute's boyfriends, because Benny has slapped her around when he caught her stealing his suitcase full of money.

Well, in the meantime, James Benny called upstairs to Ronald Goldenstein to help him out in the fight. So, then James Benny got shot in the lobby hotel and Goldenstein was in the adjoining lounge and the barmaid said, "hide in the back room or you may get shot, too".

Then the police came and they searched the hotel and found a suitcase full of money belonging to Benny in Goldenstein's room. Then later they found Goldenstein hiding in the back room of the tavern. OK, well, the police made a record of the suitcase full of money found in Goldenstein's room which belonged to Benny, so, when they got in the police station, the FBI came into the act. They found out that the suitcase of money did not belong to Goldenstein, but it belonged to Benny. They also found out that Gol-

denstein was not arrested in the tavern, but he was arrested in the back room of this tavern, so the FBI called Goldenstein up to their office, and told him that they was going to legalize his search under the hot pursuit doctrine, and then they was going to say a cop was involved, that Goldenstein went upstairs to his room with a gun in his hand in order to introduce this money in the trial as evidence against Goldenstein, to be used against me as an aider because I did not have standing to object. Goldenstein, the FBI told Goldenstein in the Portland, Oreg., FBI office that he could not take the stand during the evidentiary hearing; he could not take the stand during the trial, but he must pose as this principal. So, the FBI told Goldenstein if—if—if he opened his mouth, they would try him for murder and robbery of Benny, since he had Benny's suitcase, the money in his room. So, so they, when they went ahead and conducted the evidentiary hearing, and the trial in St. Louis, and Goldenstein was held under threat not to take the stand when they legalized his search under the hot pursuit doctrine and the police came back to make up a story, and police officer Davis Union of the Oregon, Portland, Oreg., police was forced to say that he, that the desk clerk told the police officer that Goldenstein ran up the stairs, and to legal—they legalized his search under the hot pursuit doctrine.

The FBI also told Goldenstein that as soon as he would be convicted as the principal and me as an aider that his case would be reversed by the U.S. Court of Appeals, and they would turn him out. While I was in Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary with Goldenstein, he gave me this story.

Then, sure enough, his case was reversed by the U.S. Court of Appeals, and the principal—and he—and he was released, which left me as an aider, the only prisoner in the U.S. Federal prison system, probably throughout the world, charged with picking a man up on the highway who was found not guilty of robbing a bank, especially, especially when, especially—and 2 years later they claim they found the other principal in Fresno, Calif., a Jerry Lee Miller, the last of the principals, so they transferred his document, court documents, from St. Louis to Fresno, secretly, and had him plea to 18 months to robbing the St. Peters' Bank robbery.

The last principal in Fresno, Calif., pled guilty to 3 years. Within a couple of months, it was reduced to 18 months.

This is a transcript of Jerry Lee Miller's, as an exhibit. The judge in this case, Hon. M. D. Crocker, and he's noted for fixing income tax trials on certain people, he's, him and this assistant attorney, the attorney is noted—it is interesting to notice here that when his sentence was reduced to 18 months, as he received a 3 years' sentence, previous 3 years' sentence, they didn't mention his past record. It is just as if he was—

Mr. FAUNTROY. The Chair notes counsel is advising his witness.

Mr. LESAR. I have suggested because this is a highly unusual transcript—it is fairly brief—that he just read parts. I find it an astonishing document.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Mr. Ray may continue testifying, if you have no objection.

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman, just very briefly, this is the proceeding that took place at Fresno, Calif.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Why don't you just advise him to tell us that.  
Mr. LESAR. Well, I think you lose the flavor and the incredulous nature of the proceeding if you don't—

Mr. FAUNTROY. If he testifies?

Mr. LESAR. No, if you don't read it verbatim.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Let him read it verbatim.

Mr. LESAR. Fine. He can read it.

Mr. RAY. OK. I read the transcript of the testimony in the courtroom of the Honorable Judge M. D. Crocker. An assistant attorney—it says Fresno, Calif., Thursday, January 9, 1973, 10 a.m. The Bank of St. Peters actually was robbed in 1970. This is approximately 2 years or a few years later:

The CLERK. Docket No. F-1775-Criminal, *United States v. Jerry Lee Miller*, hearing on probation report and for judgment—

I might add, Jerry Lee Miller pled guilty under Federal—the Federal rules transfer you from one court to another court in a different part of the country.

The Court, speaking to, speaking to Mr. Nunez for the defendant, the attorney of Jerry Lee Miller—

The COURT. Mr. Nunez, what would you like to say concerning sentencing in this case?

Jerry Lee Miller's lawyer, Mr. Nunez stated:

Your Honor, I've read the report of the probation officer and have discussed the contents of the report briefly with Mr. Miller. It is a very favorable report and, obviously, we are pleased with it.

The probation officer is recommending that Mr. Miller receive a period of incarceration and, under the circumstances, we would both agree that this is probably what would have to happen. I think, though, that there are many, many pluses in Mr. Miller's life for the last two years, at least, which would indicate that this period should be a minimal one.

As the report indicates, he is married and very happily. His wife is in court and I have discussed this with her. She has stated to me that she intends to stand by Mr. Miller, regardless of what happens in court here today, and both of them have expressed an interest in restitution, if this would be a court order, and she has indicated that she will work with him until that money was paid back.

There is a list of several employers who Mr. Miller has worked for for the last couple of years, and at least a good part of them indicate that they would consider rehiring him and it is especially impressive that he was around a lot of money and had access to means of stealing if this had been in his mind, and, obviously, this did not happen.

I personally would hope that the court would give him a very minimal sentence, although I do realize this must happen, and if the court would sentence him under Section 4208(a) of the United States Code so that he could be released at any time the Parole Board determines that he is safe and could return to society as a responsible member thereof.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Would the witness suspend for just a moment? I would be very pleased to entertain a motion to have the entire statement submitted for the public record at this time, and in the hope that we could save some time in reading. However, I will not deny you the right or privilege of reading it all.

Mr. RAY. The most important part is coming up.

Mr. FAUNTROY. OK.

Mr. RAY. The court, speaking to Mr. Jerry Lee Miller, who pled guilty to robbing the St. Peters Bank:

The COURT. Yes. Mr. Miller, what would you like to say in your own behalf concerning your sentence?

The DEFENDANT. Well, your Honor, I think the probation officer has covered it pretty well in his report, as Mr. Nunez has explained it, and I think he covered it pretty well.

Well, since I have been out here and married I have tried and have done everything I can to live in society and not get in trouble.

The COURT. Apparently you have done very well at that. You haven't had any problems for 2 years.

That is certainly in your favor, plus the fact that you have admitted your involvement in this matter, which is always a plus factor in considering your sentence.

Mr. Couris,—the United States Attorney—do you have anything in behalf of the Government, to say in behalf of the Government?

Mr. COURIS. I have only one comment, your Honor, and not to take anything away from Mr. Miller as to what he has done since he has been out here, I would only point out that he was released on parole in June of 1970 and then in October he committed this act, 3 months later, and in February he was sentenced with the others involved back in Missouri, a sentence which is around 16 or 18 years.

I am not saying that is what he should receive in this case, but I only point out to the court in consideration of the sentence here.

The COURT. Yes. That is a factor that I am considering, Mr. Miller, and that is, if I were to give you too light a sentence here would probably take you back as a parole violator and also on the forged documents, so by giving you some time here, I think those matters will be dropped, but I have no control over them otherwise.

Anyway, in view of all of the plus and minus factors here, I am going to sentence you to 3 years in custody of the Attorney General, and I will make it under the provisions of 4208(a)(2), so that you may be paroled at any time.

I hope you will be able to get along well so you can return reasonably soon and continue your good life.

Mr. NUNEZ. Your Honor, thank you very much.

The COURT. You are welcome.

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman?

Mr. FAUNTROY. Does the counsel wish to address the Chair with respect to an objection?

Mr. LESAR. I wish—you indicated earlier you would entertain a motion to put it in the record. I will so move, and I would also request at the same time that I be able to provide just some brief information about Jerry Lee Miller that I have on my own obtained sometime back about his very extensive criminal record prior to this very lenient sentencing out in California, later reduced to 18 months apparently, and also to the fact that I have become aware fairly recently that—

Mr. FAUNTROY. The Chair will be very pleased to entertain and approve and rule favorably upon the motion to enter the statement in the record as MLK exhibit F-668.

[MLK exhibit F-668 follows:]



MLK EXHIBIT F-668

2 5110 United States Court House  
3 1130 "O" Street  
4 Fresno, California 93721  
August 28, 1973

5 Mr. John Larry Ray, No. 86798  
6 Post Office Box 1000  
Marion, Illinois 62959

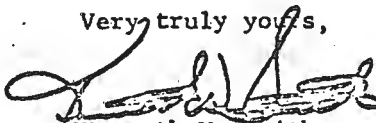
7 Dear Mr. Ray:

8 Pursuant to your letter of August 15, 1973,  
9 I am enclosing the original of the proceedings had in  
10 the sentencing of Jerry Lee Miller on January 9, 1973,  
11 in the Eastern District of California, before Honorable  
12 M. D. Crocker, District Judge.

13 You requested an estimate of the charge for  
14 the transcript, but since the transcript is enclosed,  
15 the charge will be \$5.00, five pages, which charge is  
16 set by the Judicial Conference of the United States.

17 I trust this is the transcript you desire and  
18 you may send the \$5.00 at anytime it is convenient to  
19 you.

20 Very truly yours,

21   
22 Kenneth W. Smith  
23 Official Reporter

ORIGINAL

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

HONORABLE M. D. CROCKER, DISTRICT JUDGE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, )  
 )  
 Plaintiff, )  
 )  
 v. )  
 )  
 JERRY LEE MILLER, )  
 )  
 Defendant. )

No. F-1775-Criminal

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Fresno, California

January 9, 1973

APPEARANCES:

For the Plaintiff:

DWAYNE KEYES, Esq.  
United States Attorney  
THOMAS T. COURIS, Esq.  
Asst. United States Attorney  
4005 Federal Building  
1130 "O" Street  
Fresno, California 93721

For the Defendant:

RALPH NUNEZ, Esq.  
403 T. W. Patterson Building  
Fresno, California 93721

#  
R

1 FRESNO, CALIFORNIA: TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1973; 10:00 A.M.

2 -ooOoo-

3 THE CLERK: Docket No. F-1775-Criminal, United  
4 States v. Jerry Lee Miller, hearing on probation report  
5 and for judgment.

6 THE COURT: Mr. Nunez, what would you like to  
7 say concerning sentencing in this case?

8 MR. NUNEZ: Your Honor, I've read the report  
9 of the probation officer and have discussed the contents  
10 of the report briefly with Mr. Miller. It is a very  
11 favorable report and, obviously, we are pleased with it.

12 The probation officer is recommending that Mr.  
13 Miller receive a period of incarceration and, under the  
14 circumstances, we would both agree that this is probably  
15 what would have to happen. I think, though, that there  
16 are many, many pluses in Mr. Miller's life for the last  
17 two years, at least, which would indicate that this  
18 period should be a minimal one.

19 As the report indicates, he is married and very  
20 happily. His wife is in court and I have discussed this  
21 with her. She has stated to me that she intends to  
22 stand by Mr. Miller, regardless of what happens in court  
23 here today, and both of them have expressed an interest  
24 in restitution, if this would be a court order, and she  
25 has indicated that she will work with him until that

1 money was paid back.

2 There is a list of several employers who Mr.  
3 Miller has worked for for the last couple of years and  
4 at least a good part of them indicate that they would  
5 consider rehiring him and it is especially impressive  
6 when he was around a lot of money and had access to means  
7 of stealing if this had been in his mind, and, obviously,  
8 this didn't happen.

9 I personally would hope that the court would  
10 give him a very minimal sentence, although I do realize  
11 this must happen, and if the court would sentence him  
12 under Section 4208(a) of the United States Code so that  
13 he could be released at anytime the Parole Board deter-  
14 mines that he is safe and could return to society as a  
15 responsible member thereof.

16 THE COURT: Yes. Mr. Miller, what would you  
17 like to say in your own behalf concerning your sentence?

18 THE DEFENDANT: Well, your Honor, I think the  
19 probation officer has covered it pretty well in his  
20 report, as Mr. Nunez has explained it, and I think he  
21 covered it pretty well.

22 Well, since I have been out here and married  
23 I have tried and have done everything I can to live in  
24 society and not get in trouble.

25 THE COURT: Apparently you have done very well

T. . . . .

at that. You haven't had any problems for two years.

That is certainly in your favor, plus the fact that you have admitted your involvement in this matter, which is always a plus factor in considering your sentence.

Mr. Couris, do you have anything in behalf of the Government?

MR. COURIS: I have only one comment, your Honor, and not to take anything away from Mr. Miller as to what he has done since he has been out here, I would only point out that he was released on parole in June of 1970 and then in October he committed this act, three months later, and in February he was sentenced with the others involved back in Missouri, a sentence that is around 16 or 18 years.

I am not saying that is what he should receive in this case, but I only point that out to the court in consideration of the sentence here.

THE COURT: Yes. That is a factor that I am considering, Mr. Miller, and that is, if I were to give you too light a sentence here that they would probably take you back as a parole violator and also on the forged documents, so by giving you some time here, I think those matters will be dropped, but I have no control over them otherwise.

1                    Anyway, in view of all the plus and minus fac-  
 2                    tors here, I am going to sentence you to three years in  
 3                    custody of the Attorney General, and I will make it under  
 4                    the provisions of 4208(a)(2), so that you may be paroled  
 5                    at anytime.

6                    I hope you will be able to get along well so  
 7                    that you can return reasonably soon and continue your  
 8                    good life.

9                    MR. NUNEZ: Your Honor, thank you very much.

10                   THE COURT: You are welcome.

11                   (Other ex parte matters).

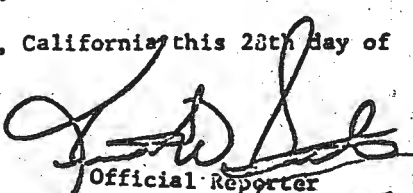
12                   -ooOoo-

13                   REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE - -

14                   I hereby certify that I am a duly appointed,  
 15                   qualified and acting official court reporter of the  
 16                   United States District Court for the Eastern District  
 17                   of California.

18                   I further certify that the foregoing is a true  
 19                   and correct transcript of the proceedings had in the  
 20                   above-entitled cause on the date specified therein, and  
 21                   that said transcript is a true and correct transcription  
 22                   of my stenographic notes.

23                   Dated at Fresno, California, this 23th day of  
 24                   August 1973.

25                     
 Official Reporter

EXHIBIT

Mr. FAUNTROY. And we will be very pleased to receive as a part of your summation not only a statement but any other documents which you may wish to submit, as counsel, as a part of summation. Do you understand that?

Mr. LESAR. I have an objection to that because I don't think it suits your purposes. I wish to inform you—

Mr. FAUNTROY. Mr. Lesar, we have procedures which we follow for the hearing which the Chair is obligated to uphold, and I am; and unless you have an objection to your client now answering the question, which is tendered to him by counsel—

Mr. LESAR. I have an objection.

Mr. FAUNTROY. I will direct the witness to conclude his answer to the question.

Mr. LESAR. I have an objection for this reason, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. FAUNTROY. What is the objection and then tell me the reason for it.

Mr. LESAR. The objection is that the committee is proceeding without allowing me to inform it of the existence of files on Mr. Miller which it may not be aware of.

Mr. FAUNTROY. The Chair has indicated to counsel that he will be very happy to receive anything that the counsel—

Mr. LESAR. I do not have—

Mr. FAUNTROY. Just a moment. Any information which counsel may wish to tender the committee at the appropriate time. Now, the appropriate time is at the conclusion of the testimony of the witness. The witness has not yet completed his testimony; a question is pending to which he has given a rather long answer, one which has been indulged by the Chair and the committee at length. I will be very pleased to accept anything you have to say at the appropriate time. Will the witness now conclude his answer to the question posed by counsel for the committee?

Mr. RAY. So, Mr. Goldenstein told me, as I have stated—he stated his trial was fixed, and he posed as the principal; he was held on a trap while they legalized his search under the hot pursuit doctrine not to take the stand, and the case was reversed by the U.S. Court of Appeals, which subsequently he stated was going to release him to the streets, which they did. That the person involved, that was involved in this fixing this trial was, like I mentioned, was a Federal District Judge, William H. Webster. Subsequently, he was promoted to the Director of the FBI for fixing this trial. J. Wallace LaPrade, he was also involved with Judge William H. Webster, and subsequently was made head of the FBI in New York City, and while both these conspirators was engaged in fixing my trial to convict me of a felony, both of them was, themselves, engaged in committing felonies and J. Wallace LaPrade was committing burglaries around the St. Louis area and got charged while he was head of New York FBI office. Judge William H. Webster, he was engaged in a felony.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Mr. Ray, I think we are probably going back over testimony which you have already given in answer to this question of witness, and I would just like to know specifically, is it your testimony that you did not participate in the robbery of the Bank of St. Peters, Mo.?

Mr. RAY. Well, the reason I asked permission to go into lengthy detail and the reason I went into lengthy detail is because, you see, when you're convicted of a bank robbery at a fixed trial it is my opinion you haven't been convicted of the bank robbery.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Yes, but did you rob it?

Mr. RAY. I did not rob the Bank of St. Peters, Mo.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Thank you.

Mr. RAY. When I asked permission at the beginning of the questions on the bank robbery, he said I could give my whole answer and not be limited to yes or no.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Oh, yes, but I have done that. If you wish to continue to explain your answer that you did not rob the Bank of St. Peters, you may do that.

Mr. RAY. That is OK.

Mr. FAUNTROY. All right.

Counsel, do you have other questions of the witness?

Mr. SPEISER. Mr. Chairman, at this time I have concluded my questioning.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Counsel having concluded his questions of the witness and the committee members now are prepared to question the witness, the Chair will call a recess until 2 p.m. I remind now all persons in the room of the request made by the Office of the U.S. Marshal that you remain seated while the witness exits the hearing room.

[Whereupon, at 12:45 p.m., the subcommittee recessed to 2 p.m.]

#### AFTERNOON SESSION

Mr. FAUNTROY. The committee will now come to order.

Pursuant to the request of the Office of U.S. Marshal, I am going to ask that all persons in the room will be seated and remain seated until the witness is properly placed at the witness table.

Will we kindly call the witness to the table.

The Chair now yields to the distinguished chairman of the committee, the gentleman from Ohio, for such time as he may require for examination of the witness.

Chairman STOKES. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Ray, are you familiar with the Grapevine Tavern in St. Louis?

Mr. RAY. Yes, sir.

Chairman STOKES. Would you give us the street address of the Grapevine Tavern.

Mr. RAY. Yes, but can I ask a question concerning—see, I had a lot of documentary evidence in my house in St. Louis which backed up my testimony here, and the FBI and U.S. Marshal did not let me bring this evidence up here, so you stated. At least you stated once here today that you want to have the full scope. And I was incarcerated so many days in solitary confinement—because you want full scope, you said. Also, you went in front of the U.S. Congress and wanted to cite me and my sister for contempt of court because you want the full facts.

What I would like to know, did you get all this information in the U.S. Department of Justice, the FBI and Federal judge locked



up in the National Archives, all these papers that have been submitted? If so, could I have a copy?

Chairman STOKES. I suppose he must be addressing the Chair.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Excuse me, Mr. Ray. I thought you were answering a question tendered by the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. RAY. Yes.

Mr. Fauntroy. You were making an inquiry of the Chair?

Mr. RAY. I am requesting all evidence, if you want a full scope on, so I know all evidence is put in. They got all these papers locked up in the National Archives that might free me, and my relation with Government persecution—they beaten, and torture, and incarceration, and solitary confinement.

Mr. FAUNTROY. I am not clear on how that responds to the question that was tendered to you. That aside, let me see if I understand what you said. What papers are you requesting from the National Archives?

Mr. RAY. All the papers for the simple reason that he—

Mr. FAUNTROY. All of what papers?

Mr. RAY. Pertaining to the King and the Rays and to prove the innocence of the Rays for the simple reason he stated in front of the U.S. Congress, and so forth, he hadn't the full scope.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Let me state to you, Mr. Ray, that your question to the Chair does not appear to be relevant to the question tendered you by the chairman of the committee, and I request that you answer his question.

Mr. RAY. What question did he answer?

Chairman STOKES. My question, Mr. Ray, was the address for the Grapevine Tavern in St. Louis, Mo.

Mr. RAY. 1982 Arsenal.

Chairman STOKES. What was that, sir?

Mr. RAY. 1982 Arsenal.

Chairman STOKES. Can you tell us when the tavern opened up?

Mr. RAY. January 1, 1968. 1968.

Chairman STOKES. When did it close?

Mr. RAY. I have no idea. I sold it. You mean when I got rid of it?

Chairman STOKES. Yes, sir.

Mr. RAY. Well, see, I got rid of it two or three different times. The first time I got rid of it was around May or June, about 5 or 6 months later. The reason I got rid of it was, if you are acquainted with the facts, the tavern was in my sister's name because I was convicted of a felony, so the FBI came to the tavern and said if I didn't say where James Earl Ray was they was going to prosecute my sister for getting a Federal tax stamp for me so she could commit a fraud against the U.S. Government. So I more or less got rid of the tavern to keep her from being imprisoned on something she unknowingly got involved in.

Chairman STOKES. That was the first time you got rid of it?

Mr. RAY. That was around June or something in that neighborhood.

Chairman STOKES. In 1968?

Mr. RAY. Yes.

Chairman STOKES. Did you reacquire it again?

Mr. RAY. Yes.

Chairman STOKES. When was that?

Mr. RAY. Well, I got rid of it to Naomi Regazzi, and her son drowned in the St. George River and she had a nervous breakdown and went to sanitarium, so I had to retake it back over. That was around in the neighborhood of September, a couple of months later.

Chairman STOKES. In 1968?

Mr. RAY. Yes.

Chairman STOKES. How long did you keep it that time?

Mr. RAY. I am not sure. It just seemed like a couple months. I can't be positive how long I kept it.

Chairman STOKES. You think somewhere around December 1968?

Mr. RAY. Well, I sold it to George Vista but I don't know the date. I can't—I don't know.

Chairman STOKES. Was that the last time you owned it?

Mr. RAY. Well, the last time—do you know the date? Do you have the date on you?

Chairman STOKES. I am trying to find out. You said that you had owned it and sold it and got rid of it, you acquired it again and got rid of it. I am just trying to find out from you when you last sold the business.

Mr. RAY. I have no recollection. I can't—it changed hands three times. The last time we had it, I believe it was George Vista, and they got notarized documents where I sold it, and I think they are in your possession.

Chairman STOKES. You say it changed hands three times; is that right?

Mr. RAY. Well, Naomi Reggazi to George Vista, and it might have changed hands to, well, no, there is another girl involved, Donna P-a-u-l, Paul—but I did not sell it to her, I don't think. I believe George Vista sold it to her.

Chairman STOKES. Did you have money invested in the Grapevine Tavern?

Mr. RAY. Yes.

Chairman STOKES. Tell us how much you had invested in it.

Mr. RAY. I didn't actually have too much. It's mostly in the lease. I didn't have nothing, actually. You see, I leased the building and most all the equipment is there, so most of my investment was bar stools and I think a beer box and cash register and something else.

Chairman STOKES. How much cash money? Did you have any cash money invested in the business?

Mr. RAY. Not too much. Time you buy your total stock—not too much. You start out small and work up.

Chairman STOKES. I understand. I just want to get an idea from you about how much you are talking about in terms of actual dollars.

Mr. RAY. Well, I can't say. I cannot remember; something happened. Whisky went up and so forth, and I can't remember how much money I spent on them. I can't even remember how much I paid for the lease.

Chairman STOKES. When you first bought the business, did you have to put some money into the business?

Mr. RAY. No; it was an empty building, and I had to—used to be a tavern. It was empty. I didn't pay nothing for it.

Chairman STOKES. So that I understand your testimony, you cannot give us any estimate of what kind of money you personally had into it?

Mr. RAY. Well, I just say maybe now, \$2,000, \$800 to \$2,000, in that neighborhood, I guess.

Chairman STOKES. Can you tell us where you acquired that amount of money?

Mr. RAY. Well, everybody works, and I worked 3 or 4 years at the White Pine Golf Club as a bartender, and different places. And I have been working all my life, so it's nothing to acquiring a couple thousand dollars.

Chairman STOKES. So, then, these were from savings?

Mr. RAY. Yes. What did you say, sales?

Chairman STOKES. No, savings.

Mr. RAY. Oh, yes.

Chairman STOKES. Savings from your work employment?

Mr. RAY. Yes.

Chairman STOKES. Did Carol Pepper have any association with the Grapevine Tavern?

Mr. RAY. Well, the only thing, she got the license in her name but she was scared to go into a tavern after—shortly—due to intimidation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the tavern was in a rough neighborhood, which I was unaware of when I opened up there, so she wouldn't come around. She had no—she received no profit from it, if that is what you are insinuating, from the Grapevine.

Chairman STOKES. She received no profits from the Grapevine? Is that your statement?

Mr. RAY. I can't recall her receiving any profits. I have gave her money to, say, get license in her name, or maybe \$100 or something. But as far as she received income from it, there's no income.

Chairman STOKES. Did the business begin to suffer some loss right after Dr. King's death and the general knowledge that you were James Earl Ray's brother?

Mr. RAY. I would have to say due to trouble I had to stay closed sometime, too, you know—I would have to say—well, I can't say. Sometime it would be busy and sometime it would be nobody else there. You had a rougher element.

Chairman STOKES. Let me, for the purpose of refreshing your recollection relative to the answer to this question, refer you to MLK exhibit F-655, which is a copy of one of the pages from your executive committee testimony. I believe counsel and you have this document before you, MLK F-655, at page 59. Do you have that document? I would ask that it be placed in the record at this time.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Without objection, so ordered.

[MLK exhibit F-655 follows:]

58

59

1 Mr. Eberhardt. When did you begin to run the Grapevine  
2 Tavern?

3 Mr. Ray. On New Years Day 1968.

4 Mr. Eberhardt. And how did that business do?

5 Mr. Ray. Well, it didn't do nothing.

6 Mr. Eberhardt. Didn't do very well?

7 Mr. Ray. No. Well, it started to do good until the  
8 King deal came along and then it folded up.

9 Mr. Eberhardt. King was killed on April 4th, '68 and  
10 James was identified as Deric Starvo Gault, according to all  
11 the media counts on April <sup>19,</sup> 1968. You say the business kind  
12 of fell off after that.

13 Mr. Ray. Fell off when it first came out who I was.

14 Mr. Lesar. I think there are some other circumstances  
15 that you may want to go into as to what caused the business  
16 to fold up.

17 Mr. Ray. Gentlemen, I will say that.

18 Mr. Lesar. Why don't you go ahead and explain what  
19 happened.

20 Mr. Ray. I opened New Years Day, so it takes about ---

21 Mr. Eberhardt. I am sorry, it is not significant in  
22 terms of my line of questioning. I am trying to ascertain how  
23 the business was doing. I don't really want to know the reasons  
24 ~~fixes it as the date of approximately King's assassination.~~

25 He is going to have the opportunity, as the Chairman

MLK EXHIBIT F-655

Mr. RAY. It is being brought to us. Thank you.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Ray, I would just refer you to about  
midway of the page where the following language appears:

Mr. EBERHARDT. King was killed on April 4, 1968, James was identified as Eric Starvo Galt, according to all the media accounts on April 19, 1968. You say the business kind of fell off after that?

Mr. RAY. Fell off when it first came out who I was.

Do you recall that question and that answer in your executive session?

Mr. RAY. Yes, sir.

Chairman STOKES. Is that true?

Mr. RAY. That was in April—see, there's more to this transcript than this one page. They went over this same question you went over several times and maybe bring money—write checks up here from banks and stuff, and this has all been clarified through four or five testimonies. Now you are going back to the same testimony, because there is a question mark before on this that I think that someplace has been clarified, if not in this page, in the rest of the record.

Chairman STOKES. All I am trying to get at here—there is nothing mysterious about my question—I am just trying to find out from you if, after it was learned that you were James Earl Ray's brother, whether you attribute any falloff or loss in your business because of that.

Mr. RAY. I would have to—I guess there was. This was in April? I would guess it fell off. See, I didn't have it—that was in April, I got rid of it in June, 2 months later, so I can't explain what happened in a 2- or 3-month period, I got rid of it to Naomi Regazzi in July. You're picking out 1 month there. Sometimes you juggle 1 month, you balance out another month. So how could I actually say what actually—

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Ray, who was in charge of your or in possession of your checkbook?

Mr. RAY. I was in charge of possession of my checkbook.

Chairman STOKES. Who wrote checks on the business?

Mr. RAY. Well, I think when I sold it to Naomi Regazzi, I can't be positive but seems like I might have let her write checks. I signed them and maybe she—I feel maybe she signed them or something. I don't know.

Chairman STOKES. Can you tell us what bank the checks are written on?

Mr. RAY. Jefferson Gravois is one, and maybe Mercantile—maybe Mercantile Bank in St. Louis or Manufacturers, whichever one it was.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I have one or two questions to pose to the witness in this particular area. And prior to posing the question, I would say to the witness and his counsel that the questions are being predicated upon the following information, that this committee has copies of the bank statements for the Grapevine at the Jefferson Gravois Bank for the period January 1968 until June 1968. Our analysis of those checks shows that until April 11, 1968, only one or two checks over \$100 were drawn for cash. From April 11, 1968, through June 5, 1968, there were seven checks made out for cash of \$100 or more, and one made to Carol Pepper, all of which totaled \$1,700.

This same time frame roughly corresponds with the period between Dr. King's assassination and James Earl Ray's capture, April 4, 1968, and June 8, 1968.

Counsel for the witness and the witness are in possession of MLK exhibits F-666A through G, which are the canceled checks on that account, which I ask the Chair to enter into the record at this time.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Without objection, it is so ordered.

[MLK exhibit F-666A follows:]

MLK EXHIBIT F-666A

ILLINOIS SAVINGS BANK OF ST. LOUIS

271 Ave Bldg - Arcadia  
 No. PAGE 1 - 04/16/68 30087

J. W. RAY  
 1837 SO. 18TH ST.  
 ST. LOUIS, MO. 63104

1,266.72	12	1,277.07	.00	119.75
320.00				12-29-67 1,048.82
93.48	29.40	325.00		01-01-68 588.74
97.00				01-03-68 581.74
20.75				01-05-68 540.99
85.35				01-08-68 505.64
200.00	74.53			01-09-68 231.31
124.35	55.65			01-10-68 187.31
92.04				01-13-68 119.75

0440

1-10-68  
 No. 4-65 67C  
 Jan 5 1968  
 \$29.35  
 JOHN RAY  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

1-10-68  
 No. 4-65 67C  
 Jan 5 1968  
 \$29.35  
 JOHN RAY  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

1-10-68  
 No. 4-65 67C  
 Jan 5 1968  
 \$29.35  
 JOHN RAY  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

1-10-68  
 No. 4-65 67C  
 Jan 5 1968  
 \$29.35  
 JOHN RAY  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

1-10-68  
 No. 4-65 67C  
 Jan 5 1968  
 \$29.35  
 JOHN RAY  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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 1-30-00  
 BUID

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1992  
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 BUID

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*Handwritten:* 11/20/01

1992  
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*Stamp:* AMERICAN BANK

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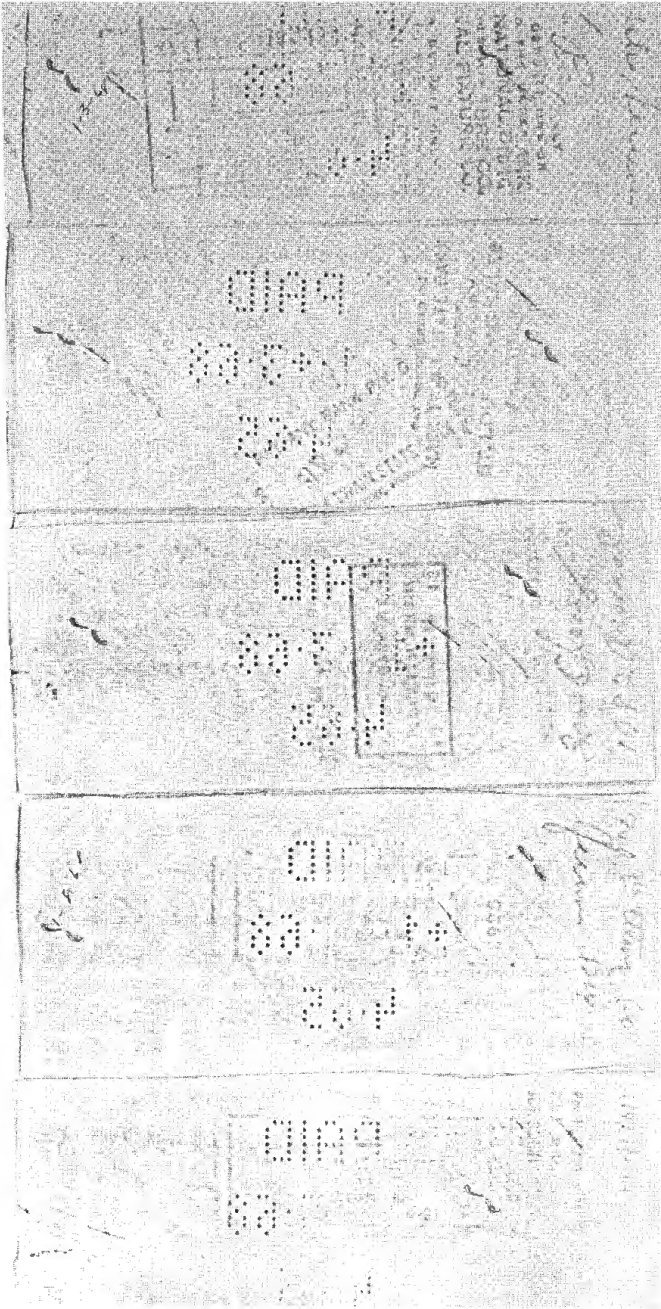
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 J. P. Gray  
 ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI  
 15-1887-74 1722 1500

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 \$100.00  
 J. P. Gray  
 ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI  
 15-1887-74 1722 1500

1-3-68  
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 J. P. Gray  
 ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI  
 15-1887-74 1722 1500

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 ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI  
 15-1887-74 1722 1500

1-3-68  
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 \$100.00  
 J. P. Gray  
 ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI  
 15-1887-74 1722 1500



1-3-68  
 PAID 18-29-67  
 57.15  
 J. J. Jones  
 1111 New York City  
 ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI  
 15540-0054 30-2887-9# 0000009256

PAID  
 18-29-67  
 57.15

0445

JEFFERSON-GRANDIS BANK OF ... LOUIS

JOHN EBY  
1807 SO. 38TH ST.  
ST. LOUIS, MO.

83504

PLATE 1

STATEMENT DATE ACCOUNT NO

NOV-15-67 3028679

1,350.00	.00	1	10.00	1,300.00
----------	-----	---	-------	----------

			10.02	10-31-67	1,300.02
--	--	--	-------	----------	----------

*John Ray*

NAME *John Ray* BANK *16* *92*

ACCOUNT NUMBER *1-5-2*

ST. LOUIS

DEPOSITED WITH  
**JEFFERSON-GRAVOIS BANK**  
 OF ST. LOUIS

AMOUNT OF DEPOSIT

*168.20*

158.20

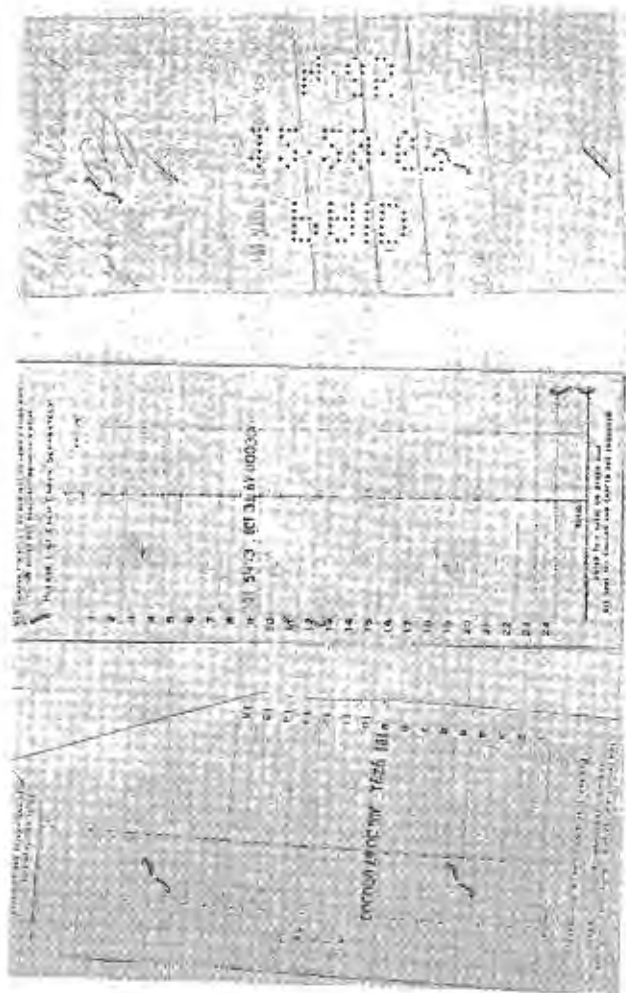
100610-00656 10-2887-90 23-0000016820

*12-29-67*

*John Ray*

100610-00656

0447



0438

## MLK Exhibit F-666B

110.00		81		200.00		31		200.00		100.00	
70.00								01-17-68		47.75	
10.01								01-18-68		27.00	
2.00	25.05		05.00		25.05			01-22-68		153.54	
53.02					28.0504			01-23-68		149.00	
20.20								01-24-68		120.87	
70.85								01-25-68		102.82	
					38.55			02-02-68		551.17	
	195.00							02-15-68		150.22	

1968  
 JEFFERSON-CRAVO BANK  
 JOHN RAY  
 1-22-68

**RETURNED CHECK NOTICE**  
 JEFFERSON-CRAVO BANK  
 Date: 1-22-68  
 Name: John Ray  
 Account: Manhattan Restaurant Co  
 Reason: Cont. goods  
 Deposited by: J.R.  
 Amount: 36.25  
 Total: 36.25

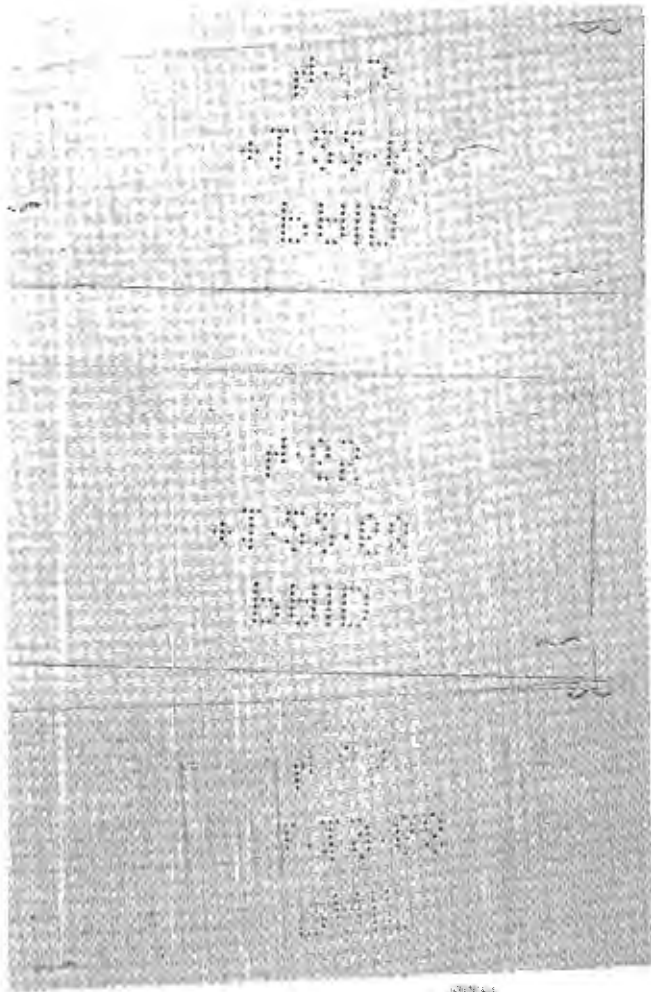
Dear Customer:  
 The check described above was charged to your account today, but was returned for the reason indicated.  
 This charge will be credited on the next business day.

No Interest Charge  
 Other  
 List of interests charged for  
 New Order  
 Drawn against other accounts  
 Deposited from Retained

Check No.	Date	Payable to Order of	Amount	Interest
1-16-68		Manhattan Restaurant Co	36.25	7.00

To: John Ray  
 3507 So. 11 St.  
 St. Louis, Mo. 63118  
 1-22-68  
 100 10 000 50 10 000 000 200





0451

JEFFERSON-CRAVOIS BANK

ACCOUNT NO. 30-2287-9

DATE 1-25-68

AMOUNT \$115.00

TO: John Ray  
1927 So. 11 St.  
St. Louis, Mo. 63104

NOB 10-0065: 30 2287 9 22 00000001007

JEFFERSON-CRAVOIS BANK

ACCOUNT NO. 30-2287-9

DATE 1-25-68

AMOUNT \$115.00

TO: John Ray  
1927 So. 11 St.  
St. Louis, Mo. 63104

NOB 10-0065: 30 2287 9 22 00000001007

**CREDIT MEMO**

JEFFERSON-CRAVOIS BANK

Date 1-25-68

Name John Ray

REMARKS 1-16-68  
Manhattan Printing Co.  
Int. pass

PREPARED BY [Signature] APPROVED BY [Signature]

ACCOUNT NUMBER 30-2287-9

TRANS. CODE 22

TOTAL \$115.00

NOB 10-0065: 30 2287 9 22 000000026857

JEFFERSON-CRAVOIS BANK

ACCOUNT NUMBER 30-2287-9

ST. LOUIS

DEPOSITED WITH

JEFFERSON-CRAVOIS BANK

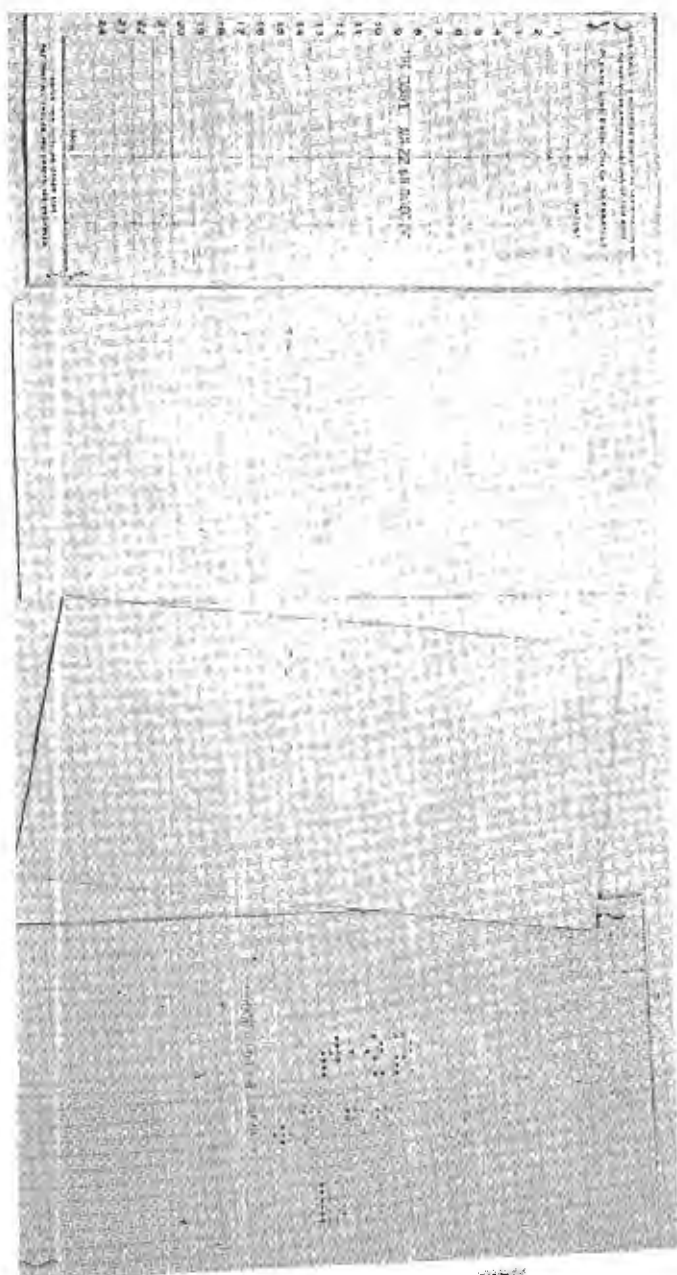
ST. LOUIS

CASH CHECKS

AMOUNT \$115.00

TOTAL \$115.00

NOB 10-0065: 30 2287 9 22 000000026857



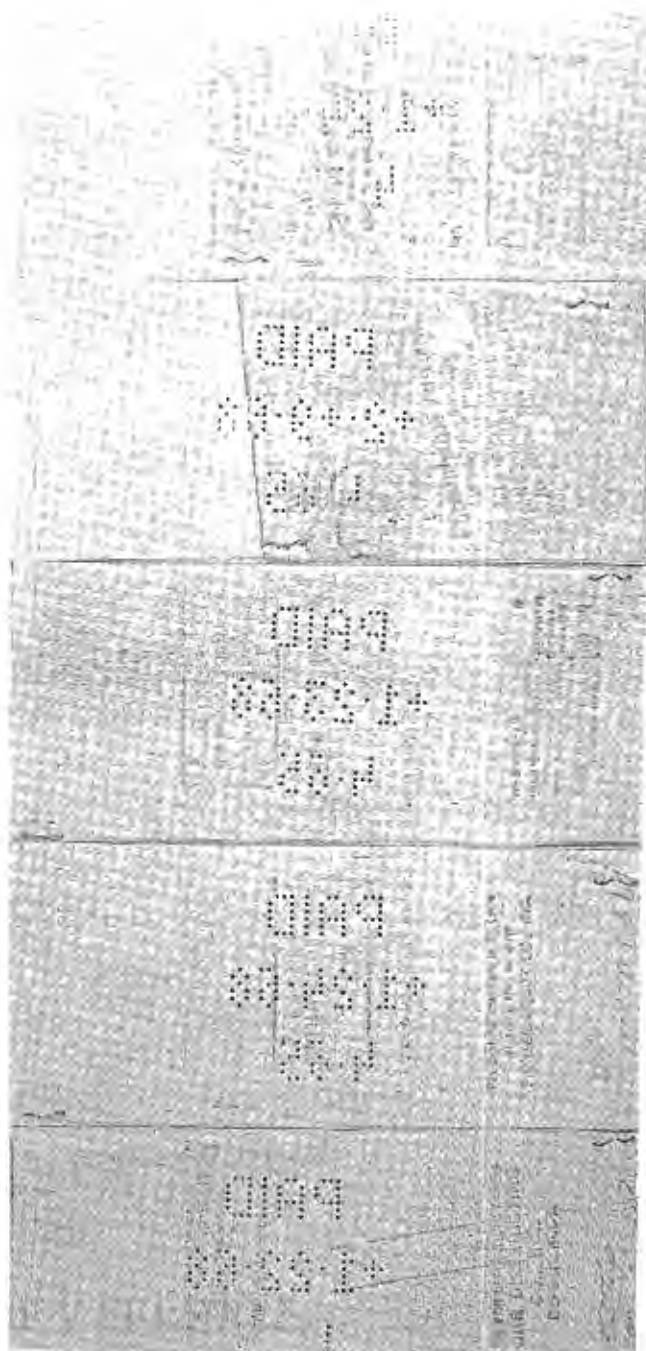
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 must be made out for  
 J. R. Bay  
 00810-00650 30-2887-9# 700000000000

2-4-68  
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 must be made out for  
 J. R. Bay  
 00810-00650 30-2887-9# 700000000000

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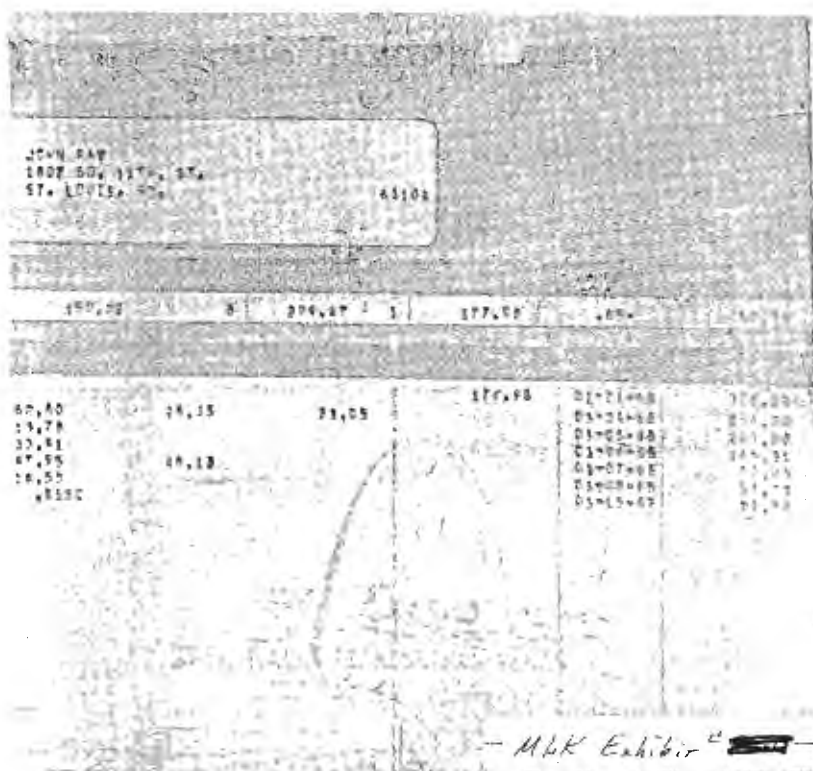
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 J. R. Bay  
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1-24-67  
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 must be made out for  
 J. R. Bay  
 00810-00650 30-2887-9# 700000000000



0355

## MLK Exhibit F-666C





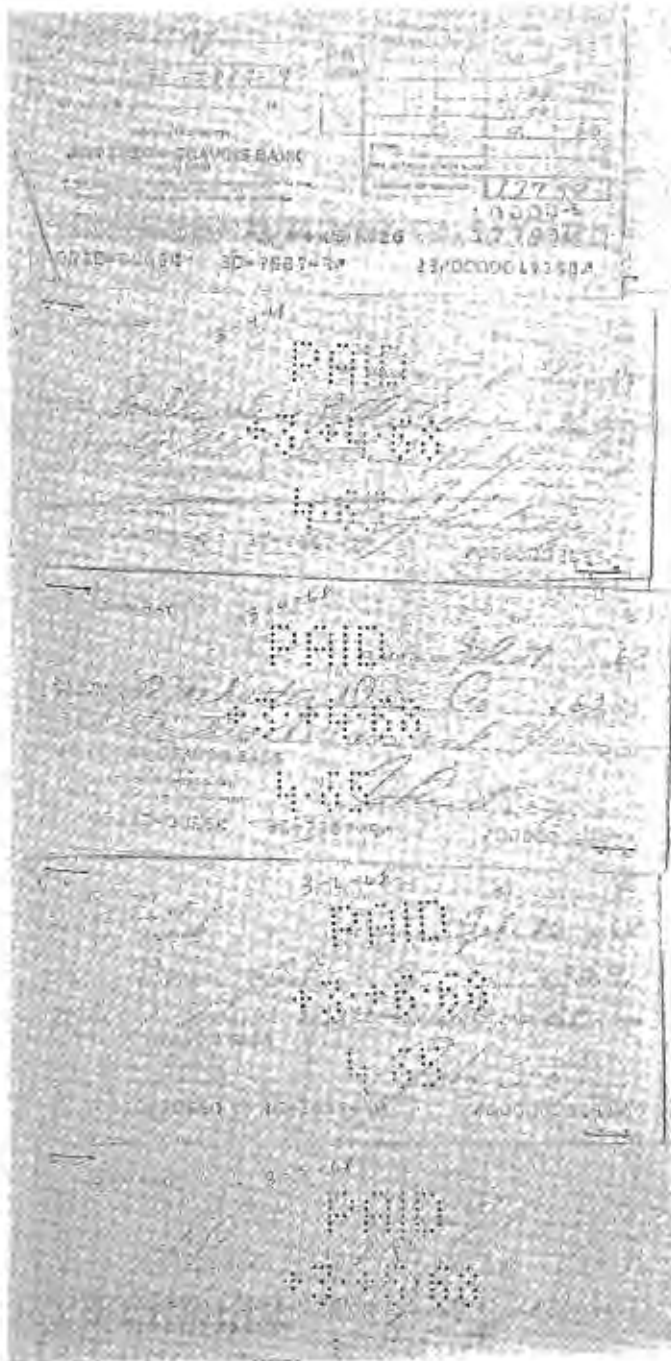
0457

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b7D

112  
\*3-5-88  
b7D

112  
\*3-5-88  
b7D





0459

01A9

01A9

00 4 8

25 4

01A9

00 4 8

25 4

PAID TO THE CAMP OF THE  
SOUTHERN CONFEDERACY  
BY THE UNITED STATES  
POST OFFICE AT  
MEMPHIS, TENN.

01A9

00 4 8

25 4

01A9

00 4 8

25 4

MLK EXHIBIT F-666D

THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF ST. LOUIS

1007 E. 117th St.  
ST. LOUIS, MO. 63104

1978

DATE	MEMO	DEBIT	CREDIT	BALANCE
07-28			1,278.56	1,278.56
08-03			202.44	1,076.12
08-10			232.40	843.72
08-17			237.18	606.54
08-24			237.18	369.36
09-01	10.00		237.18	132.18
09-08			244.00	111.82
09-15	105.00	10.10	244.00	101.72
09-22			210.00	111.72
09-29			244.00	131.72
10-06	100.00 cash		244.00	375.72
10-13			244.00	619.72
10-20			244.00	863.72
10-27			244.00	1,107.72
11-03			244.00	1,351.72
11-10			244.00	1,595.72
11-17			244.00	1,839.72
11-24			244.00	2,083.72
12-01			244.00	2,327.72
12-08			244.00	2,571.72
12-15			244.00	2,815.72
12-22			244.00	3,059.72
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06-11			244.00	34,535.72
06-18			244.00	34,779.72
06-25			244.00	35,023.72
07-02			244.00	35,267.72
07-09			244.00	35,511.72
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07-23			244.00	36,000.00

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 455

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 455

*Peter Annual* \$33.50  
*Public* 100

4-11-68  
 PAID  
 \$411.00  
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0462

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\*P 11-09  
LMD

#92  
\*P 10-09  
LMD

#92  
\*P 11-09  
LMD

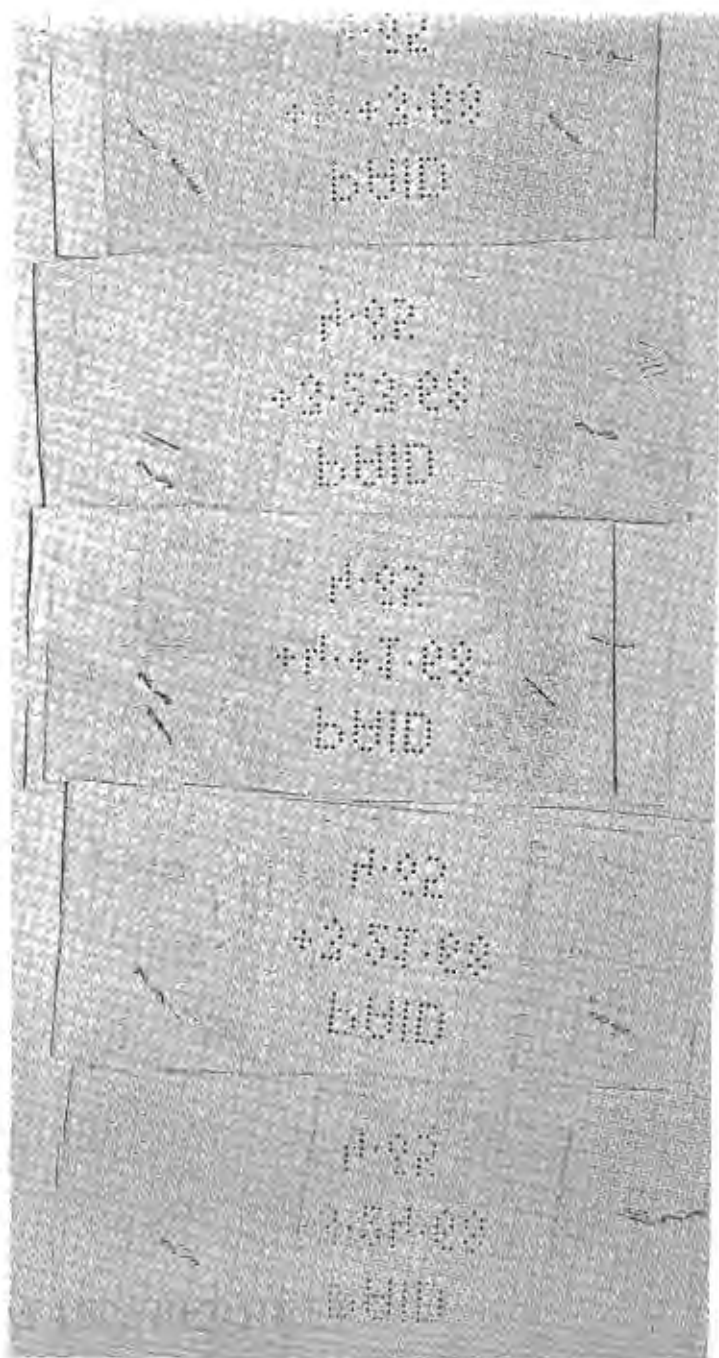
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 MICR NUMBER: 30-2887-94

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3-23-68  
 PAID  
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 4-65

4-3-68  
 PAID  
 \$43.00





JEFFERSON-CRANFORD BANK

CRANFORD, N.J.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
JEFFERSON-CRANFORD BANK  
CRANFORD, N.J.

CRANFORD, N.J.

*[Handwritten signature]*

JEFFERSON-CRANFORD BANK

CRANFORD, N.J.

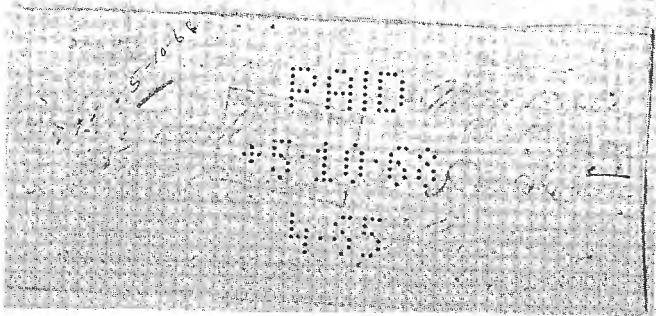
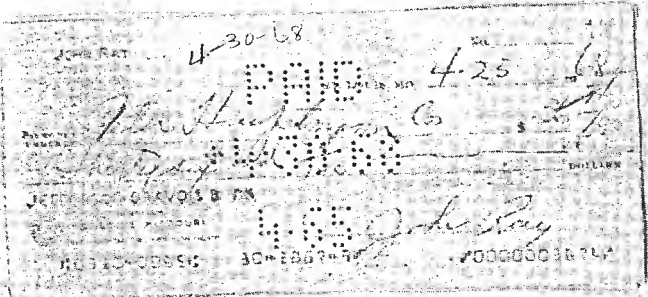
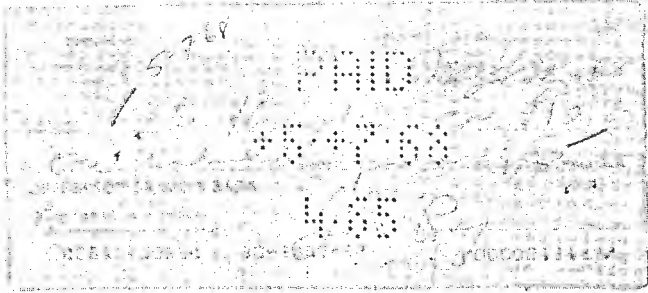
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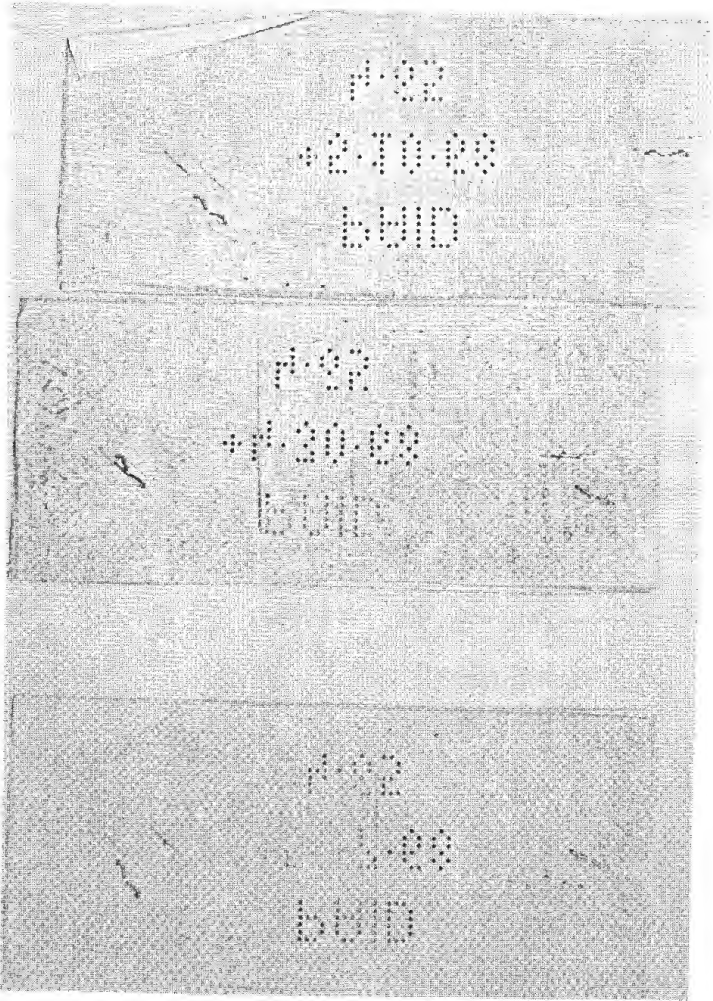
JEFFERSON-CRANFORD BANK

CRANFORD, N.J.









5-3-68



PAID  
\$4.00  
4-55  
U.S. POSTAGE  
ADMINISTRATION

5-9-68

PAID

\$4.00

4-55

5-9-68

PAID

\$4.00

4-55

5-14-68

PAID

\$4.00

4-55

5-13-68

PAID

\$4.00

1-00  
 1-00  
 6410

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1-00  
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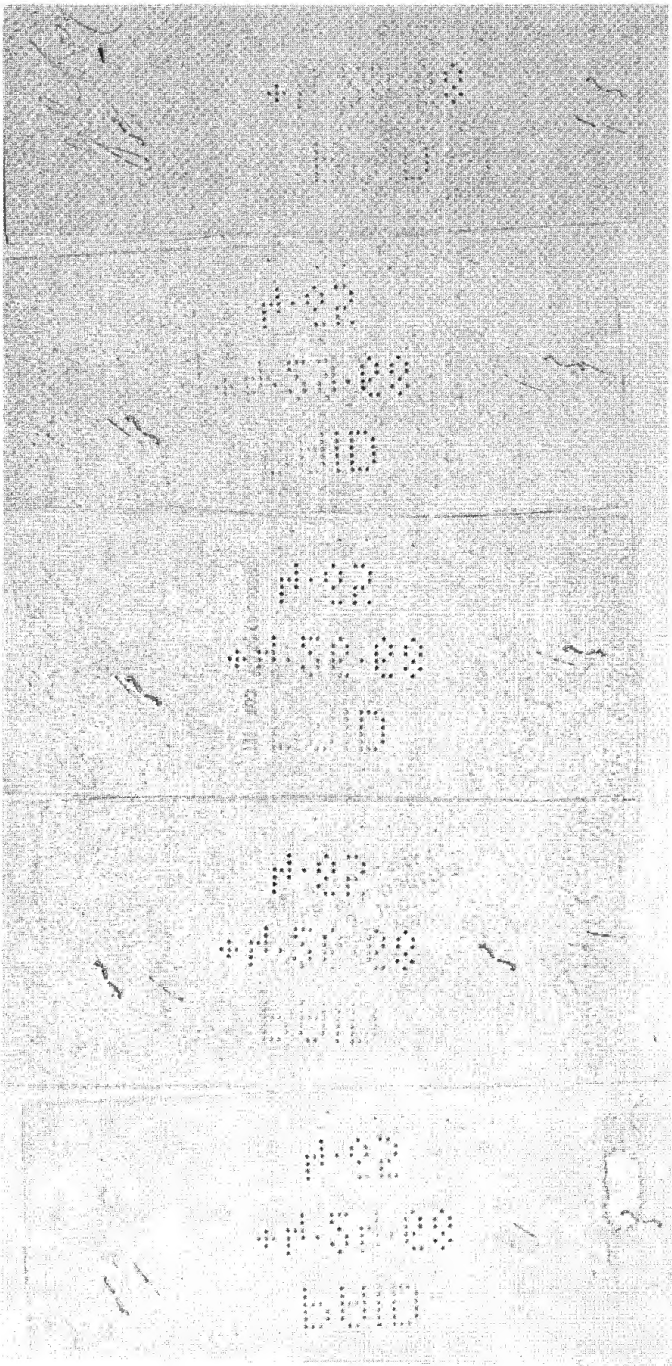
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NAME John May ACCOUNT NUMBER 30-2863-92  
 ST. LOUIS, MO.

JEFFERSON GRADIS BANK

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John May

DEBIT  
 CHECK

*John May*

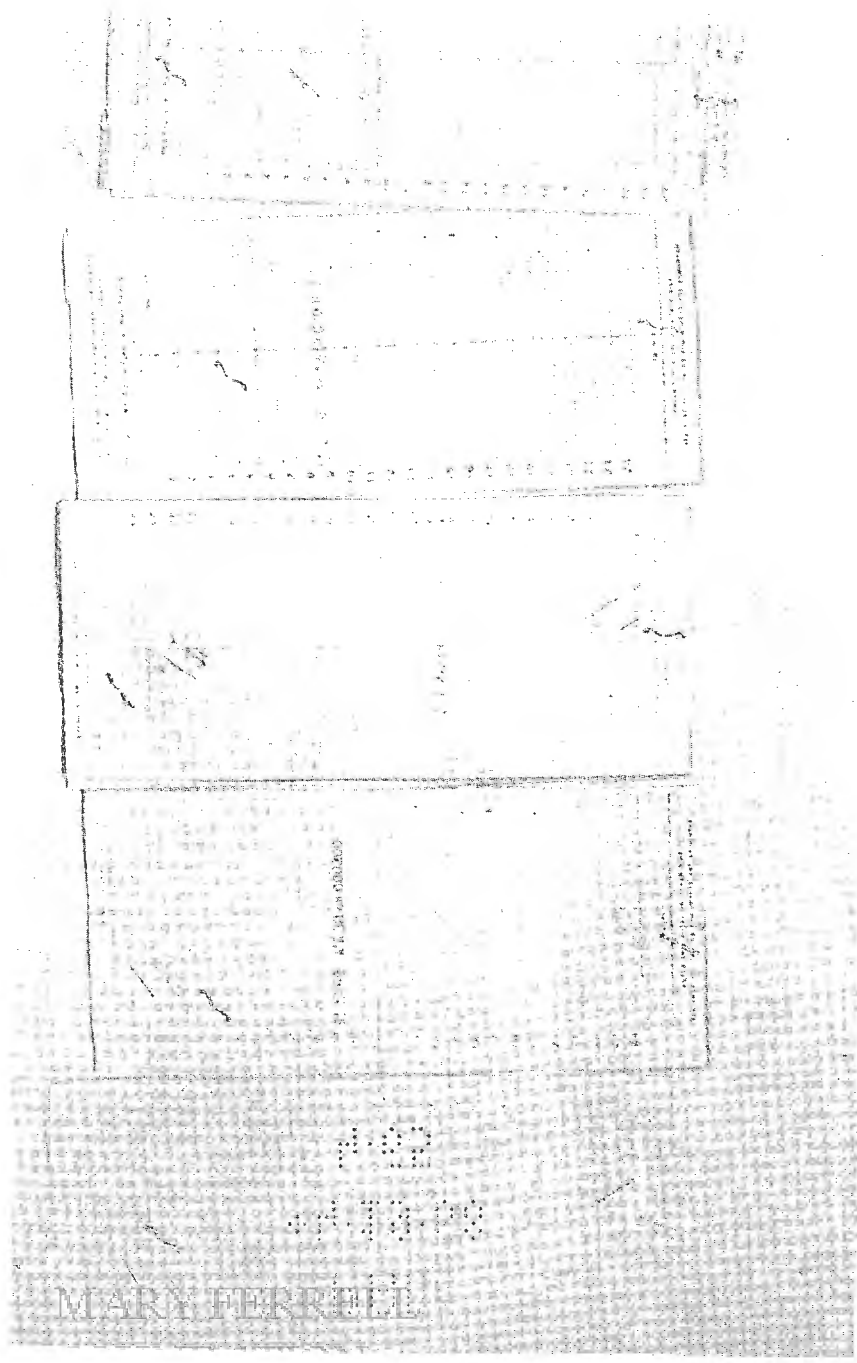
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John May

JEFFERSON GRADIS BANK







MLK EXHIBIT F-666F



JEFFERSON-GRAVOIS BANK OF ST. LOUIS

JOHN HAYES  
 1942 PARKWAY  
 ST. LOUIS MO 63114  
 STATEMENT DATE 05-17-68  
 ACCOUNT 3022274  
 151171 53471007

829.65  
 8.62

DATE	DEBIT	CREDIT	BALANCE	DATE	AMOUNT
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05-17-68	3.28			05-17-68	561.62
05-20-68	54.98		258.05	05-20-68	815.67
05-21-68	50.39			05-21-68	763.57
05-22-68				05-22-68	611.90
05-24-68				05-24-68	401.99
05-27-68			319.61	05-27-68	715.00
05-28-68	260.00	20.00		05-28-68	175.00
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06-03-68			298.03	06-03-68	391.77
06-15-68	480.00			06-15-68	2.62

ALL DEPOSITS MADE BY CHECK OR OTHER MEANS ARE SUBJECT TO DEBIT  
 AT ANY TIME WITHOUT NOTICE.

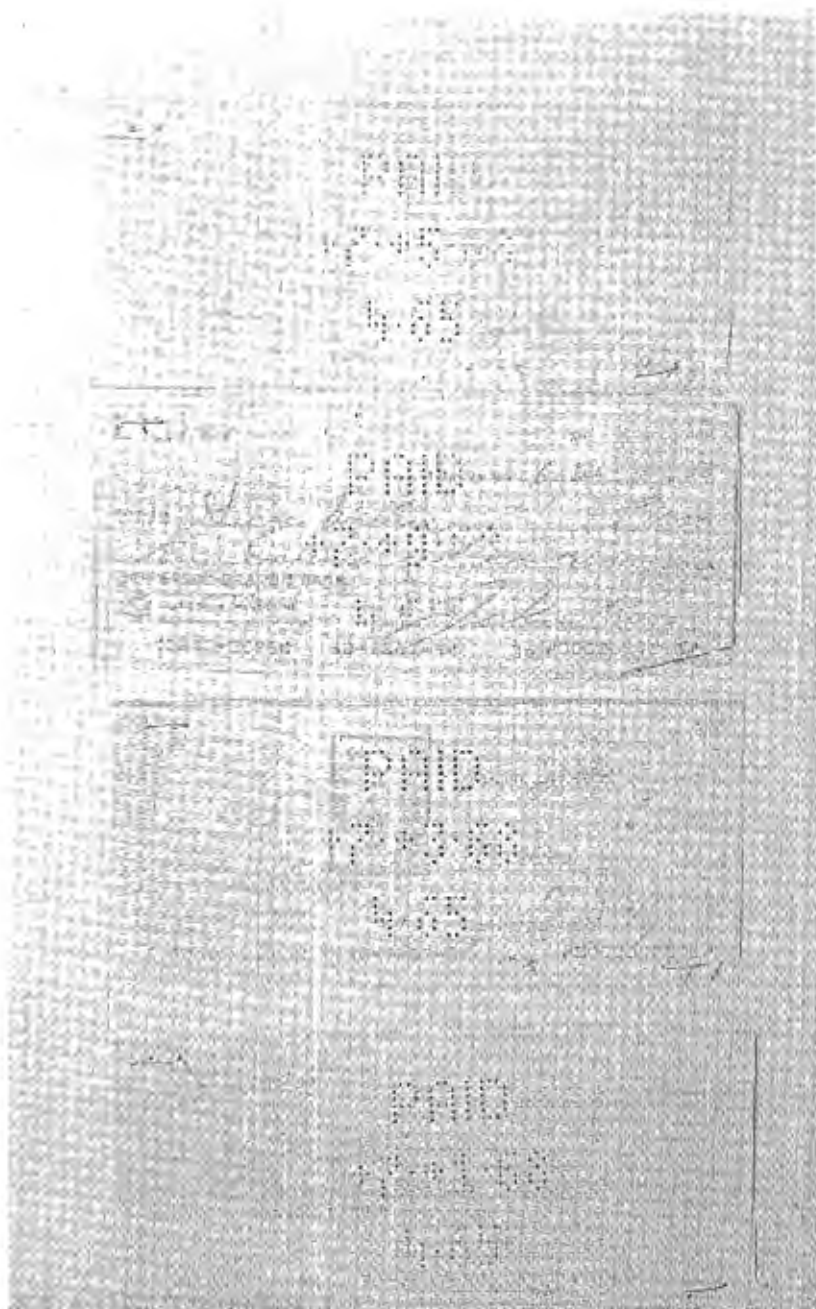
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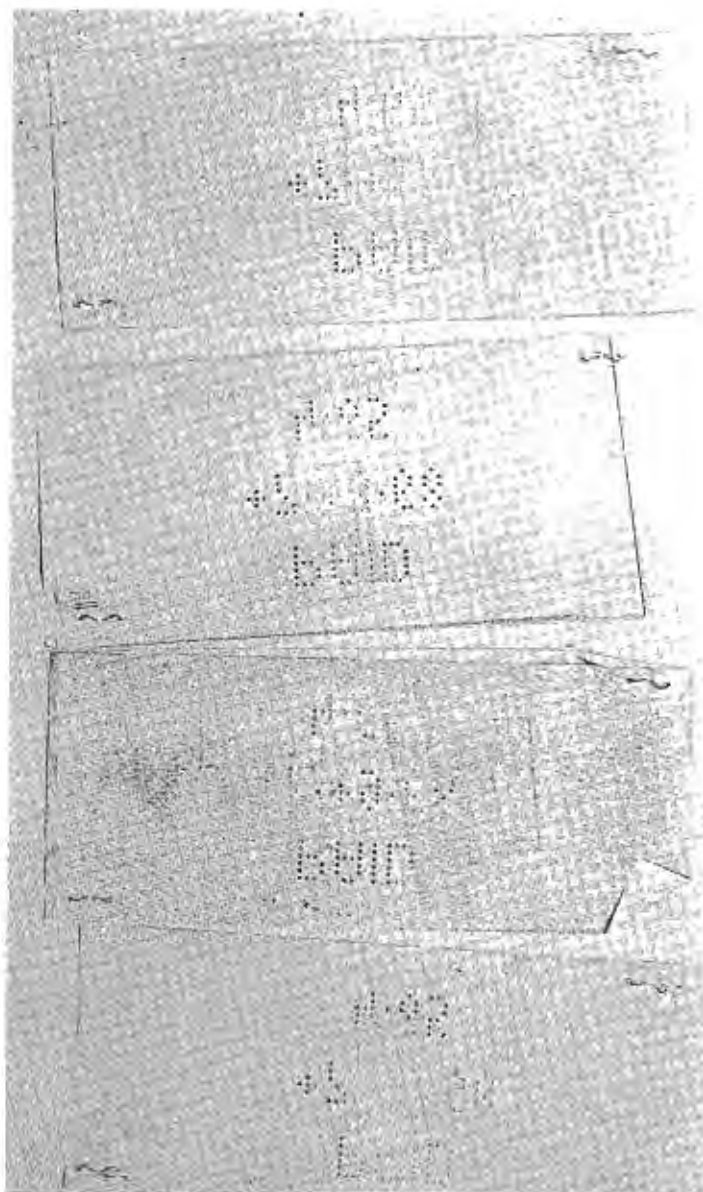
JEFFERSON-DRAVON'S BANK OF ST. LOUIS

JOHN RAY  
1827 ARSENAL  
ST LOUIS MO 63118

PAGE 1 JUL-14-78 1:28

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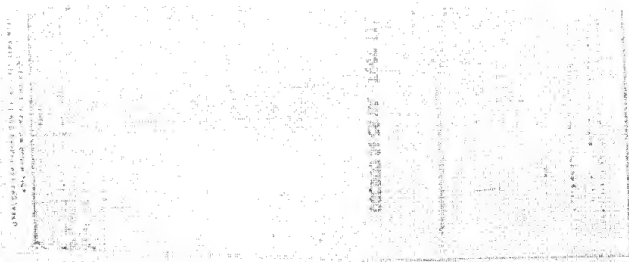
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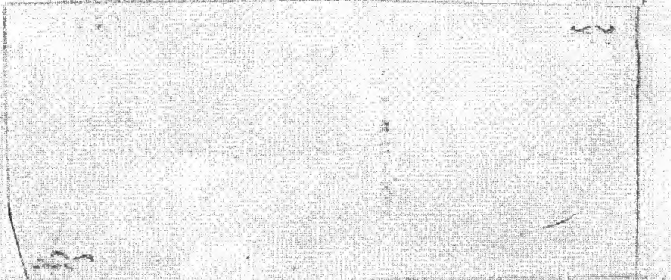
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Chairman STOKES. My question to the witness would be this: Can you tell us the purpose for which these checks were made out for cash that I have just referred to?

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman, I would object or at least request that we be provided with pages of the executive session transcript where we went into this in great detail and we attempted to reconstruct what was happening with John Ray's business. I notice on this MLK F-655, which is page 59 of that transcript, right after the part that Congressman Stokes read, I said: "I think there are some other circumstances that you may want to go into as to what caused the business to fold up."

In my recollection, there was quite a lengthy discussion of various factors that would explain the cash withdrawals. I recall—

Mr. FAUNTROY. Yes, but we have to start someplace, and I wonder if you might not allow your client to start by answering the direct question which the Congressman has tendered him.

Mr. LESAR. I think the problem is one of refreshing his recollection.

If you recall, my recollection is that at the first hearing at which he was asked about this, we did not have any information upon which he could reconstruct his finances of a decade ago. We then requested that information. It was provided to us, and the next day we were able to get a better picture of what happened.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Now let me, I have heard the objection and you have explained it. I am prepared to rule on it. I do overrule your objection and ask that the witness respond to the question tendered by Chairman Stokes.

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman, one other—

Mr. FAUNTROY. Does counsel wish to raise another objection?

Mr. LESAR. Yes, I do. I think that under the rather unusual circumstances which exist, that there is a need for John Ray to refresh his recollection as to what his testimony was in executive session. The reasons for this—

Mr. FAUNTROY. May I ask that we establish with Mr. Ray that he does know the answer to the question.

Mr. Ray, would you answer the question that Chairman Stokes has asked you, and if you would have him to repeat the question, we would be very pleased to do that.

Mr. RAY. OK. Repeat the question.

Chairman STOKES. Certainly I would be glad to. The question I think is rather narrowly drawn. The question is: Can you tell us the reason for which those checks were drawn to cash?

Mr. RAY. I cannot recall unless I see the prior testimony, because I had trouble with this once before and after I went through all the checks, right checks, I produced the evidence which showed—accounted for all the money.

Mr. LESAR. Now that he has answered the question, may I speak to the objection that I was making?

Mr. FAUNTROY. Just a moment. If you would just suspend for the moment before raising your objection.

Chairman STOKES. It appears that his answer, as I understand it, was that he cannot recall unless he had an opportunity to refresh his recollection through the executive transcript. Is that correct?

Mr. RAY. That is correct, yes.

Chairman STOKES. Perhaps if I pose another question, Mr. Chairman, it may help to refresh his recollection.

Mr. FAUNTROY. If you will be kind enough to pose that.

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman, I am willing to let him do it—

Mr. FAUNTROY. Thank you for allowing that.

Just a minute. I am accustomed to conducting hearings in the following fashion and I think it might facilitate the smooth movement of this hearing. When you have something to say as counsel, if you will address the Chair and state that you have an objection, the Chair will respond by saying the objection is heard, I will listen to your objection in a simple statement and will allow you to explain your objection until such time as I think I understand it and am in position to rule on the objection.

Do I understand you have an objection?

Mr. LESAR. Yes.

Mr. FAUNTROY. The objection is heard.

Mr. LESAR. The objection is that, one, Mr. Ray has been denied any opportunity to see these transcripts since 4 months ago. Since that time, he has suffered a series of blackouts. I have just learned of this myself. He has been treated medically and given electroencephalogram tests.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Is that your objection? What is your objection?

Mr. LESAR. My objection is to having him proceed without allowing him to refresh his memory of his prior testimony because of the circumstances which have been forced upon him, one, by the refusal of this committee to provide him with a transcript of that testimony so he can provide it; and second, the medical circumstances which have occurred since that date.

Mr. FAUNTROY. I have heard your objection and I will—

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Chairman, it won't be necessary. I will withdraw the question and move on to another area.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Thank you. Therefore it will not be necessary to rule, as I was about to rule, on your objection, and I yield back to the chairman of the committee to continue his interrogation of the witness.

Chairman STOKES. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Ray, what were the hours the Grapevine Tavern was open?

Mr. RAY. Well, mostly from 7 or 8 in the morning until 1 or 1:30 in the nighttime—a.m.

Chairman STOKES. The next morning.

What hours did you work in the tavern?

Mr. RAY. Well, I didn't have no certain hours. I just come in—sometimes I come in at 8 and stay all the rest of the day until the night. Sometimes I come in at 2. I didn't have no set hours. If the barmaid didn't work, I worked in her place.

Chairman STOKES. Can you name for us your employees at the Grapevine Tavern?

Mr. RAY. Employees?

Chairman STOKES. Employees.

Mr. RAY. Well, I guess Naomi Regazzi. Let's see, I had barmaids. I don't know—who maybe worked 1 day—I don't recall the name. But offhand, when I took over again, I had Wanda C-r-e-w-s. And one time my brother Jerry worked a day, I think, or a couple of weeks.

Chairman STOKES. Have you now given us all of the employees of the bar?

Mr. RAY. No. I might have missed some. I might have missed one or two. Some people works 1 day and 2 days and, you know, so forth.

Chairman STOKES. I am trying to get your best recollection.

Mr. RAY. That is my best recollection.

Chairman STOKES. All right. You mentioned Miss Regazzi, Naomi Regazzi.

Mr. RAY. Yes.

Chairman STOKES. Is she the wife of Robert Regazzi?

Mr. RAY. She said she used to be married to him. So I don't know.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Ray, in what type of neighborhood was the Grapevine Tavern?

Mr. RAY. I say workingman's neighborhood.

Chairman STOKES. Sort of a blue-collar neighborhood?

Mr. RAY. Yes, blue collar.

Chairman STOKES. Can you give us some idea of the type of clientele, the patrons who came into your tavern?

Mr. RAY. Well, I say brewery workers and construction workers—truck drivers, people like that.

Chairman STOKES. Was the tavern at all integrated? Did blacks come into the tavern?

Mr. RAY. No.

Chairman STOKES. The answer was no?

Mr. RAY. No. No tavern down there is—I don't know any tavern in South St. Louis that was integrated. I don't know any tavern in North St. Louis that's integrated by whites in a colored community.

Chairman STOKES. Can you tell us where you were living at the time that you owned the Grapevine Tavern?

Mr. RAY. Well, one time I was living on Cherokee, 2000. I believe that was the address. Another time on South California. Another time above the tavern, 1980 Arsenal, upstairs.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I have a few questions to put to the witness in another area. And prior to going into that area, I would want the record to specifically show the questions being asked of this witness relative to Gov. George Wallace and the American Independent Party are intended in no way to reflect or make any aspersion whatsoever either upon Gov. George Wallace or his supporters or those persons who are members of the American Independent Party. The questions will be framed narrowly and for the specific purpose of questioning this witness relative to himself, his brothers and certain patrons of the Grapevine Tavern, all of which has been made a part of the record in this case.

Mr. FAUNTROY. The Chair makes due note of that statement and it is, of course, included in the record.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Ray, you do recall that Gov. George Wallace was the Presidential candidate on the American Independent Party ticket, do you not?

Mr. RAY. Yes, sir.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Can you tell us whether or not you supported Mr. Wallace's bid for President by campaigning for him, attempting to

register voters for the American Independent Party, or by distributing Wallace campaign literature from the Grapevine Tavern?

Mr. RAY. I did not—I don't actually know what you mean by campaign. What actually—how do you refer to campaign? You mean knock on doors or stuff like that?

Chairman STOKES. Well, from the tavern let's say, did you have posters, bumper stickers, buttons, other things of that sort which you had gathered and put in the Grapevine Tavern?

Mr. RAY. I believe I registered—

Chairman STOKES. I am sorry?

Mr. RAY. I believe I registered maybe one or two persons. Also I believe only one time I got a group of Wallace bumper stickers, and so forth, from his headquarters—not positive—I think twice. I sold them at a profit. I get them for a quarter apiece and sold them for a half-dollar, something like that. The reason mostly Wallace—my tavern was not a Wallace headquarters. I also had maybe Democrats, and Bucy the alderman, Democratic tickets, and also I had a Wallace sign on the window and I believe Democratic Bucy. One primary reason on the Wallace was the policemen in the third district, which was Wallace supporters, third district police station, they would let you stay open—me—from 1:30 to 6 in the morning because they was Wallace supporters and the other taverns in the neighborhood they close them up at 1:30 so my angle more or less was not so much for Wallace but kind of a money angle. You understand what I am speaking of?

Chairman STOKES. Sure.

Mr. RAY. I also admired Wallace not for race views but also admired people that had opposite views of Wallace. So it wasn't no racial—not on supporting Wallace.

Chairman STOKES. So, then, there would be nothing unusual about the fact that the 1968 Presidential campaign would be a subject of discussion in the Grapevine Tavern?

Mr. RAY. Oh, all political campaigns are subject to discussion. There's a lot of people in South St. Louis who do not like Wallace, and so there wouldn't be lot of discussion. Average amount of discussion. Because everybody was discussing probably the third-party movement.

Chairman STOKES. Let me ask you about your brother James. Were you aware that James Earl Ray was also a Wallace follower and supporter and that he had worked to secure voter registration for Wallace in California while he was a fugitive out there?

Mr. RAY. Only whatever—

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman, objection to the question. I would ask that the committee produce any evidence that it has that James Earl Ray worked for the Wallace headquarters in Los Angeles.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Counsel is aware that the question was whether the witness was aware of it.

Mr. LESAR. But if the question is based on a misstatement of fact, it is an improper question.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Chairman, perhaps we can resolve it if we furnish the witness with MLK exhibit F-642, which I ask be entered and made a part of the record at this time.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Without objection, so ordered. Will the witness refer to that exhibit, please.

[The information follows:]

**Brother Surprised at Arrest**ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH  
JUNE 9, 1968 PAGE 31A**Thinks Ray Could Have Been Hired**

By MANUEL CHAIT

Of the Post-Dispatch Staff

A brother of James Earl Ray, accused of assassinating the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, said here yesterday that he hoped his captured brother "lives to stand trial."

John Larry Ray, who manages a south St. Louis tavern for his sister, said, "If my brother did kill King he did it for a lot of money — he never did anything if it wasn't for money—and those who paid him won't want him sitting in a courtroom talking everything he knows."

John Ray declined to speculate on who might have paid his brother to commit the act. "If he does live to stand trial, I would like to see him get the same sentence as the guy who killed Rockwell."

(He was referring to the 20-year sentence imposed Aug. 29 on John Patler for the ambush killing of George Lincoln Rockwell, American Nazi party leader.

**Called About Capture**

"A friend of mine in Canada called me around noon to tell me they had caught my brother in London," said Ray. "I wasn't surprised that he was in London but I was surprised that he got caught. I knew he wasn't dead."

Asked why his brother was

running if he was not guilty, as alleged, John Ray replied, "He still has 13 years waiting for him to do at Jefferson City on that 20-year sentence for robbery. That's enough reason."

James Ray escaped in April 1967 from the Missouri Penitentiary after serving seven years. Before his escape in a bread truck, Ray had made two unsuccessful attempts.

**Wallace Backers**

John Ray said he last saw his brother at the prison. "He and I both are strong supporters of George (C.) Wallace (former governor of Alabama and a states' rights candidate for president), so maybe we talked about him a little." Ray insisted, however, that his brother was not a member of any racial hate group.

John Ray, 33 years old, described his 40-year-old brother as "hot-tempered toward anyone that got on him." John Ray said that he and another brother, Jerry, 32, Chicago, were the closest to James Ray among the 10 sisters and brothers in the family.

"James would do anything for us and we, for him. But he wasn't particularly sociable with strangers," said Ray.

**Reference To Army**

Ray recalled a reunion in 1949 at the family home in Quincy, Ill., when James Ray came from Chicago for several days.

"But that was after the war and Jim was a changed man," Ray said "before he went into the Army he didn't drink or smoke and was a hard worker. After he came back, he drank and didn't believe in working. The Army changed his whole outlook on life."

Ray said that his brother, who was given a general discharge from the Army in 1948 "because of ineptness and lack of adaptability" for military service" greatly admired the German people and had set out to serve in Germany when he entered the Army in February 1948. "He was stationed in Nuernberg during the trial of German leaders after the war," Ray recalled.

John Ray and his sister, Mrs. Carol Ann Pepper, are the only members of the Ray family living in the St. Louis area. Ray has managed the tavern since it was opened around the first of the year. He said that he had been a bartender for many years.

John Ray, who refused to be photographed, resembles his brother. Each has receding brown hair, stands about 5 feet, 10 inches and is broad-shouldered.

**Plans to Visit Brother**

John Ray said that he intended to visit his brother as soon as he was returned to the United States. "I don't think he'll live to stand trial, though,

and even if he does, it will be cut and dried."

The sentence of James Ray to the Missouri prison as a habitual criminal was the last disposition in a criminal record that dated from 1949, when Ray was convicted of burglary in Los Angeles and sentenced to 30 days in the county jail.

He later served terms in the Illinois prisons at Joliet and Pontiac for robbery, and in the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan., for forging a postal money order.

**Returned to St. Louis**

James Ray made his way back to St. Louis in August 1959 and rented an apartment in the 2000 block of Park avenue. It was in that building that Ray was arrested in October, minutes after he and an accomplice had robbed a Kroger grocery on Ohio avenue.

Ray, who attempted to avoid capture, was subdued after a detective struck him on the head with his service revolver. On the fifth day of his trial before Circuit Court Judge John C. Casey, Ray again tried to escape. He was caught by a sheriff's deputy in an elevator at the end of a corridor in the Municipal Courts building. The pattern continued at the Missouri Penitentiary, where Ray's third effort to escape was successful.

MLK EXHIBIT F-642

Mr. RAY. MLK F-642?

Chairman STOKES. MLK F-642, which is a St. Louis Post-Dispatch article dated June 9, 1968. It is page 31A. I would refer the witness, Mr. Lesar, to the second paragraph under the caption "Wallace Backers," that portion which says:

John Ray said he last saw his brother at the prison and "he and I both are strong supporters of George C. Wallace," former governor of Alabama, a States' Rights candidate for President, "so maybe we talked about him a little."

Mr. RAY. Maybe, maybe.

Mr. LESAR. That does not say that James Earl Ray worked for Wallace. I just point that out, that my objection seems to have had some validity.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Chairman, my question was simply whether or not he was aware of it. If the witness is unaware, then he ought to be able to state that.

Mr. LESAR. Oh, but you were asking him if he was aware of something—that is not a fact.

Mr. FAUNTROY. The Chair is prepared to rule. And he overrules the objection and directs the witness to answer a simple question tendered him by Chairman Stokes.

Mr. LESAR. Could you repeat the question for us?

Chairman STOKES. I will rephrase it.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Does the witness need the question to be restated to him?

Mr. RAY. Yes; he can restate it.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Thank you.

Will the chairman kindly restate the question.

Chairman STOKES. I will be glad to, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Ray, were you aware of the fact that your brother, James Earl Ray, was a strong supporter of Gov. George Wallace?

Mr. RAY. Well, if this is true, he might have been—if this newspaper article is true, it is possible. Maybe he told me on a visit. But I can't recall offhand something that happened 12 years ago, a statement which maybe my brother made.

Chairman STOKES. Well, do you recall having talked with this particular newspaper reporter?

Mr. RAY. Manuel Chait; yes, sir.

Chairman STOKES. And in talking with him, is there any reason to believe that you did not say what he said that you said in this article?

Mr. RAY. No, I probably said this. Of course, he's a pretty honest writer.

Chairman STOKES. Thank you.

Now, did you and James ever discuss the campaign of Gov. George Wallace, either before or after his escape from Missouri State Prison?

Mr. RAY. I can't recall ever—excuse me—ever discussing—maybe if I visit, or he is incarcerated in prison, anybody might have said something about it. But nothing specific. Whatever conversation carried on between me and James about Wallace, supporting Wallace, rather.

Chairman STOKES. The answer is you can't recall anything specific?

Mr. RAY. No.

Chairman STOKES. But you possibly did discuss it?

Mr. RAY. It is possible, yes. But in prison interviews you don't talk too much about politics and stuff. You know, you talk about family and stuff.

Chairman STOKES. Can you identify for the committee by name any Wallace campaign backers who frequented the Grapevine Bar on a regular or occasional basis.

Mr. RAY. Campaign backers? Campaign what?

Chairman STOKES. Wallace campaign supporters or backers.

Mr. RAY. Well, I imagine supporters was in there. People, you know, buy bumper stickers or something. There is no organizers to the best of my knowledge ever came into the tavern.

Chairman STOKES. Do you know where the South St. Louis American Independent Party headquarters was located in 1968?

Mr. RAY. 1968 what?

Chairman STOKES. In 1968?

Mr. RAY. 1968?

Chairman STOKES. Yes.

Mr. RAY. Well, there was one on Gravoise—someplace on Gravoise. I saw it out there. But I don't know the address.

Chairman STOKES. Nowhere any others were located?

Mr. RAY. No.

Chairman STOKES. Did you know Glen Shrum who was in charge of the South St. Louis AIP office?

Mr. RAY. I read about him in the newspaper. That is all. I read his name in the newspaper once in a while.

Chairman STOKES. But your answer is you did not know him?

Mr. RAY. No.

Chairman STOKES. Did you know Floyd Kitchen, the St. Louis AIP organizer?

Mr. RAY. No, not to my knowledge. I read about him, too.

Chairman STOKES. But you didn't personally know him either?

Mr. RAY. No.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Ray, at this time I want to direct your attention to Martin Luther King exhibits F-580, F-580A, F-580B, F-580C, which I will also ask to be displayed for the witness.

Mr. Ray, can you see these exhibits?

Mr. RAY. Yes, sir.

Chairman STOKES. OK.

The three photographs there represent photographs taken this year of the location where the Grapevine Tavern was situated.

Do these photographs accurately reflect the location of the Grapevine Tavern?

Mr. RAY. Yes, sir.

Chairman STOKES. And can you see the map there?

Mr. RAY. Yes, I can see the map.

Chairman STOKES. Does that map accurately reflect the location of the Grapevine Tavern as you recall it?

Mr. RAY. Yes.

Chairman STOKES. Now, this photograph, or these photographs, rather, were taken from the doorstep of 2105 Arsenal Street. I wonder if you recall who resided at that address?

Mr. RAY. You mean the Grapevine Tavern?

Chairman STOKES. Yes. Who resided at the address 2105 Arsenal Street?

Mr. RAY. I do not know. It says here Stanley and Viola Anderson.

Chairman STOKES. OK. You have anticipated my next question which was whether or not you knew Viola Anderson and her husband, Stanley, who resided at the address across the street from which this photograph was taken.

Mr. RAY. I am well aware of them living there because they had signs in their windows and stuff in the yard.

Chairman STOKES. Were you aware of the fact that their home also served as the South St. Louis neighborhood meeting place for the American Independent Party? Did you know that?

Mr. RAY. No. Well, I know—I didn't know it was a headquarters or nothing. The only thing I knew was about the signs in the yard and I think she or he was some type of maybe a recruiter, by hearsay.

Chairman STOKES. OK.

Did you ever attend any meetings in their home?

Mr. RAY. No.

Chairman STOKES. Have you ever been in their home for any reason?

Mr. RAY. No.

Chairman STOKES. Did you know the Andersons to see them?

Mr. RAY. Yes, I saw them out in front of the house, driving past.

Chairman STOKES. Did you ever see them in the Grapevine Tavern?

Mr. RAY. Not to my knowledge, no. You see, I have to explain, their class of people probably wouldn't associate with this class of people here. This class of people in my tavern was more or less a rougher element. And the Wallace supporters was more or less the law and order type of person. You understand what I mean. There was a dividing line there. These people here was working—a lot of different people come in there, a rougher type of crowd. I wouldn't have no reason to go over there, and she wouldn't have no reason to come over here.

Chairman STOKES. I see.

Mr. Ray, now I would like to direct your attention to Martin Luther King exhibit F-571 which has been previously entered into the record and ask that this exhibit be appropriately displayed to the witness.

Mr. Ray, this is a photograph of an individual previously identified in these proceedings as being Mr. John Kauffmann. Do you know this individual?

Mr. RAY. No, not to my knowledge. I never saw him before.

Chairman STOKES. To the best of your knowledge, you have never seen him before?

Mr. RAY. No.

Chairman STOKES. Now, at this time I would like to direct the attention of Mr. Ray to Martin Luther King exhibit F-572, also previously identified and made a part of the record here. I ask that it be displayed for the witness.

Mr. Ray, this is a photograph previously identified in these proceedings of a Mr. John Sutherland. I will ask you to look at this photograph and tell us whether or not you know this individual.

Mr. RAY. I can't recall ever seeing him either.

Chairman STOKES. Beg pardon?

Mr. RAY. I can't recall ever seeing him either.

Mr. LESAR. He can't recall ever seeing him either.

Chairman STOKES. I see. Thank you.

Did you ever meet with anyone by the name of John Sutherland?

Mr. RAY. No. I can't recall.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Ray, when you traveled to California, in the summer of 1967, did you spend any time in San Diego?

Mr. RAY. Yes. I was down there a week or so.

Chairman STOKES. And did you visit there with an individual named William K. Scheerer who resides in the San Diego area?

Mr. RAY. No.

Chairman STOKES. You did not?

Mr. RAY. No.

Chairman STOKES. In 1967 and 1968, Mr. Ray, did you know any members of the Citizens Council of St. Louis?

Mr. RAY. To my knowledge, no.

Chairman STOKES. I beg your pardon?



Mr. RAY. To my knowledge, no. For instance, somebody, you know, might have been a member of the Citizens Council, maybe. But not to my knowledge.

Chairman STOKES. That is all I am asking. Any persons who came to your knowledge who were members of that group.

Mr. RAY. No.

Chairman STOKES. Then in terms of any of them frequenting the Grapevine Tavern, if they did, you didn't know they belonged to this organization?

Mr. RAY. No.

Chairman STOKES. Now, I will ask that the witness be shown MLK exhibit F-660, that it be appropriately displayed. I also ask that it be entered into the record of these proceedings.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Without objection, so ordered.

[The information follows:]



MLK EXHIBIT F-660

Chairman STOKES. This individual, Mr. Ray, has been previously identified in these hearings as Mr. Russell Byers. I will ask you to look at him and tell the committee whether or not you have ever met him.

Mr. LESAR. Objection, Mr. Chairman. Could Congressman Stokes state when the picture was taken?

Mr. FAUNTROY. A request has been made for information.

Chairman STOKES. I am informed by counsel, chief counsel for the committee, that it is a recent photograph.

Mr. LESAR. It is. All right.

And, second, it is my recollection, Mr. Weisberg and I were here with John Ray at a time when Mr. Byers was called into testify. It is Mr. Weisberg's recollection that he did not have glasses at that time; is that correct?

Mr. FAUNTROY. Quite frankly, Mr. Lesar, I don't recall myself.

Mr. LESAR. I don't either.

Mr. FAUNTROY. And, therefore, I don't understand its relevance.

Mr. LESAR. The relevance is that ordinarily when you attempt to get an identification of someone who knew someone, you take a picture of the person as he was at the time someone——

Mr. FAUNTROY. Are you objecting to the question on the basis of that?

Mr. LESAR. I have established a couple of facts. I think I won't object any further.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Oh, thank you.

Now, will you answer the question?

Mr. RAY. I do not recall ever meeting that person either.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I have one other photograph I would like to have displayed, shown to the witness. It is MLK exhibit F-661. I ask that it be displayed, and made a part of this record.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Without objection, so ordered.

[The information follows:]



MLK EXHIBIT F-661

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Ray, that is a photograph of a gentleman previously identified as John Paul Spica. The question to you is whether or not you know this individual?

Mr. RAY. No.

Mr. LESAR. Again, Mr. Chairman, just for the record, is that a current photograph or a photograph as of what time?

Mr. FAUNTROY. Counsel, you slept that one.

Mr. LESAR. I slipped that one?

Mr. FAUNTROY. You slept it. The witness has answered the question.

Mr. LESAR. I understand. I said just for the record. I just want to have an accurate record reflecting when the photograph was taken.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Well, that objection is overruled.

Would the chairman continue?

Chairman STOKES. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Let me ask you this, Mr. Ray. Are you aware of the fact that John Paul Spica was an inmate at the Missouri State Prison at the same time your brother was an inmate there prior to his escape?

Mr. RAY. Just what I read in the newspapers.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I think I have just a couple of more questions.

Mr. Ray, was Dr. Martin Luther King ever the subject of discussions at the Grapevine Tavern?

Mr. RAY. Well, I imagine there was discussion. I expect there were discussions. I can't remember any offhand. The reason I imagine there was was that he is, well, a controversy figure. But it was no serious discussions to do bodily injuries or conspiracies, or any things of that manner. Not within my presence.

Chairman STOKES. I see.

Were there ever any discussions there about the trouble that the civil rights movement, which was being headed by Dr. Martin Luther King, was causing in 1968?

Mr. RAY. I expect that there was. But I can't recall offhand any specific incident.

Chairman STOKES. Were there ever at any time any conversations which you either participated in or overheard at the Grapevine Tavern where money was being offered to kill Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.?

Mr. RAY. No.

Chairman STOKES. Thank you, Mr. Ray.

Mr. Chairman, I have no further questions of the witness. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Thank you.

The Chair yields back the balance of his time and I would like to yield out of order to Congressman McKinney at this time for his 5 minutes.

Mr. MCKINNEY. Mr. Chairman, thank you very much. I am going to be extremely brief.

Mr. Ray, you and Mr. Lesar spent quite some time with me last April; is that not correct?

Mr. RAY. Correct.

Mr. MCKINNEY. I just wanted to establish that for the record so that the brevity of my questioning will not be considered as a lack of interest.

You have today disagreed with either the sworn statement or the committee reports on the remarks made by Mr. Goldenstein, Mr. Haynes, and Mr. Rogers, concerning bank robberies; is that not correct?

Mr. RAY. That is correct.

Mr. MCKINNEY. Mr. Lesar, you are a practicing attorney in the District of Columbia?

Mr. LESAR. Yes, that is correct.

Mr. MCKINNEY. Do you know where House Annex No. 2 is?

Mr. LESAR. Yes, I do.

Mr. MCKINNEY. You have read the committee rules. Of that we are aware; correct?

Mr. LESAR. Yes.

Mr. MCKINNEY. And you are aware of the fact that the committee rules state that testimony under the committee rules of executive session is available to anyone who should choose to read them at House Annex 2; right?

Mr. LESAR. I am aware of that, yes.

Mr. MCKINNEY. How many times have you taken advantage of that opportunity?

Mr. LESAR. Well, let me see—

Mr. MCKINNEY. An estimation is fine.

Mr. LESAR. Well, to the best of my recollection there was one attempt that was really frustrated because the committee required that I swear a secrecy oath not to reveal—or the staff did—that I would not reveal the contents of the transcript, and I refused to sign that, and advised my client, Carol Pepper, not to. And I would guess I have been over there maybe three times, probably three, to review transcripts, yes.

Mr. MCKINNEY. You are aware of the House of Representatives interpretation of what an executive hearing is?

Mr. LESAR. No, I am a little puzzled about it because it has been represented here to me today that executive session transcripts are not made available to the witnesses. And yet I have one with me that was made available to a witness. And, in addition, you will recall, of course, that I protested quite strenuously against having those sessions held in executive session.

Mr. MCKINNEY. Mr. Lesar, I am only too well aware. I was sitting, I believe, temporarily in the Chair for part of that time.

Did you request of this committee at any time previous to this Friday of this week that you receive any exhibits that we were going to put into the testimony today?

Mr. LESAR. I made—

Mr. MCKINNEY. Not including your general request which wanted 50,000 odd pages of different documents. I am talking about specific things.

Mr. LESAR. No, I think that is a misrepresentation of what I asked for. I have—my guess is I have written six or seven letters over the past 3 or 4 months requesting different items, different documents. And I assumed that they probably covered the type of—

Mr. MCKINNEY. Did you specifically ask earlier this week for any exhibits that would be used in today's questioning of your client?

Mr. LESAR. No, I did not.

Mr. MCKINNEY. Thank you. That is all, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. LESAR. Except in response to that I would say that certainly the documents that you have introduced today by and large would have been covered by my request of November 2. And you could certainly have provided those to me at any time you so desired.

Mr. MCKINNEY. I think for the record it should clearly state that my question was: Was the request made that any documents we

would specifically use in the questioning of your client on this specific day, were they asked for? That was my question.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Thank you. The time of the gentleman has expired. I yield now 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Indiana, Mr. Fithian.

Mr. FITHIAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Ray, I would like to ask whether or not you are quoted correctly in a St. Louis Post-Dispatch which is found in Martin Luther King exhibit F-642?<sup>1</sup> And if you will pull that out of the packet.

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman, objection. He has already been asked that question and responded to it.

Mr. FITHIAN. Mr. Lesar, you haven't heard the question.

Mr. LESAR. You already asked the question.

Mr. FITHIAN. I understand you believe yourself omniscient, but I have not yet asked the question.

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman, I made an objection—

Mr. FAUNTROY. Will the gentleman suspend for just a moment. Do you have an objection?

Mr. LESAR. I made one, and you have not ruled on it.

Mr. FAUNTROY. What is the objection?

Mr. LESAR. The objection was he stated a question which I believe my client answered previously in response to questions from Congressman Stokes.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Thank you. Your objection is overruled. Proceed.

Mr. FITHIAN. Since obviously the question had not been yet asked, I think that is indicative of the kind of delaying tactics used here today.

Mr. Ray, I would like to direct your attention to the first column of that article, the second paragraph, in which you say:

If my brother did kill King, he did it for a lot of money. He never did anything he wasn't—if it was not for money. And those who paid him won't want him sitting in a courtroom telling everything he knows.

You are being quoted as having said that. What I would—my question is: Does that accurately represent what you told the reporter?

Mr. RAY. I expect so, yes.

Mr. FITHIAN. Thank you.

On down in that same column, towards the bottom of the page, after the subheading "Called About Capture", you are quoted again as saying:

A friend of mine in Canada called me around noon to tell me they had caught my brother in London. I wasn't surprised he was in London, but I was surprised that he got caught. I knew he wasn't dead.

Does that approximately reflect what you told the reporter?

Mr. RAY. I expect I told him that, yes.

Mr. FITHIAN. Now, would you advise the committee the name of your friend in Canada to which you refer?

Mr. RAY. I do not have any friend in Canada. There is probably a reason behind that. But offhand, I don't know. The reason—one time I was going to get a passport to London. I don't know whether it is the same date. In this neighborhood of time. And the FBI

<sup>1</sup> See text, supra, at 589.

stopped me from getting a passport some way. I am not sure how they did it. So this had something to do with me trying to get a passport through Canada. I can't recall. There is no friend called me.

Mr. FITHIAN. Is it your testimony, then, that you had at that time no friend in Canada?

Mr. RAY. That is right.

Mr. FITHIAN. Was your brother, Jerry in Canada at that time?

Mr. RAY. No, as far as I know he wasn't.

Mr. FITHIAN. And I didn't quite understand the other part of your answer to my last question, that is, whether or not—you said something about you were trying to get him a passport out of Canada.

Mr. RAY. No, I was trying to get a passport out of St. Louis. I made inquiries.

Mr. FITHIAN. For yourself?

Mr. RAY. Yes. And the FBI put a stop to it. So then I talked to this writer and he mentioned something about get a friend from Canada, or something.

Mr. FITHIAN. When you say get it for him from Canada, to whom are you referring?

Mr. RAY. For me, a passport for me. You see, I couldn't get none from the United States.

Mr. FITHIAN. And you were planning to travel where?

Mr. RAY. To London, if necessary, to see my brother.

Mr. FITHIAN. I see.

Now, if you will just move over to the second column, passing by that section that Mr. Stokes asked you about, and drop on down to the second to the last paragraph, you are quoted as saying:

James would do anything for us and we for him. But he wasn't particularly sociable with strangers.

Mr. RAY. Well, that is a relation I guess. Nothing unusual about that.

Mr. FITHIAN. All I wanted to know is whether or not that was the statement you made to the reporter?

Mr. RAY. I can't remember all these statements. This is just a newspaper article.

Mr. FITHIAN. I understand that.

Mr. RAY. He tells you—

Mr. FITHIAN. What I really want to know is whether this reflected your own estimation in June 1968 when this article was written, whether that reflected what you felt your relationship with your brother was, that you would do anything for him?

Mr. RAY. I would say so to a news media if there wasn't. But it is true, yes. If it wasn't true, I probably would tell the news media—on something personal like that—if it wasn't true, I would say so.

Mr. FITHIAN. You would say so whether it was or wasn't true?

Mr. RAY. Yes, if it was true—

Mr. FITHIAN. Then, could you share the truth with the committee as to whether or not that does reflect your feeling towards your brother in June 1968?

Mr. RAY. I already answered yes to that.

Mr. FITHIAN. Thank you.



One moment, Mr. Chairman.

I am advised by counsel that this article was printed within 24 hours of the time James Earl Ray was arrested in London. Therefore, if you have already tried to get a passport to London, were you already informed of the whereabouts of your brother?

Mr. RAY. I was informed by, I believe, the FBI, who informed me. I can't state when I was informed.

Mr. FITHIAN. But they couldn't have informed you before he was arrested.

Mr. RAY. I am not actually sure who informed me. It just seems like it was the FBI, it seems like it was the news media.

Mr. FITHIAN. Well, but my point is one of timing, as to when you knew the whereabouts of your brother.

Mr. RAY. I can't remember when I knew the whereabouts. Either through the news media or the FBI.

Mr. FITHIAN. But do you disagree with my interpretation that given the dating on this newspaper, you had to know about it before he was arrested?

Mr. RAY. Before he was arrested?

Mr. FITHIAN. Yes.

Mr. RAY. No; I don't—you see, you pick out a newspaper that is 10 years old, and try to make an issue out of something—

Mr. FITHIAN. Well, the only thing that is important here is the truth. What I want to know is when did you know about the whereabouts of James Earl Ray? And according to the printed date on this newspaper, and according to your testimony 3 minutes ago that you were applying for a passport, you had to know about it prior to James Earl's arrest.

Mr. RAY. I did not definitely state—I was actually applying for a passport and the FBI stopped the passport. But I cannot—I am just speculating here on this Canada deal, as I stated previously, because I cannot recall all these dates on here. Whether he was arrested or not, I don't know. But I didn't have no information where he was at until he was arrested.

Mr. FITHIAN. Let me turn to another area. I think I have the story on that, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Ray, did you ever use any alias or any other name than John Ray?

Mr. RAY. John what, Ray?

Mr. FITHIAN. John Ray.

Mr. RAY. Yes; I used the name John Ryan, R-y-a-n.

Mr. FITHIAN. R-a-y-n-s?

Mr. RAY. I used that name, too.

Mr. FITHIAN. The use of John Rayns as an alias or as another name, is it true that you in fact secured a social security card under the name of John Rayns?

Mr. RAY. Yes.

Mr. FITHIAN. And our investigation indicates that James was employed at the Indian Trails Restaurant, and when he was employed there he worked under the name of John L. Rayns, and he had a social security card bearing the same number as the card issued to you under the name John L. Rayns.

Mr. LESAR. Object.

Mr. FAUNTROY. The time of the gentleman has expired. I will entertain a unanimous consent—

Mr. FITHIAN. I would ask unanimous consent to proceed for 3 additional minutes.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Three additional minutes; and having done that, I will entertain an objection which has been heard from counsel for the witness.

Mr. LESAR. Yes. Objection. It is my understanding that the statement or the implication of the statement is that he had to have a card.

Mr. FITHIAN. If I may just clarify it for you, it was that he had a card bearing the number of the social security card that was under John L. Rayns' name. At least that is what I intended to ask.

Would you like to see Martin Luther King F-641 in your packet there? Mr. Chairman, I ask that this be incorporated into the record at this time.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Without objection, so ordered.

[The information follows:]

landlady that I left my luggage in the bus station or something, and then I started checking for jobs, and I got a job through the Chicago Tribune in a restaurant. Do you want to go through all that?

Q. Yes, in Chicago, yes.

A. Well, I got the place, I went to work, it was the Indian Trails Restaurant in Winnetka, Illinois, a dishwasher, I think it was a dishwasher.

Q. What name were you using?

A. I was using one of my brother's old social security numbers, John, John L. Raynes I believe it was. I don't recall the social security number, I didn't have, I didn't have the card, I got the number off him. We interchanged these numbers all the time he used them, I used them so I used that social security number and --

Q. And that name?

A. John L. Raynes, yes.

Q. And had that been used before by your brother?

A. I suppose so. Not only by him but by other parties I assumed, he had 10 or 15 of them. Well there was nothing eventful in Chicago. I know I called up the Canadian Embassy and I contacted them several times, plus other foreign embassies trying to, checking on foreign countries, possibly immigration. I wrote the Canadian Embassy, but I don't, I think J.

Q. When you said called and wrote, for what purpose?

MLK EXHIBIT F-641

Mr. FAUNTROY. I'll not charge this time to your 3 minutes.

Mr. FITHIAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your generosity. MLK exhibit F-641.

This exhibit which you have before you, Mr. Ray, is a transcript of statements made by your brother, and he simply is alluding, as you see there in the text, to the use of:

\* \* \* one of my brothers old social security numbers, John L. Raynes, I believe it was. I don't recall the social security number. I didn't have the card. I got the number off him. We interchanged these numbers all the time. He used them, I used them. So I used that social security number.

Now, my question is, did you, prior to James Earl Ray's escape from Missouri State Penitentiary, furnish James either with your social security card or your social security number?

Mr. RAY. Well, it is possible. Sometime I might have gave him that number. But it is also possible he might have had the number because he remembered probably that number. I did not give him no social security card. I did not have one.

Mr. FITHIAN. But your testimony now is that you think he may have just remembered your social security number?

Mr. RAY. Or he might have asked me on a prior visit for the number or something.

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman, just for the record I want to state, with regard to my previous objection, my objection was to the statement that he had a card, and the testimony given us indicates that he did not. It has been read into the record by Mr. Fithian. That is all.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Your objection and statement has been noted. Proceed, Mr. Ray. You were interrupted. Proceed.

Mr. FITHIAN. Were you finished?

Mr. RAY. Yes.

Mr. FITHIAN. Mr. Ray, what I am leading to is whether or not you knew that James Earl Ray was thinking of escaping from Missouri State Prison prior to his escape?

Mr. RAY. Well, he was always thinking of escapes, so it wouldn't be nothing new.

Mr. FITHIAN. So should I interpret that to mean, yes, you did know he was going to try to escape?

Mr. RAY. I can't answer. I am thinking he is probably trying to escape now. Ninety percent of prisoners incarcerated are trying to escape. Maybe not that high a percentage, but at least looking for a way out.

Mr. FITHIAN. I was wondering if we could just be a little more specific.

Did you know of any plan he had to escape from the prison?

Mr. RAY. I don't recall any.

Mr. FITHIAN. Mr. Chairman, I would ask the witness to refer to, again, a transcript of his brother's testimony, Martin Luther King F-635. Since I am not going to ask a question on this, I would just like to read that question and answer into the record at this point.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Without objection.

Mr. FITHIAN. James Earl Ray is being questioned. Come down to the point where he is referring to whether his brothers knew.

He said: "I don't know. I can't remember all of what I told them." The question was:

What was the conversation on that day before you escaped?"

I don't know. I don't remember what all I told him. But, I mean, they all knew, both Jerry and John knew that I was thinking about escaping. So it wouldn't have been no revelation if I—if I would have mentioned something.

I have no further questions, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Thank you. The time of the gentleman has expired.

I now yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Michigan, Mr. Sawyer.

Mr. Sawyer has no questions.

Pursuant to our committee rules, we afford every witness an opportunity at the close of his testimony before the committee to summarize, amplify, or otherwise modify his testimony before the committee. And that opportunity is extended to you and/or your counsel at this time.

Mr. Ray, I am awaiting your response.

Mr. RAY. Yes. My question goes back to that question I answered to Mr. Stokes a while ago. The U.S. Department of Justice and the FBI and a Federal judge locked up thousands of pages of evidence concerning King, Martin Luther King, and the Rays, and maybe a person who conspired to assassinate him.

It is my belief that since I have been locked in solitary confinement for 67 days, in three different Federal asylums, and many physical tortures by this Government, that they should release this information and the person who do not release the information, it seems like to me they would be covering up a murder. They would be covering up the murder of Martin Luther King.

And because I know when former President Nixon suspected of covering up a two-bit burglary, he was run out of the White House.

So by not releasing this information, I think this committee is maybe conspiring to, unknowing, maybe unknowing, of covering up this murder of Dr. Martin Luther King.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Let me state for the information of the witness and his counsel that the committee has gained access to an inventory of the materials to which you make reference. And we are in the process of assessing which of those materials may be of relevance to the investigation of the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Mr. LESAR. Mr. Chairman, I have a statement to make.

Mr. FAUNTROY. The Chair yields the balance of the 5 minutes to counsel.

Mr. LESAR. What is the balance?

Mr. FAUNTROY. I will tell you when you—

Mr. LESAR. Do I get the same kind of 5 minutes that Congressmen do?

Mr. Chairman, this committee has its genesis in false information circulated by an exploiter of assassination mythologies who sought to attribute the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. That theory has now been discredited by this committee.

However, once established, this committee became the foremost purveyor of assassination theories. Through sensationalized but unfounded claims of evidence of various conspiracies, all presuming the guilt of James Earl Ray, the committee choreographed itself into an unprecedented \$6 million budget.

Now, as the committee hears its last public witness, it is apparent that this vast sum of money has been entirely wasted. This committee appears to have developed no information of substance which has not previously been obtained under the Freedom of Information Act as a result of a citizen's lawsuit for the FBI's files of the case.

Pathetically, the committee now desperately seeks to establish on the basis of unfounded rumor, suspicion, speculation, unsworn statements and dubious testimony taken in star chamber proceed-

ings, theories which the FBI itself discarded after thorough investigation.

The FBI files themselves contain information which show the crucial testimony before this committee was highly suspect or even fabricated. Yet, this committee has not provided such exculpatory information to those that it has put on trial.

An example of this is an FBI document dated July 17, 1968, which contradicts the testimony, the very damaging testimony before this committee, of the Scotland Yard warder, Mr. Eist. The pertinent part of that document reads,

Subject, meaning James Earl Ray, refused to see two Scotland Yard officers June 14 last and said he would also refuse to see the FBI if they asked to see him. Yard officers made request to see him in an effort to ascertain his activities in London from May 17 to June 8. Subject not saying anything significant to warders as he now believes they are trying to extract information for the police.

Mr. LESAR. Another example which reveals the unfair tactics of this committee also explains why the committee refuses to make public John Ray's executive session testimony and which, excuse me, and which explains why the committee refuses to make public John Ray's executive session testimony is that it shows that counsel for the committee sought to entrap John Ray by misrepresenting the date of the letter James Earl Ray wrote mentioning J.B. Stoner, the head of the National State Rights Party, and then repeatedly sought to keep his counsel from stating the correct date.

Had the committee's representation gone uncorrected, John Ray would have been entrapped into testifying falsely that James Earl Ray knew J.B. Stoner before he was arrested in London on June 8, 1978 (sic).

The chief counsel of the committee has written that the purpose of the committee is to establish the ultimate truth about the assassination of Dr. King. Assuming that solving crimes is a proper congressional purpose—and I believe it is not—truth can never be established by the methods employed by this committee.

In time the American people will understand this, if they do not already.

I hope that Congress will never again attempt to hold another such trial such as we have seen from this committee.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Thank you, and let the record show that you were afforded a full 5-minute period as counsel for the witness.

As we prepare for the next witness, may I simply ask counsel to return to the staff the executive testimony books which were provided you?

Mr. LESAR. It was taken up at lunch and not returned to me thereafter, so I don't have them.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Thank you. May I remind—

Mr. LESAR. Excuse me. We are supposed to get three pages of Mr. Rogers' testimony, I think, and I would like to receive those.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Yes. We will be sure to provide counsel and witness with those documents which have been made a part of the public record as a part of this session.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Following the testimony of John Larry Ray before the Committee on December 1, 1978, his attorney, James H. Lesar, submitted a report of Harold Weisberg, an investigator working with Mr. Lesar in his representation of Mr. Ray. Mr. Lesar, in an accompanying letter to Chairman Louis Stokes, described the report as an "analysis of the 'evidence' against John Ray." Mr. Weisberg's report follows:

[Additional copy received to be inserted into the record.]

REPORT OF HAROLD WEISBERG

After much leaking to create a climate of public acceptability and later staff narration in substitution for evidence, the House Select Committee on Assassinations unveiled its case against John Ray as a co-conspirator in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., when he testified in public on December 1, 1978.

The committee did not even bother to ask him whether or not he was part of the assassination or part of a conspiracy in it.

Throughout its life the committee pursued a series of mutually exclusionary conjectures about the King assassination. All are from FBI files, all were proven false by prior FBI investigation and all were in the public domain through Harold Weisberg's Freedom of Information lawsuit, C.A. 75-1996.

One of these phoned-up conspiracies, by Clifton Baird, himself a bombing suspect in school integration disturbances, was misused to obtain an extension of the committee's life. Thereafter, except for harassment and leaking that damaged a number of innocent Louisville, Kentucky, policemen and their families, the committee abandoned this conjecture. This abandonment coincides with Weisberg's giving the lawyer for these policemen the FBI's transcript of the tape recording Baird alleged held proof of an FBI offer to him of a half million dollars to kill Dr. King. In fact, there is no mention of the FBI. This was known at the time of the false representation to the Congress to have the committee continued. Despite this and with Baird an obviously undependable source, the committee harassed these innocent policemen for months and for all the headlines it would yield.

Another exploited irrelevancy involves the Powell brothers, Claude and Leon. Before the committee abandoned this irrelevancy, one of the brothers had been charged with contempt, a charge the House

was called upon to vote, based on the committee's representation of the irrelevancy as relevant. Actually, it was all hype. Also hype was the committee's July 30, 1978, release of an artist's conception of the "Ralph" who supposedly sought to hire the Powells to kill Dr. King. This sketch release was just before the committee held the first of its few public hearings. The sensational news attention to the committee's public appeal for identification of the sketch was a bald promotion for the coming public hearings.

Another such story was manufactured by one Raymond Curtis. Curtis is a virtual hero in the "biography" of James Earl Ray by George McMillan. While the committee is not known to have made public use of the Curtis concoction, it did confront John Ray with McMillan's note. Unlike most writers, some of whom have gone to jail rather than surrender what they regard as their First Amendment obligations, McMillan gave his notes to the committee. Curtis's purposes also are disclosed by FBI records obtained by Weisberg in C.A. 75-1996. Curtis began with an effort to defraud Ebony magazine based on a false story of a "contract" offer to kill Dr. King. The FBI's records characterize Curtis as a pathological liar. This did not deter the committee's giving credence to the McMillan/Curtis theory, which became the committee's official conjecture, the basis of its Ray investigation.

(No public records of the committee disclose any investigation of the King assassination. Like the FBI before it, the committee conducted a Ray investigation instead.)

An ex-con who used the names of <sup>Myron</sup> Billett and Paul Bucelli fashioned one of the long series of similar fairy tales. The committee pursued only headlines in its attention to his fabrication. This unserious operation was during the time the committee was trying to



persuade the Congress and the country that the committee was conducting active investigations.

Still another of these criminals' fabrications is the one selected from the many by the Department of Justice's Office of Professional Responsibility. OPR decided that it just had to have some criticism of the FBI's investigation in it, the fourth of the Departmental reviews of the FBI's performance. That one attributed the alleged "contract" of "bounty" to an unidentified businessmen's group. The "group" was not identified because it did not exist. Here again, the bad information is from the FBI's own records which in each case establish the untruthfulness of the allegation.

In fact, once Dr. King was killed the jails of the country were rife with these and similar fakes, made up by the Curtises for money and by others in hope of special treatment, like a reduction in sentence.

As the committee worked its way through the thicket of baseless, fabricated stories proven false by the FBI investigation, it used these known falsehoods for self-promotion and headlines. In this, the committee did not disclose the FBI records as its source or the FBI's debunking of the concoctions. In the end the committee fixed up and diligently leaked "plots" which refute each other. The last "bounty" tale provided by the FBI, from the committee's own evidence, was made up by a notorious police character named Russell Byers in a successful effort to learn if one Richard O'Hara was an FBI informer. The other, also straight from FBI files which also reflect its impossibility, is that James Earl Ray's brothers, John and Jerry, combined in bank robberies to finance James Earl Ray. Ray escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City on April 23, 1967, the year before Dr. King was assassinated. The baseless notion was

popularized for the committee in New Times by David Lifton and Jeff Cohen of the self-styled Assassination Information Bureau, one of the groups promoting assassination conspiracy theories.

Most of the committee's public hearings were not investigations under its Resolution. They were designed as put-downs of so-called conspiracy theorists. The clear intent was to lump all criticism of the official accounts of the assassinations of President Kennedy and Dr. King with the committee's selection of the most extreme and ludicrous "conspiracy theories.

That the committee itself became the most prominent of "conspiracy theorists" is exemplified by its Ray hearings.

Although the committee clearly directs criticism at the FBI, too, the fact is that there is virtually nothing - nothing substantive used in the public hearings - that did not come from the FBI's files. This means nothing not within the public domain through the Weisberg FOIA suit. Anyone can see these records in the FBI's public reading room.

Two of the more sensational examples of the committee's claiming the FBI's earlier work as the committee's investigative genius are an Atlanta laundry receipt in the name of James Earl Ray and his postal change of address from Los Angeles to Atlanta. With each, in making these records public, the committee merely eliminated the FBI file and Laboratory identifications. (In fact, the FBI obtained still another postal change of address from the files of a commercial forwarding service Ray also used.)

The committee's actual intent was disclosed in the midst of its public hearings by Congressman Richardson Preyer. In his September 24, 1978, appearance on the CBS-TV show, "Face the Nation," Congressman

Preyer was asked about American public opinion. Congressman Preyer replied that although "The polls now show that 80 percent of the American people do not believe" the official accounts, "I think we have a very good chance of reversing the polls."

(In fact, the committee's leaks and public hearings had the opposite effect, according to the Harris poll published in the Washington Post of December 4, 1978. The number of Americans who believe there had been conspiracies "had grown from 44 percent in 1967 to 75 percent by this year.")

The allegation of a Ray family conspiracy in the King assassination provides the committee with a sheet to leeward, the appearance of something to show for its work, and a means of making unsubstantial criticism of the FBI, to whose work it has added nothing except the dignifying of conjecture, magnified by the sensations caused by the committee's own leaking. The committee also made a partial and one-sided presentation at public hearings all of which commenced with narrations of what the committee wanted to have believed and often were not factual or correct.

The allegations of a Ray family conspiracy require as a beginning what is not fact and what did not exist, Ray family closeness if not intimacy. Confronted with the total absence of any evidence that John and James Earl Ray were ever close, the committee merely pretended they were, wanting to believe it. In fact, they never were. In their adulthood they almost never saw each other. This is disclosed by the committee's own evidence. One example is Exhibit MLK F-634, a Missouri penitentiary prisoner visitor card in the name of John Ray. The committee represented that this card shows by his signature that John Ray visited James Earl Ray on April 22, 1967, the day before the

escape. In fact, there is not a single signature after any of the nine visits recorded. There is no contradiction to the Ray family testimony, that Jerry Ray did not have a visitor's card and that he and others as well as John used the card obtained by John Ray.

So far from close to James Earl Ray was John that he did not even obtain permission to visit James at the Missouri penitentiary until James had been there for several years.

Whether or not John was in each case the visitor, as all the committee's own testimony states he was not, the actual number of visits is but a fraction more than a single visit a year. This is hardly family closeness.

In the absence of any evidence at all, the committee "narrated" Jerry Ray as the "Raoul" James Earl says was his criminal associate and financier, with the alternative that "Raoul" was a "composite" of John and Jerry. The allegedly wealthy co-conspirator and fellow bank robber Jerry Ray drove only a variety of troublesome secondhand cars from the time of James Earl's 1967 prison escape. When he worked, as he did regularly except when unusual public attention and committee pressure precluded it, he worked at only menial jobs. (The committee's withheld transcript of its interrogation of its own disaffected informer, Oliver Patterson, discloses that the committee saw to it, by subpoena and scheduling executive sessions to which he was not called, that Jerry was kept unemployed. Patterson charged the committee with improprieties. The committee "investigated" itself and after self-investigation reported its innocence to the Administration. Only after this self-investigation and report of its "results" did the committee get around to questioning Patterson, the sole complainant.) There is nothing in Jerry Ray's life or style of life indicative of his ever

having had any of the alleged bank-robbery money. The committee has made no effort to show that he did. It merely assumed and alleged this, in contradiction to what it also withholds, the results of the FBI's investigation.

The committee also hauled Mrs. Pepper before executive sessions in April and May in its pursuit of the conjecture that she had been the bag woman in this alleged family bank-robbing/King assassination conspiracy. As a result of her alleged cut in the alleged Ray bank robberies, Mrs. Pepper's home was so heavily mortgaged in early December 1978 that it could not be accepted as bail for John where a \$350 bail bond would have sufficed.

Between the executive sessions of April and May, Chairman Stokes extended his remarks in the Congressional record to threaten Carol Pepper and John and Jerry Ray. To be certain they were aware of the threat, the committee gave reprints to all three prior to the Ray executive sessions.

Moreover, the sister, Carol Pepper, did not visit James once in all those years. There is no evidence she ever saw him from the time she was a girl. She did not visit him in the Memphis jail. She did not once see him until she took their aged and ill father to the Nashville penitentiary in 1969, after the guilty plea. The Memphis jail mail logs disclose only a very few letters between them. Her husband, Albert Pepper, to this day has not visited or even seen his brother-in-law James.

After assuming the opposite of fact and assuming what no evidence at all makes even a credible assumption, of Ray family closeness, the committee then assumed what the FBI's prior investigation failed to show was even reasonable as a "conspiracy theory," that the Ray brothers

combined in a series of bank robberies. While the committee's number of robberies thus attributed to them varies, the committee finally fixed upon five. Of these five, four were long after James was captured, long after he entered a guilty plea, and can have no relevance to the crime or any legislative purpose other than prejudicing.

The only one of these robberies that was not long after the guilty plea is that of the Bank of Alton, Illinois. All that connects the Ray brothers to this is the committee's longing and need. After the committee publicized this conjecture, Jerry Ray surrendered himself and asked to be tried. He was told he was not and never had been a suspect.

Before the committee fixed upon this "conspiracy theory," the FBI, during its 1968 investigation, leaked the identical conjecture in its effort to appear to account for James Earl Ray's financing other than he had, by his being financed by those with whom he had a criminal association.

With the Alton theory the committee has and ignored problems that make the conjecture unreasonable. First, there is the need to believe that, after the brothers knocked off the bank and obtained \$27,230 for the purpose of killing Dr. King, James then loafed around for a year, from coast-to-coast and in Mexico and Canada, waiting until he was broke and escape would be in jeopardy before killing Dr. King. This is irrational.

The committee also represents that, because James bought an old automobile in East St. Louis the day after that robbery and thus, like many other people, was in the St. Louis area, this means that he was able to make the purchase only because of the Alton bank robbery. It is not easy to believe that, with more than \$27,000 in cash, those

plotting such a horrendous crime or a man who still owed the State of Missouri 15 years (without added time for escaping) would depend on a two-hundred-dollar clunker of an auto for his travel, safety or security. In fact, not long thereafter James gave the wreck to Jerry, who then got rid of it. It was worthless.

The total loot of these five robberies is about \$115,000. John Ray, if the committee's final King assassination "conspiracy theory" is to be believed, squirreled away his fat and holds it for the hereafter, refusing to use a cent of it in this life. He did not use a penny of it to defend himself when he was charged with driving a "switch" car after one of the later bank robberies, that at St. Charles, Missouri, on October 26, 1970. As late as December 1978 he would appear to be no less determined not to touch any of his conjectured wealth for bail when he was again in Jail. His resolution not to use a single cent of the alleged bank-robbery haul for himself in this life is further reflected by his not using any of it to keep his tavern operating when his identification as the brother of the accused assassin wrecked that business.

It is not only the committee's conspiracy conjectures that are not reasonable. Its alleged proof, presented at the December 1, 1978, hearing, is neither credible nor reasonable. What follows is limited to the committee's own selection of its alleged evidence. The committee certainly selected what it regarded as its most probative evidence. Based on this, the committee had John jailed and demanded that his parole be canceled. Based on this it also accused him of perjury for denying he had robbed four banks long after James was convicted for the King assassination. ("After" is emphasized because the committee's legislative authority is limited to the actual assassination. It does

not include an investigation of bank robberies.)

Although at its December 1 hearing the committee attributed only four such robberies to John Ray, with the Alton robbery making a total of five at most, all based on the evidence that follows, when the committee successfully pressured the Department of Justice to return John Ray to jail during the summer of 1978, it attributed six bank robberies to him. Its description of the probity and persuasiveness of its alleged evidence is reflected in Parole Commission records obtained under Freedom of Information Act request.

On June 12, 1978, Chief Counsel Blakey wrote Robert Vincent of the Parole Commission at Kansas City about "a matter concerning the parole eligibility status of John Ray, as such may be affected by recent instances of perjury by John Ray before this Committee." Not content with this allegation, for which no proof is said to be attached, Mr. Blakey enclosed as a substitute for proof a "copy of a speech delivered on the floor of the House by Committee Chairman Stokes." In fact, as the enclosed reprint establishes, the chairman did not make the speech. It was an extension of remarks the Members were not privileged to hear delivered in person. The extension, Mr. Blakey wrote, "reflected the magnitude of the problem created by the perjurious and contemptuous conduct of Mr. Ray."

Under this FOIA request the Department has not provided what Mr. Blakey states "was already provided by the committee," which is "the transcript of the testimony of John Ray." In this the committee appears to be consistent, having not only refused to provide a copy to Ray or his counsel but even having taken counsel's notes on the transcript from counsel. Thus the committee intended to give what amounts to a one-sided prosecution case to pressure Ray to the Department to pressure



it while withholding the identical record to this day from Mr. Ray and his counsel.

In the extension the chairman, claiming it was not "a vendetta against the Ray family," made similar allegations against Mrs. Carol Pepper, the sister the committee then cast in a role it had invented for her, that of bag woman. Despite the committee's threats to her, this invention now appears to have been abandoned. There is no Parole Commission for the committee to pressure relating to her.

The date of this Extension of Remarks is May 4, 1978, which is considerably prior to the date of almost all of the alleged evidence used at the December 1, hearing.

John Ray was thrown back in jail without process. He spent almost three months in solitary confinement before being paroled after appeal before the Parole Commission.

When the Department did not proceed with a perjury charge, which the committee did seek, the committee's attention was focused on the Parole Commission because John Ray was in a half-way house awaiting parole to become effective. He was vulnerable to the political pressure that was applied. When the committee's letters did not result in either a prosecution or parole rescision, whatever legislative purposes could be attributed to either, Mr. Blakey pressured the Parole Commission by phone. One internal Parole Commission memo reports the Blakey phone call to it on June 7.

Although Mr. Blakey told the Parole Commission that "the committee has testimony from four other witnesses that conclusively establishes Mr. Ray's involvement in several bank robberies," when the Parole Commission "asked the Chief Counsel for the information" constituting proof, "Mr. Blakey said he would forward a cover letter summarizing the above information."

Mr. Blakey's "cover letter summarizing" alleged proof itself is not proof. He told the Parole Commission "that the committee has testimony from four other witnesses," the evidence that allegedly "conclusively establishes Mr. Ray's" alleged perjury. Mr. Blakey did not subject the alleged testimony of these four to examination by the Parole Commission, as the committee also precluded any assessment of it by Ray, his counsel or the press. This alleged testimony remains suppressed.

In fact, the committee shrank the four to three as it reduced the number of robberies from six.

In substitution for "testimony" there is the best case the committee can make in the exhibits used on December 1, 1978, Exhibits MLK F-662-4. Here the four downgraded to three are Clarence Haynes, Ronald Goldenstein and James Rogers, all convicted criminals and at least one an established perjurer.

In no case has the committee permitted its alleged "testimony" to be examined, whether by the Parole Commission or by Ray or his counsel or by the press. If there is such evidence, or even dubious testimony, it has been and remains totally secret. It therefore is additionally appropriate to consider what in putting its best face forward the committee no longer keeps secret, its December 1 exhibits. Particularly when one of the "conclusive" proofs of the committee's representation to the Parole Commission disappears from the exhibits used at the December 1 hearing.

What follows is the committee's alleged proof, the end product of its spending the largest appropriation in the history of Congressional investigations to "solve" the assassination of Dr. King. It is what remains of the proof used by the committee to ask the Department of

Justice for a perjury indictment and, failing that, by pressure to have jailed an American citizen without process. Based on this the committee seeks a perjury charge, which may give the appearance of substance to its conjectures. This also is the evidence in which the reputation and integrity of the Congress are vested.

A chronology of relevant events preceding the disclosing of these exhibits at the public hearing of December 1 underscores their importance, more so because whatever the basis of the committee's pressure on the Parole Commission to have John thrown back in jail, the committee did not produce a single live witness to testify to its conjectures. It should have been able to produce not fewer than four - if it dared. Instead, it "narrated" three.

Secret executive session testimony was taken from John Ray on April 17 and May 9, 1978. In June the committee undertook to have him charged with perjury and, failing that, to have his parole withdrawn over uncharged perjury.

All of this was because he refused to confess to the bank robberies the committee conjectures he pulled. The statute had run on prosecution, there is no way confession could connect him with the King assassination, and there is no reason not to admit the crimes if he was involved in them. John testified that to admit them would be perjurious.

On September 19, 1978, the full committee voted to request a court Order conferring immunity on John Ray. When on October 3 it informed the Department of Justice, the Department replied by return mail, offering no objection. The committee did not then ask an Order of federal court. It did not do this until November 13. November 13 was four days after the committee resumed its Ray hearings. (The

Washington Star headline on its account of the first of the resumed hearings gives added perspective: "Assassinations Panel Not Certain Bullet From Ray Rifle Killed King.")

The intervening time was spent waiting for a back-door confession. Under date of October 11 the committee sent John what it styled a biographical statement. If John had signed and returned it, he would have confessed and there would have been no need to call him to a hearing. The committee would have had what it wanted - and did and does not have - a de facto confession of what he denied under oath.

The last paragraph of this "biography" states that "John Ray also was involved in numerous other bank robberies for which he was never charged. They include: Farmers Bank of Liberty, Illinois, on October 17, 1969; Farmers and Traders Bank of Meredosia, Illinois, on January 28, 1970; State Bank of Laddonia, Missouri, on June 11, 1970; and the Bank of Hawthorne, Florida, on July 29, 1970. Additionally, it is believed that John was involved in the robbery of the Bank of Alton, Illinois, on July 13, 1967." (Emphasis added)

While the last listed, the Bank of Alton robbery, is the only one that can even be conjectured into relevance with the King assassination, having preceded it, the committee's representation here is considerably less than it leaked, narrated and made to the Parole Commission, of "conclusive" proof. While the committee states explicitly in the "biography" it asked John to sign that he "was involved" in the four post-assassination and irrelevant robberies, with the Alton robbery it offers no more than its "belief" of his involvement. But even "belief" is not represented in its exhibits.

The committee waited two months after voting to immunize John before seeking immunization. It waited for a full month after he

received the "biographical statement," the attempted back-door confession, before actually asking a court for the immunity Order.

By December 1, after all the committee's leaking and its representations to the Department, the exhibits had a great weight to bear if they were to justify all the committee did and said and uphold the integrity of the Congress. Actually, however, the exhibits attributing bank robberies to John and thus "making" the committee's case of conjectures are all of the committee's creation. It is not only that they do not include the "testimony" Mr. Blakey represented having to the Department to get John charged with perjury or thrown back in jail. They do not even include a statement signed by any alleged "witness."

(The last of these leaks, the day before John testified, was that his brother Jerry would "confess" for both of them. This was to National Public Radio, which broadcast it from coast-to-coast. Jerry did no such thing. There was no basis even to suspect that he would. NPR attributed the false and prejudicial report to the committee.

By means of large charts titled "Bank Robbery Modus Operandi," Exhibits MLK F-647 through 652, the committee sought to make part of its case of John Ray as bank robber. For each of the robberies, there is a separate chart represented as showing that each robbery had a distinctive and identifying "modus operandi." John's bank robber trademark, so to speak, thus all were his "jobs."

The committee's explanation of its bank-robbing case by exhibits begins on page 12 of the narration. There it is represented that, because in his lifetime John Ray had accumulated "about \$3,000," he "obtained a substantial sum in the summer of 1967."

If \$3,000 were "a substantial sum," which it is not, the

committee fails to bracket this with facts that are beyond question - John Ray did not have enough money to pay for a lawyer and investigation when he was arrested in 1970 and he did not have enough money to keep his tavern operating after he was identified as the brother of the accused assassin of Dr. King.

Because John Ray was one of a million or more people in the St. Louis area and because Jerry Ray was working regularly only as far away as Chicago, which is also true of even more millions of people, the committee's narration represents (page 13) "That the Ray brothers had the opportunity to commit the Alton bank robbery has been established by their whereabouts at the time it occurred."

The committee has not established John Ray's "whereabouts" in relation to the robbery of the Bank of Alton or keeps that, too, secret and not subject to examination.

FBI records obtained by Weisberg under his FOIA suit do establish Jerry Ray's "whereabouts" for that part of his life. He was working in a country club in suburban Chicago at least six nights every week.

The committee's parlay conjecture is that because John was of the St. Louis area he was in the Alton area that day and that Jerry could have had a day off the day of the crime. The committee "established" their "whereabouts" without any evidence. Its conjecture of guilt by imagined propinquity requiring the two to have robbed the Alton bank, the committee merely "narrated" what is necessary to make its conjecture appear to be within possibility. There is no other "proof."

If the committee ever established John's "whereabouts" at the times of the other bank robberies, it is only by the three exhibits representing what the committee staff says the convicted criminals

said, not by contemporaneous records or testimony made available in any manner or form.

"Motive is readily provided by their need of money," the narration states on page 13. This "motive" is shared by millions of needy Americans, each of whom is as reasonably suspect. Perhaps more so because the Ray brothers are alleged to have pulled a series of successful bank robberies in a period of months.

Each allegedly successful heist should have diminished their conjectured "need of money" by that much.

This conjectured "need of money" after Dr. King was assassinated can have no relationship with the assassination. The robbery attributed to John began more than a year after James's conviction.

What is well known of the life of all Rays for the period of these robberies discloses neither possession nor use of any of the "needed" money. The alleged "need" motive also rests on conjecture, no more. In fact, the committee has not "established" that any Ray had any special "need of money."

On this foundation of imagined motive and propinquity, the committee narrates a case with further assumption and adjectives: "Beyond motive and means, there is compelling evidence in the method and pattern of activities of the bank robbers of Alton and the similar modus operandi with that of other bank robberies that follow." (page 13)

Insofar as the other robberies followed that of the Alton bank and in this way only is the narration true. Or for that matter either meaningful or relevant.

The committee's method of guilt by being alive and disliked by the committee is carried forward with this concept of evidence (on page 14): "Neither of these descriptions (of the Alton bank robbers) would

eliminate the Ray brothers."

Nor would it eliminate any other person "described by witnesses as middle-aged, white male, five feet 10 inches, 150 to 160 pounds."

Every non-obese white person of average height is not "eliminated" as a suspect in these unsolved crimes.

How the committee established that the robbers were of middle age when their faces were fully hidden by stocking masks does not labor the narration.

Comparison of the supposedly identical "modus operandi" then follows. It is augmented (page 15) by the claim that "there is solid evidence from which to argue that he (John) participated in the other four (bank robberies)."

June's "conclusive" proof, December shrunken to a "solid" basis for arguing, which is somewhat less than proof, is not identified in the narration. It appears to be the committee's representation of what the three felons told the staff, the narration not even suggesting anything else.

Despite this oversight the committee does bracket "modus operandi" and its "solid evidence from which to argue" to mean that John "participated in the other four" bank jobs. (page 15) These, then, are the committee's proofs.

The committee's "modus operandi" is unique only when banks are robbed with toothpicks or feathers. The committee's exhibits include nothing more unique than that weapons were used, masks and hats were worn, and that none of the banks in question was robbed by a single man. There is no other uniqueness in what is hyped into an allegedly distinctive "modus operandi" and "conclusive" proof of John Ray's alleged guilt.



From the committee's own charts, Exhibits MLK F-647 through 652, the robbers of these banks did not even use the same weapons in the robberies. The allegedly "solid evidence" is contradictory on this and on other essential details.

Although the committee took executive session testimony from alleged co-conspirators, no transcripts of their testimony are included in the narration/<sup>text</sup>and exhibits released to the press. The committee also used four excerpts from John Ray's executive session testimony that, although these totaled only seven pages, also were not included in the copies given to the press. (Exhibits MLK F-645, p.80; F-654, pp. 46, 48; F-655, p.59; F-659, pp.168-170) No less surprising, given the nature, thrust and significance the committee gives its conjectures about John Ray's alleged share in \$114,880 of bank robberies, the committee withheld from the press its Exhibit MLK F-86a-g, "John Ray Bank Statements..."

Prior to his executive session testimony, Clarence Haynes, one of the actual and convicted bank robbers, established himself as a perjurer in federal district court in St. Louis. In the course of trying to frame John Ray on the Laddonia robbery, he helped put the innocent Ernest Turley away for eight years. This ruined Turley's life and that of his entire family in tragic ways. In executive session John Ray testified to Haynes's perjury and to the frame-up.

By taking most of its testimony in executive session and then keeping the transcripts secret, the committee can and does exert an Orwellian influence on what is and can be known. The committee wanted to use Haynes against John and wanted to make John a villainous co-conspirator. The committee also saw and exploited the opportunities provided by keeping John's testimony secret. The committee leaked an

angled account of the Turley framing, wrote a compassionate letter to the governor and told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch how its good heart and investigative diligence would lead to the exoneration of the innocent Turley. This became page-one news in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

By keeping knowledge of Haynes's perjury from its public record, the committee could and did pretend he was a dependable witness who gave what Mr. Blakey described as "conclusive" proof.

The committee did know Haynes was a perjurer, had framed an innocent man, did withhold all of this at its December 1 hearing and did regard Haynes as a credible witness against John. The real credit is due John Ray.

His testimony to Haynes's perjury is over several pages ending on page 51 of the suppressed transcript. In seeking to make some use of this testimony, the committee merely omitted the uncongenial pages from those it used on December 1 and withheld from its press kit. Its Exhibit MLK F-654 consists of two pages only in this sequence, pages 46 and 48.

By this means, the committee also suppressed John's testimony to the means by which the FBI suborned Haynes's perjury, which appears on pages 50 and 51.

Not even an excerpt from Haynes's executive session testimony is attached as an exhibit to the narration or the press kit. No Haynes affidavit is attached, no personal, signed statement. Instead, there is the standard committee device of even more remote hearsay, Exhibit MLK F-664, "HSCA Interview of Clarence Haynes." This is not a transcript of a tape-recorded interview. Rather is it the hand-lettered few lines of staff statement not even signed by Haynes or the second member of

the committee investigative staff, Conrad Baetz. It is the April 25, 1978, statement of Mel Waxman.

So diligently had the committee investigated the June 11, 1970, robbery of the Laddonia State Bank that Messrs. Waxman and Baetz (a former deputy sheriff of the area) spelled the name of the city as "Ladona." They entirely omitted the name of the bank and other essential details, like the total of the loot.

Haynes and another also represented by a staff statement, James Russell Rogers, are the actual robbers.

Equally careful was the staff investigation of John Ray and his former tavern, which figures largely in other committee leaks and conjectures in executive session and public hearing. Waxman and Baetz place it on "Arsenol" Street, which is not the name.

The staff was even more painstaking in making it clear that Haynes was impartial and to be credited, despite John Ray's truthful testimony that Haynes was a perjurer who tried to frame him and Ernest Turley. The staff, with no interest in court records, preferred Waxman's words, "He says there is no bad blood between him or (sic) the Ray family and has no axe to grind. But also stated that he has no doubt he would be killed if this information gets out."

By whom? John Ray in jail on an 18-year sentence? Or James, whose term is 99 years?

Haynes's account of the robbery is that after he and Rogers did the job they left in John Ray's car and drove to Haynes's, which in Waxman's words "was about 1 mile away." Here "They burned John's car," a matter easily established if true and not even addressed in the so-called evidence. Then the alleged conspirators divided the loot. "They each got \$6,000," in Waxman's words. This is not easily

accomplished with a three-way split of less than \$14,000. The accomplishment helps establish Waxman's and Baetz's credibility along with that of Haynes and the committee.

In his entire account of the crime, John's alleged participation in it, the getaway, the switching of cars and the meeting to divide the loot, Waxman invested only 95 words.

Exhibit MLK F-662 is not even an account of a personal meeting between the committee or its staff and James Rogers, although he, too, testified in executive session. He was interviewed by telephone by Staff Counsel Michael Eberhardt and Mark Speiser. This had the advantage of avoiding demeanor evidence.

With efficiency and unprecedented brevity, staff counsel's report of what was learned from this actual robber is limited to part of a single sentence as it relates to the Laddonia job: "Rogers stated ... that no one else besides himself, John Ray and Clarence Haynes was involved in the State Bank of Laddonia, Missouri, bank robbery ..." (This name for the bank is other than that given in the "Modus Operandi" chart, Exhibit MLK F-460; that given in the committee's chart of that part of the world, Exhibit MLK F-653; or that at page 16 of the narration.)

This staff report, also quite brief, is described in the narration (page 16) as what it is not, "the statement of James Rogers." The significance of this misrepresentation is magnified at this point in the narration, where it is stated that "Mr. Rogers has testified (sic) that he was involved in four of the robberies, each of which was planned and participated in by JOHN." Maybe he did, but this exhibit is not his "testimony."

Staff, committee and Rogers' credibility are all enhanced by

the total absence of any detail about that robbery presented in this part of a sentence, all that is devoted to it, by the two staff counsel, each of whom was at different times in charge of the alleged case against John Ray.

It is not possible to question the Eberhardt, Speiser or Rogers arithmetic because the amount robbed from any of the banks is not included. There is no concern over the burned-out hulk of John Ray's car because there is no reference to that burning. Even to that car. In fact, to any car. Or any means of getting to or from the Laddonia bank. Or if weapons were used or what weapons. Or the masks of the "Modus Operandi" charts. Or in fact any manner of John Ray's involvement. This is indeed a unique if not unprecedented means of establishing John's involvement - by the total avoidance of any mention of how he was involved although the staff counsel's report is of their conversation with an actual robber.

By August 13, 1978, the date of this conversation with Rogers, no doubt Messrs. Eberhardt and Speiser were well aware of the April 25 report by Waxman and Baetz. The staff solution to the problem of false statements and contradictory statements is of admirable simplicity: They merely omitted any and all relevant statements Rogers may have made. The total of the Rogers "evidence" against John in the Eberhardt report is the Eberhardt statement that Rogers said John "was involved." This has the merit of not contradicting Haynes and the added advantage of not being subject to question because there is nothing to question.

In this Eberhardt was neither careless nor negligent. This came out, if the press was not able to perceive it, on December 1, 1978, when John Ray was the public witness. Eberhardt knew what he was up to.

Although the narration states that Rogers did testify in executive session, no excerpts from this testimony were attached as exhibits or included in the press kit. Rogers was questioned on June 8, 1978, which is after the April 25 date of the staff report of its interview with Haynes.

To Eberhardt's knowledge and that of others present in that secret session, Rogers' testimony shot the committee's "modus operandi" conjectures dead with a single repeated statement: John Ray was not armed.

Under pressure from John Ray's counsel and in an effort to support its conjectures, the committee was forced to produce excerpts from the Rogers executive session transcript. Pages 9-11, all that were produced, reflect that Eberhardt was the questioner and that Members Edgar and Fauntroy participated.

Examination of these three pages discloses the purpose if not the honesty of withholding the executive session transcripts and the actual purpose of taking such testimony in total secrecy.

Rogers could not remember the "other robberies you have been involved in with John Ray." So Eberhardt said, "Let me see if I can refresh your recollection. The Farmers and Traders Bank of Meredosia, Illinois." Rogers was refreshed. After this rejuvenation of failed memory, Eberhardt asked Rogers, "Did John Ray have a weapon during the Farmers and Traders Bank robbery?" Unequivocally Rogers replied, "No, he didn't. He was just sitting in the car."

This is reflected in the "Modus Operandi" chart as "Subject with shotgun stood guard ..."

Based on evidence that John Ray was not at the bank to "stand guard" and was not armed, the committee's "Modus Operandi" substitution

for evidence has him at the bank with a shot gun and not at the car at all but standing guard.

At no point in these pages from the Rogers transcript does he state other than that John was not armed and was not in the banks that were robbed. The committee's charts all say the opposite.

With regard to the Bank of Hawthorne, Florida, robbery, Rogers actually testified of John, "He was not even close, he picked us up on the highway." As this is represented by the committee in its "Modus Operandi" chart, Exhibit F-651, John was at the bank and was armed: "One armed subject stood guard while the other went into the vault and collected the money."

The committee thus accounts for a total of two robbers, with John as one, whereas the Rogers testimony is that there were at least two ("us") at the bank and that the "subject" of the "Modus Operandi" chart, John, rather than being on guard of the scooper-up from the vault, "was not even close" to the bank.

Rogers also testified that Ronald Goldenstein and he robbed the Farmers and Traders Bank of Meredosia, Illinois, and that John did not have a weapon but "was just sitting in the car." (pages 9-10)

By August 13 Eberhardt had changed the name of the bank at Meredosia. By then he had also improved on Rogers' secret testimony relating to the alleged getaway and the getaway car. His August 13 version is not in the three available pages of the Rogers executive session transcripts and is not in accord with other statements by the staff in substitution for statements by the allegedly actual witnesses and participants.

The Eberhardt-Speiser version has not a single word of description of the actual robbery. John and the alleged getaway are mentioned in <sup>two</sup>

sentences: "Rogers stated that the getaway car in which he, John Ray and Ronald Goldenstein were driving broke down a few miles from the scene of the crime. Rogers stated that Jerry Ray was called and he came and picked up Rogers, Goldenstein and John Ray and drove them to St. Louis."

The Eberhardt-Speiser retreading of August 13 avoids any dispute with Rogers' account of the Hawthorne robbery by a simple and effective device: they make no representation of any fact with respect to that robbery and none with respect to John other than that "John Ray met him and Carl Kent in Jacksonville before the robbery" and that "the night of July 29 was spent by Rogers, Ray and Kent in a two-story non-chain motel just outside of New Orleans." John allegedly drove the getaway car. The time of the Hawthorne bank robbery is given in "Modus Operandi" chart Exhibit MLK F-651 as 2:00 p.m. Rogers arranged for a prostitute in New Orleans and still left New Orleans by plane for California that night, Eberhardt and Speiser state. None of this has anything to do with John, save that he had to have been quite a wheelman for all of that to have been possible at New Orleans the same night as a 2:00 p.m. bank robbery near Jacksonville, Florida.

Expertly as Eberhardt and Speiser used their legal skills and adeptly as they exploited their committee authority to eliminate all factual details of the actual robberies, their efforts do not prevent conflict with the staff's own representation of what Goldenstein allegedly said in another phone interview. That one, of June 18, followed the executive sessions at which both Rogers and John Ray testified.

In this report, by Conrad Baetz, the Goldenstein account of the Meredosia robbery has Jerry Ray participating in the planning in



Quincy, Illinois, at a time when he was working in Chicago.

Baetz, who was not as sparing with words as the lawyers (albeit still not extravagant in their use) represents this as the Goldenstein account of the planning and execution of the Meredosia robbery: Two men would pull the job, "exiting to a waiting automobile. The automobile would be driven to a spot 2 to 3 miles outside of the town where it would be dropped and they would be picked up by another auto and taken further out to a wooded area and dropped off. They would be picked up at the wooded area several hours later."

This is an original scenario, attributed to careful planning by John and Jerry Ray. In return for profligacy with automobiles, which were to be merely abandoned in this version rather than burned, as Haynes allegedly had it in the Baetz/Waxman report on the same crime, the actual robbers were to luxuriate in a "wooded area" for "several hours" during the bitter January cold.

The Baetz account of the alleged Goldenstein account has Goldenstein and Rogers as the actual robbers who "were picked up by John RAY who was also armed." This is the same John Ray the same Rogers testified was not armed. They then "were driven to a prearranged spot where they left that vehicle and were picked up by an auto driven by Jerry RAY." All of this was only so Jerry allegedly could abandon them to the elements: "They were then driven to a wooded area and were dropped off with Jerry RAY driving away from the immediate area. Jerry RAY returned after dark and picked up all three subjects."

Rather than Jerry allegedly awaiting them at "a prearranged spot," the Baetz version of the alleged Goldenstein version of the one crime, the Eberhardt/Speiser version of the alleged Rogers version is "that the getaway car ... broke down a few miles from the scene of the

crime." After this, in the Baetz/Rogers account, "Jerry RAY was called and he came and picked up" the three others "and drove them to St. Louis."

No lolling about in the January woods, no second switch car, no prearrangement.

And if now not still secret pages of the Rogers executive session testimony are consulted, he eliminated Jerry Ray entirely.

Rogers could not recall the name of the bank or of the city. Asked by Mr. Eberhardt, "Who else was involved in that bank robbery with you" he identified John Ray and Goldenstein only. (page 9) Asked by Mr. Eberhardt, "Anyone else?" Rogers was explicit: "No, that's it."

The testimony elicited by Mr. Eberhardt on June 8, 1978, was not planned as a December 1 exhibit and is not included in the narration. When the August 14 Eberhardt report of his August 13 phone conversation with Rogers is compared with the transcript, as Mr. Eberhardt and all others should have known, the August Eberhardt version - the one included in the narration - is false.

It is not surprising that there are three different and contradictory versions of whether or not John Ray allegedly was armed. These contradictions are not represented in the "Modus Operandi" chart, Exhibit F-649. It says, "Subject stood guard with a shotgun." Two accounts do not have him armed at all. The single version that has John armed, that provided by Baetz, refers only to "handguns," which a shotgun is not.

Or contradictory as all these accounts are, the committee had still another one which it preferred and used in its "Modus Operandi" chart. If any of the records used by the committee is dependable, not one has the version represented in the chart.

Without John Ray as a co-conspirator in the King assassination, the committee has produced nothing not already done by the FBI and an assortment of writers. Without any real evidence that John Ray was a co-conspirator, the committee theorized him into bagman and bank robber, although all but one of the committee's varying number of bank robberies were subsequent to James Earl Ray's conviction and thus entirely irrelevant. Nonetheless, the committee did conjecture John Ray into this role. Because even its conjectures lack reason and cannot withstand examination, as the foregoing shows by analysis of the committee's own "best evidence," the committee arranged a "show trial" substitute for evidence, misusing it and leaks to the press as a means of glossing over the lack of even reasonableness in its conjectures.

The committee's conjectures are those of the FBI in 1968. The committee merely took from the FBI while hiding the fact that the FBI's extensive investigation turned up no proof at all.

In order to protect its fragile concoction of perjuries and fabrications procured in an effort to make it appear that the committee's conspiracy theorizing had some basis, the committee first held all its hearings in total secrecy and then shouted down John's counsel each time he sought to inform the committee of its error. The committee actually took the position that any effort to correct its error is contemptuous and that it has a license to err because the role of counsel is restricted to the committee's concept of a witness's Constitutional rights.

In essence, the committee's position is that when an innocent man is being framed by a Congressional committee, the man's counsel has no right to object - because no Constitutional right is abridged

by a committee frame-up.

Delaying the committee's public "show-trial" John Ray "hearing" until the month its existence ended served public relations, not investigative purposes. It severely limited if it did not entirely preclude the possibility of correcting factual error. The committee's report was already drafted based on preconceptions. The John Ray hearing could not have any significant influence. It was intended as a rubber stamp.

The committee's preconception of James Earl Ray's guilt is unhidden in many leaks and in its earlier reports. These reports are of unprecedented brevity. They lack substantive content. They are of "conspiracy theories" and of promises that could not be kept.

The committee's preconception of Ray's guilt may have appeared safe because it is the preconception of the FBI and of Memphis authorities and because of the guilty plea. But the fact is that the committee articulated its preconception prior to any investigation. An unoriginal preconception and nothing else is hardly justification for the expenditure of whatever part of the largest appropriation in the history of Congressional investigations it devoted to the Ray "investigation" substituted for investigation of the King assassination. Faced with the need to come up with something else and certain that the Rays were without means or influence, the committee fixed upon its "conspiracy theory" of a Ray family conspiracy.

Because this is only conjecture and is without reasonableness and because of the emptiness of the committee's work relating to the King assassination, the committee held its hearings entirely in secret. Secrecy prevents general knowledge of the fact that the committee never really investigated the crime or the performance of

the executive agencies involved in the official investigation. Secrecy also hides the fact that there was no Ray family conspiracy in the King assassination.

Having taken as its own the FBI's fugitive investigation and assumed that the FBI's assumed killer is the actual killer, the committee can hardly criticize the FBI for not solving the killing. The committee has reduced itself to complaining that the FBI did not validate the unfounded conjectures the committee wants to be believed so that the committee will not stand naked, exposed as having wasted its funding and not met its mandate after unprecedented support by the Congress, even those in the Congress who had deep doubts about the committee and its proposals.

It is inevitable that the committee reached "conclusions" and had its report largely drafted prior to the holding of the John Ray show trial to which the committee built up and held for its last scheduled public session. This meant that the public hearing could not produce any contradiction of or rebuttal to the already-drafted report. In turn, this meant harsh treatment by the committee to stifle John Ray and his counsel. Despite the committee's shouting down, overt threats, gavel banging and baseless personal insults, the committee was unable to prevent some exposure of itself. It was proven to have misrepresented what it presented as evidence and it misquoted its own records in further misrepresentation as part of its effort to breathe the semblance of life into its Pinocchio before the press and on coast-to-coast broadcast. In this effort the chairman's behavior was such that he was forced to surrender the chairmanship.

While pretending it wanted only truth, the committee actually banned truth and fact by insisting that only its questions and predetermined answers to them were relevant. When it could not

completely stifle Ray's counsel by threat and gavel, it merely alleged that correction could be made in the five minutes it allotted at the end. As this memorandum reflects, five hours would not provide an adequate time for correction of the false record manufactured by the committee.

After the hearing the committee resorted to other devices to prevent any correction as well as perception of what had not been detected of its factual error.

First, the committee delayed providing any transcript to John Ray or his counsel. Then it provided each with a different and incomplete transcript. Counsel's role was limited to reading his own words, not the testimony of his client or the questions asked. John was limited to reading what he said and no other pages. Pages on which he did not figure in the discussion, the alleged basis of the questioning and legal arguments were withheld from him. The committee spent much more time to keep either from having a complete transcript than the few minutes the automatic mechanical xeroxing of a complete transcript would have taken.

This censoring was of the public record. Those of means could buy a transcript. It was broadcast in full from coast-to-coast and tape-recorded. Yet the committee withheld the full transcript from Ray and his counsel to make correction of it difficult if not impossible for what remained of the committee's life and for the brief interval before the report would be issued. This served to prevent the destruction of the committee's baseless prefabricated case, the kind of case once believed limited to the Gestapos and KGBs of the world.

Instead of taking its testimony in public, the committee used the device of narrating its case and pretending its narrations were

established and factual. The narrations are not of this character, particularly not with John Ray. The committee therefore withheld all of the pages of transcript including the narration.

The narration, as prepared in advance, meanwhile, had been used as a press release and a very prejudicial one at that. For early editions of afternoon papers and immediate electronic coverage, the committee precluded all else, thus managing the news.

Of course, any committee departure from the prepared text is and can be reflected in the actual transcript only. There was such departure.

Meanwhile, John was in jail in St. Louis, separated by many miles and slow communications from his lawyer in Washington. For a time John was actually held incommunicado.

The committee allowed five days only for correction of the expurgated version of the transcript it provided. To assure that mail to and from John wasted all five days, the committee then did not send the transcript to him at the jail. Instead, it sent that copy to his sister. Intermittently she was denied access to him - even when she sought to arrange bail. When he was let out of jail, the transcript was not forwarded to him.

The committee also was well aware that John's counsel was already overly committed with past-due obligations to several courts. He had to seek extensions of time from them and in one case was denied the time he asked although he was then ill. Knowing John could not pay him or repay the costs, and at cost to other cases, he tried to represent John before the committee. (The committee has not provided its normal compensation only because it was not able to select counsel without any subject matter knowledge to represent John.)

That the committee intended to discriminate against John and his counsel and to preclude unwanted correction of its baseless conjectures and its misrepresentations of its own exhibits and other records is disclosed by the committee's bungling.

In the last minute Jerry Ray obtained substitute counsel. One is named William Pepper. Co-counsel is Mrs. Florynce Kennedy, noted black woman lawyer. The Ray sister is named Carol Pepper. The committee sent the transcript intended for William Pepper, counsel, to Carol Pepper, sister. Mrs. Pepper, not aware of this, opened the package and examined it. She also opened and examined the package sent to her for John. She compared the two. The transcript sent to William Pepper, counsel for Jerry Ray, is complete as the transcript sent to John Ray is not. (The entire narration is not all that is withheld. The committee extended its censoring of the public record to withhold such essential legal matters as discussion of immunization.)

Aside from this obvious and heavy-handed discrimination against John and his counsel, which is consistent only with protecting the committee's nonexistent case already leaked and narrated to the world and incorporated in the drafted report, there was no need for denying John and his counsel access to the public record. In public the committee guaranteed what it denied in private.

This in itself negates the committee's boast that it seeks only truth. It represents abandonment of traditional American concepts and practices. There was no need, no secrecy to protect and no proper legislative purpose in denying the full transcript for the publicly promised and secretly denied full opportunity to correct and perfect the record.

The many withheld pages of the transcript are essential to



comprehension of the pages that were provided, as a few of the examples that follow reflect.

Because the committee can do whatever it pleases, as it can say one thing in public and do exactly the opposite in secret, it can prevent correction of a false record and then cite the falsehood it has created in pretended substantiation of its preconception and its report.

If it does not do this, the committee risks destruction of its preconception and report.

However, the committee cannot fully prevent any rebuttal and some exposure of the deliberateness of its misrepresentations just because it is about to go out of existence. It can refuse to incorporate them in its public record as it has already foreclosed them from its report. In this it duplicates an aspect of its so-called investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy.

This relates not only to the committee's own experts' interpretation of the tape recording of a Dallas police radio as establishing the firing of a fourth shot and a shot from the front in that case, which means there was a conspiracy. It also relates to other also pre-existing evidence the committee likewise ignored, Charles Bronson's contemporaneous motion picture of the so-called sniper's lair from which the committee and the earlier official investigators allege that all the shots were fired by Lee Harvey Oswald.

On November 26 an enhanced copy and tentative analysis were shown and distributed in Washington. Since then the committee has held secret what has been reported unofficially, that its own panel of photographic experts concluded that this motion picture shows images moving where Oswald alone is alleged to have been. .

With regard to the Dallas police tape, the committee knew of this and its evidentiary potential from Penn Jones's publication under date of August 22, 1977, almost a year before the committee, aware that it dared stonewall no longer, belatedly had its first and inadequate study of this tape made.

With regard to the pretendedly new film, the committee should have known about this if it read the readily available FBI files. They have been in the FBI's public reading room for months after Weisberg obtained them in a Freedom of Information suit.

In seeking to avoid or suppress what is uncongenial to its JFK case preconceptions, the committee again beclouded itself and its report, as do its similar suppressions, avoidances and misrepresentations in the Ray case.

Had the committee conducted serious and honest investigations, it would not face such extremities in its final moments. It would not have to stifle John Ray and his counsel and then play tricks on them to prevent correction of an unfactual and untruthful record. It also would not be in the unseemly position of having to turn its incomplete work over to the very agencies it allegedly was investigating, the only course it now can take with the Dallas police tape and the Bronson film.

However, the FBI is the very agency that did nothing with the Dallas police tape and with the Bronson film did worse than nothing. It actually lied about it, stating that it does not show the building from which the FBI alleges the shots were fired. It does.

Thus the committee, not having investigated the FBI when it was supposed to, now asks the FBI to investigate itself. If the Congress had intended that, it would not have appropriated the largest funding

it ever gave any investigative committee.

When the committee complains that the FBI did not pursue the committee's pretendedly original theories about a Ray family conspiracy, those the committee actually took from FBI records showing there is no proof at all of that "conspiracy theory," the committee will again be directing the FBI to investigate itself. The committee knows full well that the FBI did that investigating and, like the committee, found no case exists.

The total absence of the transcript of the narration, the incompleteness of the remaining pages of the transcript, the continued withholding of other records cited despite the committee's promise to provide them all and stringent time limitations preclude complete analysis of the entire transcript and limit what follows to what is illustrative of the committee's practices and misrepresentations. To a limited degree only is it now possible to compare the committee's representations in the available parts of the transcript with the actualities of its so-called evidence.

\* \* \*

"Information that has been made available to this committee leads us to believe that the Ray family was a very close family in 1968," Committee Counsel Mark Speiser stated. (Transcript, p.40)

The most perfunctory check would have established this to be false. December 1, 1978, the virtual end of the committee's life and the last of its scheduled public hearings, was late enough for there to have been this check.

The committee made false representation to justify what it was trying to do and already had done to John Ray.

By that late hour the committee either did not check information that is blatantly false, not risking learning that it was false, or, knowing better, insisted on falsehood as the only means of conjecturing a nonexistent case against John Ray.

How "very close" the family was became apparent when Mr. Speiser asked John about James's beliefs. John testified he did not know because, except for a few visits when James was in the Missouri Penitentiary, "I did not see my brother James since 1949 which is 19 years (sic)." (page 49)

Truth not serving the committee's purposes, it invoked its alleged "information," so certain it was false it dared not subject it to light.

\* \* \*

Chairman Stokes stated (page 46) that "There was no previous motion that the (executive session) transcripts be entered into evidence" when Mr. Lesar asked for "a ruling on the motion I made earlier to admit these transcripts in evidence."

Only seven pages earlier Mr. Lesar made precisely that motion (lines 652-660), concluding, "I ask that these transcripts are admitted in evidence."

\* \* \*

Mr. Speiser asked to have an exhibit marked and entered on page 49. The committee withheld the next page from the sets of transcript pages it provided to Mr. Ray and Mr. Lesar, withholding the identification and the content of the exhibit. The apparent explanation is on page 53. The character and source of the exhibit were misrepresented.

After correction Mr. Speiser still referred to Exhibit MLK F-613

as "a copy of an interview" with William Bradford Huie. The list of exhibits attached to the committee's handout to the press describes it as "HSCA Interview with William Bradford Huie." The list also notes that a copy was withheld from the press kit. The apparent reason is to hide the misrepresentation. The exhibit is not an interview with Huie. It is a staff version of the staff's selection of what was discussed during the interview. No transcript of any Huie interview is provided - if one exists.

\* \* \*

In its efforts to pretend that John was close to James and helped plot James's escape from the Missouri Penitentiary, Mr. Speiser describes a penitentiary record as establishing "the dates that the witness, John Larry Ray, visited his brother James while he was incarcerated at that institution."

Mr. Speiser knew this was a false representation because Jerry Ray had already testified that he had no visitor's card of his own and used the card issued to John "six times."

Consistent with this misrepresentation is the misrepresentation in the committee's list of exhibits. There this record is described as "John Larry Ray's Missouri State Penitentiary Visitor's Record." Actually, that record, MLK F-634, is a single card made out in the names of both the Ray grandmother, Mary Maher, and John Ray.

For the seven years of James's incarceration, he had a total of nine visits, so "very close" is that family.

The prepared narration argues that "since they had to show identification and a signature sample on each visit, it is unlikely that Jerry would have posed as John."

The exhibit itself does not have either a signature or provision

for a signature after the spaces in which dates of visits are recorded. So far as a signature comparison being required, there is no signature at all on the half of this card in the name of Mrs. Maher, even if that on the other half is John's.

While the prepared narration concedes that "Jerry actually visited James six times," (page 3) and the Ray testimony is that Jerry and others used John's card, the committee did not dispute this testimony by producing a card made out to Jerry. Instead, it argued, arguing what is not true and is not supported by any evidence provided.

These and other misrepresentations of the actual records, unfactual descriptions of them and arguments substituted for evidence underscore the need for the actual transcripts in making any comment or review on John's behalf or for protecting the committee from its errors, which are common.

\* \* \*

Page 71 ends with the introduction of Exhibit MLK F-635. Page 72 is withheld from both sets, the apparent reason being that Mr. Lesar was forced to correct committee misrepresentations. The issue is whether or not John helped James escape from the Missouri pen. In context there was discussion involving Mr. Lesar, from whom the page was withheld.

This exhibit is page 89 of the committee's December 2, 1977, interviews with James Earl Ray. It was not included in the press kit. If it had been the press would have been able to see that the exhibit says other than the committee represents and that the committee deliberately misrepresented its contents.

The conclusion of the prepared narration (page 4) is that, because John visited James the day before James escaped, "John Ray is

lying when he says he did not know in advance of James Earl Ray's plan to escape from MSP."

The exhibit of the committee's interview with James Earl Ray is explicit in stating that he did not recall which of his brothers visited him that day and that both brothers knew he would try to escape: "Both Jerry and John knew that I was thinking of about escaping. So, it wouldn't of been no revelation ..."

Although neither brother had a copy of this page of the transcript, both testified exactly in accord with it, that they knew James would try to escape whenever he could.

Despite all of this, Mr. Speiser continued to misrepresent (page 76), even after correction by Mr. Lesar. In what follows, he states other than is in the prepared narration, again underscoring the urgency of a complete transcript being available. Mr. Speiser again misrepresented two exhibits, MLK F-634 and 635, the jail card and the page of the James transcript, in testifying in the guise of asking a question: "your visitor's card as well as the statement from your brother, James, under oath, both pointing to the fact that you visited your brother, James, on April 22 ..." This is not what the card means or what James said. James said he did not recall which brother visited him.

The misrepresentations relating to John's alleged visit and conjectured assistance in James's escape were resumed later by Mr. Fithian, who added his misrepresentation (page 226), that John had given James his Social Security card and that James had presented this "Social Security card" in John's name when James "was employed at the Indian Trails Restaurant."

But when the committee was forced to produce proof, promised

to do it and with flourish came up with a page of James's testimony, what James actually testified to is "I didn't have the card." (page 228)

(The truth is that neither had a card and that neither needed one, each knowing both Social Security numbers.)

Falsely representing that John gave James his Social Security card is to suggest that John went to the jail the day before the escape to give James this identification and thus was party to the escape. This also is false and is supported by no credible evidence at all.

Page 89 of the transcript, which relates to this and quotes a "certified liar" as saying that "John Ray had assisted James Earl" in the escape was not provided to John Ray. There is no testimony by John Ray on that page. But the content is about John Ray, alleging he helped James escape. To deter John's refutation, the committee went to all the time and trouble of reading the page and then the extra trouble of removing it from the set provided to him. The page begins with Mr. Speiser addressing John, "Let me read out loud to you, Mr. Ray," and ends with the actual reading of the "paragraph I am concerned with."

From other and validated evidence the committee knew this allegation was false but it used it anyway. In the exhibit list given to the press Exhibit MLK F-640 is falsely identified as "HSCA Interview with Walter Rife." It is not an interview. Once again it is a staff paper, the report of Conrad Baetz in which he includes what he wants to include of what he claims Rife said.

If the committee were going to credit Rife, it credited him only selectively. It ignored Rife's confirmation of James's explanation of his pre-assassination financing and travel, that he



was involved in a gun-smuggling operation. Baetz quotes Rife as saying that "about two weeks before the assassination of MLK" James "came to where Rife was living in Quincy, Illinois," and asked Rife to go to New Orleans with him because James "had a deal down there about some stuff to go into Cuba."

\* \* \*

On page 102 the committee got around to the Alton bank robbery and some allegedly relevant exhibits. The page concludes with Mr. Speiser beginning to offer an exhibit for the record. The page ends without any identification of the exhibit. Pages 103 and 104 are withheld. Page 105 begins with Mr. Speiser arguing the committee's conspiracy conjectures about that bank robbery and inaccurate calculations of James Earl Ray's funds. Mr. Lesar made objection. In eliminating the preceding pages, the committee withheld the basis of it all and any way of correcting or responding to its factual error and baseless conjectures.

\* \* \*

Page 127 reflects prior discussion of and objection to a rehash of what John has already denied under oath, that he participated in the Liberty bank robbery. The preceding pages, 124, 125 and 126, are withheld. These are necessary for the comprehension of page 127. Withholding them withholds the basis for and content of Mr. Lesar's objections and precludes any response to or correction of committee allegations or error.

\* \* \*

At the bottom of page 139 Mr. Speiser states that "subsequent to your appearance before this committee" in executive session the committee had reason to believe that "you testified falsely and

perjuringly" at the executive session. In fact, this is but an effort to cover up the committee's public harassment and repetition of its previous questioning of John to make a media event of it. Because all the testimony was already under oath, there was no other purpose. John had been questioned about these robberies in executive session, when he denied them all under oath. Thereafter, and prior to the second executive session at which John testified, Chairman Stokes made the same unproven allegation of false and perjurious testimony in a speech on the floor of the House. The committee reprinted the speech and distributed copies. As a threat, copies were given to John and his sister prior to the May executive-session testimony. The Speiser representation of not "uncovering" the alleged "evidence" until "subsequent to your appearance before this committee" is not truthful.

\* \* \*

On page 150 then Chairman Fauntroy ordered "that the witness be provided with the statements made by persons implicating" John in the bank robberies. To now this has not been done.

\* \* \*

In referring to Exhibit MLK F-663 (page 150), Mr. Speiser describes it as "Mr. Goldenstein's statement." Once again the exhibit list given to the press describes it as "HSCA Interview of Ronald S. Goldenstein." In fact, it is not. It is still another staff report, again by Conrad Baetz and again of no more than his version of a telephone conversation. The committee has not disclosed any actual statement by Goldenstein. Yet it has his testimony taken in secret. He, too, appeared before the committee in executive session (page 148). No opportunity has been provided to confront and rebut this alleged

testimony. (Having the testimony eliminates this need for use of remote-generation hearsay.)

Aside from the committee's misrepresentation of the character and dependability of the exhibit, the internal evidence of the Baetz report is of further undependability. Under the heading of "associates" Mr. Baetz does not include the name of a man with whom Goldenstein robbed the Bank of St. Peters, Missouri.

\* \* \*

At the bottom of page 233, Mr. Stokes offers three exhibits for the record. Page 234 is withheld. This eliminates any comment or description on purpose.

\* \* \*

On page 167 Mr. Fauntroy ruled that "we will be pleased to receive as part of your summation not only a statement but any other documents which you may care to submit, as counsel, as part of summation."

The committee then limited this, if not actually foreclosing it, by delays in providing any pages of the transcript; by providing only an incomplete transcript, without the narration, which is basic; by providing an expurgated partial transcript; and by never providing the other relevant records referred to at the hearing and publicly promised by the committee.

In making its promises before the press, the committee gave the appearance of doing what is right. In not keeping its promises, the committee did just the opposite, clearly to deter correction of factual error and to prevent the destruction of what is no better than an attempted frame-up.

If from the outset the committee were not out to frame John, it did not have to take his earlier testimony in secret. As of today and according to the committee longer than John can expect to live, those transcripts will be kept secret. John asked to testify in public. He and his counsel are the best judges of what serves his interest, not the committee. The committee had and has no interest in protecting him.

As this examination of the best case the committee could put forward shows, the committee held those sessions in secret to hide the fact that it was playing Mark Lane, engaging in conspiracy theorizing, not pursuing its legislative mandate and obligations.

If the committee had not been out to pressure John Ray into confessing crimes he swore he did not commit and if indeed he swore falsely, then the committee did not have to lean on the Department of Justice to have it throw John back in jail from the halfway house in which he was. Perjury is punishable, a felony. If the committee had any kind of case, if it dared have its case go before an impartial judge and jury, there was no reason for the Department not to file the charge and prosecute.

Also in secret the committee represented this concoction of the self-contradictory, conclusory and vague generalities it obtained from its selection of convicted felons - all subject to retaliation - as "absolute" proof of John's perjury. Having made this grossly false charge to pressure the Department and have John thrown back in jail, the committee rejected the motion of John's counsel to lay all its so-called evidence out in public and let John confront it.

That the committee prefers permanent secrecy for its case of "absolute" proof reflects its own knowledge that its "proof" is fakery.

If John Ray were a liberal instead of a rightwinger, the ACLU would be screaming.

The committee's need for John's scalp comes from its lack of anything else to hang at its belt. By way of accomplishment, it has a long series of worthless and unkept promises made to the Congress and the people and endless conjectures, one excluding the others and not a single one tied in with what is made possible by the known evidence of the crimes.

This, too, is the committee playing Mark Lane.

Having virtually bedded with Lane - the King subcommittee chairman did not go on TV without first going to Lane's home to be prepared - and then having cast its precious seed on the barren soil of Lane's and Lane-like conspiracy theories, the committee was left with nothing to do, nowhere to go except the route of the prior investigators, those it was mandated to investigate.

To the FBI's records, already forced public by Weisberg's FOIA suit (C.A. 75-1996), the committee added nothing of substance. It made false representation, claim to having done the work actually done a decade earlier by the FBI. It added overt and conscious fabrications, angled leaks and showmanship, again the Mark Lane method. Now it concludes with a hopefully aborted frame-up of the defenseless John Ray. Without his blood, the committee itself is entirely bloodless. With his blood it is a vampire.

Although John's counsel had handled the successful habeas corpus petition for James Earl Ray and most of the court preparation and in-court work in Ray v. Rose, the committee did not want his information. It rejected his offer of all the court proceedings, the briefings of both sides. Although Weisberg had conducted both investigations, the

one underlying the habeas corpus petition and that for the evidentiary hearing, the committee also wanted none of his extensive files on the King assassination, none of the evidence already tested as in the United States evidence is tested, in open court and subject to rebuttal and cross-examination. When Weisberg succeeded in pressing upon the committee the transcripts of two weeks of hearings in Ray v. Rose, accepted only reluctantly by the committee, it never would accept his index to this already tested evidence. The committee began by not wanting already tested evidence of the King assassination and of Ray's guilt or innocence.

It never changed. The committee never intended to investigate the King assassination or the performance of the agencies in the earlier investigations of it. The committee copped out with a rehash of the official case against the already jailed Ray and the irrelevancy already exposed by the Senate, of the Hoover FBI's animosity toward Dr. King. Instead of investigating the crime or the agencies, the committee restricted itself to putting down Mark Lane's inventions and foolish improvisations.

Chief Counsel and Staff Director Blakey disclosed to Weisberg that he and the committee had no intention of investigating the King assassination. In March 1978 Mr. Blakey phoned Weisberg and asked to visit him, accompanied by Staff Counsel Michael Eberhardt. Weisberg agreed. Then, under date of April 18, Mr. Blakey wrote Weisberg referring to "the desire I expressed to you to have myself and Mr. Eberhardt sit down and chat with you about your knowledge of the Ray case." In that letter Mr. Blakey backed off and out. Weisberg had told him that, as Ray's former investigator, he owed Ray confidentiality he would not breach but that this did not extend to the other aspects

of the King assassination. Mr. Blakey expressed respect and approval of this position. There therefore is no possibility that Weisberg had agreed to discuss "the Ray case" or that the committee expected this. As Weisberg replied, the committee was mandated to investigate the King assassination, not James Earl Ray. Mr. Blakey never responded, never asked for any information about the crime itself.

As with Mark Lane's and other such "conspiracy theorizing," the committee has theorized itself into bankruptcy. It has spent the largest appropriation in the history of Congressional investigations. For this it has nothing substantial to show except what it took from FBI files forced into the public domain without the committee's help in a court action that preceded the committee's creation.

What this really means is that without a penny of the wasted Congressional millions adding a single thing of consequence, any American can go to the FBI's reading room and read the records the committee pretends are its work.

A more meager accomplishment for a Congressional investigation is impossible to imagine.

The committee's secret awareness of its nakedness, or its singular lack of any real accomplishment, is what drives it to have some slight claim to anything of its own. Thus its persecution of the resourceless and powerless rightwinger, John Ray. His only real crime is being the vulnerable brother of the accused assassin - with whom he was never close and with whom neither the FBI nor the committee proved he had any contact of any kind for the year prior to the assassination of Dr. King.

Mr. FAUNTROY. May I remind all of the persons in the audience to remain seated while the witness is exiting the hearing room.

While the witness is exiting the hearing room, may I ask that we prepare to bring the next very important witness before the committee. Everyone be seated, please.

I yield now to deputy chief counsel, James Wolf, as we prepare for the next witness.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Chairman, the credibility of each of the Ray brothers, John, Jerry, and James, is obviously a central issue facing this committee.

Yesterday Mr. Jerry Ray told this committee that he had investigated the whereabouts of James Earl Ray on April 1, 1968, and Jerry Ray said that he had discovered that James Earl Ray was in the Southern Hotel in Corinth, Miss., and not in Atlanta.

Jerry Ray also claimed the records of the Southern Hotel were seized by the FBI to prevent exculpatory evidence pertaining to James from being divulged. As you recall, the committee's evidence that James was in Atlanta was a laundry receipt dated April 1, 1968. Indeed, James said he would take full responsibility for the assassination if the committee could prove he was in Atlanta.

Mr. Chairman, the committee, in its effort to investigate all allegations of an exculpatory or incriminating nature pertaining to the facts and circumstances surrounding the assassination of Dr. King began immediately upon receiving Mr. Jerry Ray's claims of newly discovered evidence to determine first whether any records were in existence which would support the alibi of James Earl Ray that he was in Corinth, Miss., on April 1, 1968; second, whether information existed which would indirectly verify Mr. Jerry Ray's testimony before this committee as to the events surrounding his discovery of the alleged evidence; and third, whether the FBI, without informing the Select Committee on Assassinations, seized records or documents which might have supported James Earl Ray's alibi.

The committee once again began investigating claims of members of the Ray family or their representatives that there was newly discovered evidence that was exculpatory to James Earl Ray.

Mr. Chairman, the owner of the Southern Hotel is Mr. Freddie Phillips.

Mr. Chairman, at this time it would be appropriate to call Mr. Phillips.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Thank you.

The witness, Mr. Phillips, is called to the hearing room to the witness table.

Mr. Phillips, will you kindly stand and raise your right hand?

Do you solemnly swear that the testimony which you are about to give is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. PHILLIPS. I do.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Thank you.

I yield to counsel, I. Charles Mathews.

Mr. MATHEWS. Mr. Phillips, will you state your name and address for the record, please?



**TESTIMONY OF FREDDIE PHILLIPS, COOWNER AND  
COMANAGER OF THE SOUTHERN MOTEL, CORINTH, MISS.**

Mr. PHILLIPS. Freddie Phillips, Corinth, Miss., Highway 72 West Southern Motel.

Mr. MATHEWS. And how long have you resided in Corinth, Miss.?

Mr. PHILLIPS. All my life.

Mr. MATHEWS. What is your present occupation?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Comanager and coowner of the Southern Motel since 1965 more or less since out of school.

Mr. MATHEWS. You have been comanager of the hotel since 1965?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Yes.

Mr. MATHEWS. Is that hotel also managed by another individual?

Mr. PHILLIPS. My brother.

Mr. MATHEWS. So it's you and your brother?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Yes, sir.

Mr. MATHEWS. Let me direct your attention to early November 1978.

Do you recall a conversation with a man who identified himself as Eric Starvo Galt?

Mr. PHILLIPS. I sure do.

Mr. MATHEWS. Would you relate to the committee what occurred during that conversation?

Mr. PHILLIPS. On a Saturday afternoon I noticed a gentleman with a camera taking pictures of my place on the front. I walked out and asked him what his business was, what he was doing.

He told me that he was taking pictures, that the IRS income tax was investigating, that he had stayed in my motel in 1968, and I told him then that I knew, that I wasn't an idiot, that the income tax people didn't investigate you that far back.

He said, well, he said I just need some records showing I was here. And I said, well, what is your name and he told me his name was Eric Galt, and when he told me his name was Eric Galt I knew automatically that that was not who he was and I told him to lay his camera down and get off my property.

Mr. MATHEWS. How did you know at that point in time that he mentioned to you that his name was Eric Starvo Galt that something was amiss?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Earlier that month, and this is, you know, maybe a week or two before, the local Alcorn County Sheriff called me and had me to get my register out and check and see if Eric Galt's name was on it, and he came out and looked at it for himself to see if it was on it and it wasn't on it.

Mr. MATHEWS. And where was your register book kept?

Mr. PHILLIPS. In the attic, where all of the rest of them are.

Mr. MATHEWS. So you have had that registration book since 1968?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Yes, sir.

Mr. MATHEWS. Have you brought that registration book in today?

Mr. PHILLIPS. I have it with me.

Mr. MATHEWS. Will you turn please to the date, April 1, 1968? Are you able to determine after observing your registration book whether or not you worked on that particular day?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Yes. I worked on this particular day.

Mr. MATHEWS. Is the name Eric Starvo Galt listed on that registration book?

Mr. PHILLIPS. No, sir; not to my knowledge; I can't find it.

Mr. MATHEWS. Have you ever seen any photographs of the man identified as James Earl Ray?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Just newspaper.

Mr. MATHEWS. Newspaper photographs?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Yes.

Mr. MATHEWS. Have you ever seen that man on or about the motel in April of 1968?

Mr. PHILLIPS. No, sir; I have not.

Mr. MATHEWS. Mr. Phillips, do you normally make all entries in the registration book when members, when individual citizens check into your motel?

Mr. PHILLIPS. No; sometimes they sign their own name. If it's someone I know, they sign it on. If not, they sign a card and I put their name in.

Mr. MATHEWS. Do you know most of the people that check into your motel?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Yes, sir, the biggest part of them. It's a small place, local owned.

Mr. MATHEWS. Mr. Chairman, could we have, could I show the witness what has been previously introduced as MLK exhibit F-626?

Mr. FAUNTROY. Without objection, so ordered.

Mr. MATHEWS. MLK F-626, Mr. Chairman, is a copy of a map provided by Jerry Ray to this committee in which he stated James Earl Ray was almost positive that this was the location of the motel in which he stayed on April 1, 1968.

Mr. Phillips, have you had an opportunity to study that map before?

Mr. PHILLIPS. No, sir. This map, yes.

Mr. MATHEWS. Is that map similar in geographic location to your hotel, motel?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Well, if this is east to South Birmingham, and east of Memphis is Highway 72, it makes my motel the only one that's there for that area.

Mr. MATHEWS. I am sorry, I could not understand your response. Could you repeat it, please?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Well, as the drawing goes here, to Birmingham would be East 72, and West would be Memphis, and at the intersection here of 45 that would make mine the only one in that area, of this area of this crossroads right here.

Mr. MATHEWS. Well, you say based on that map that that map represents the location of your motel?

Mr. PHILLIPS. It's close. I mean, that's the only motel around this intersection on Highway 72, is my motel.

Mr. MATHEWS. Are there any other motels? Were there any other motels in Corinth, Miss., in April 1968?

Mr. PHILLIPS. At that time they were on 72 Highway, which is the main road here, there were only three motels in Corinth on that road.

Mr. MATHEWS. Would you say that map could represent any of those motels?

Mr. PHILLIPS. No, sir.

Mr. MATHEWS. So your motel would come closest to fitting that general description?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Yes, sir.

Mr. MATHEWS. Mr. Phillips, the committee also heard testimony from Jerry Ray yesterday which indicated that the FBI recently came out to your motel and seized records and documents which may have proved that James Earl Ray stayed there on April 1, 1968.

Can you relate to the committee any occurrences of that nature?

Mr. PHILLIPS. No, sir.

Mr. MATHEWS. Did the FBI, have the FBI visited your motel in the last year or so?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Not checking on this, they haven't. They may have been there for other things, but not on this James Earl Ray or Eric Galt.

Mr. MATHEWS. To your knowledge, have the FBI ever checked those books?

Mr. PHILLIPS. To my knowledge, I was told they were checked around 1968 or the latter part of 1968 sometime.

Mr. MATHEWS. Told by who?

Mr. PHILLIPS. A lady that worked there back then, too. I didn't remember it personally.

Mr. MATHEWS. Mr. Chairman, could I have incorporated in the record MLK exhibit F-669, which is the FBI airtel dated April 7, 1969:

The Bureau advised that in a third Look magazine article, William Bradford Huie states that James Earl Ray had spent the night of 4/2/68 in a motel near Corinth, Miss. The Bureau instructed Jackson to review motel records in and about Corinth to determine the identities of individuals registered there during the period 3/29/68 to 4/3/68. By airtel dated 4/15/69, the Jackson Office advised the Bureau that motel records at Corinth, Miss., had been reviewed under the subject's true name and aliases and had been reviewed for subject's Alabama license number. Nothing identifiable with the subject was located.

Could I have that incorporated in the record, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. FAUNTROY. Without objection, so ordered.

[MLK exhibit F-669 follows:]

MLK EXHIBIT F-669

Rev. 12-17-58)

F B I

Date: 5/14/69

all the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)

AIRTEL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

**TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)**  
**FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)**  
**SUBJECT: MURKIN**

By airtel dated 4/7/69, the Bureau advised that in a third "Look" magazine article, WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE stated that JAMES EARL RAY had spent the night of 4/2/68 in a motel near Corinth, Miss. The Bureau instructed Jackson to review motel records in and around Corinth to determine the identities of individuals registered there during the period 3/29/68 to 4/3/68. By airtel dated 4/15/69, the Jackson Office advised the Bureau that motel records at Corinth, Miss., had been reviewed under the subject's true name and aliases and had been reviewed for subject's Alabama license number. Nothing identifiable with the subject was located.

- 2 - Bureau
  - 2 - Albany
  - 2 - Albuquerque
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  - 2 - Birmingham
  - 2 - Buffalo
  - 2 - Charlotte
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  - 2 - Oklahoma City
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FBI - MIAMI	

Approved: *R Jensen*  
Special Agent in Charge

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By airtel dated 5/7 '69, copies of which were not furnished the Bureau, the Jackson Office set out leads for those offices to whom copies of this communication are designated. These offices have been requested to interview several hundred persons who spent the night in motels at Corinth, Miss., on or about 4/2/68.

In view of the fact that more than a year has passed since these persons stayed over night at Corinth, and since similar investigation of this type in this case has previously been unproductive, and since HUIE has admitted that RAY frequently is untruthful in statements to him, and further since it is not believed that it is of any particular importance to establish whether or not JAMES EARL RAY stayed over night at Corinth on 4/2/68, all offices will disregard the leads set out in Jackson airtel dated 5/7 '69, unless specifically advised by the Bureau to cover same.

Mr. MATHEWS. Mr. Chairman, I might also note for the record that counsel and the chief investigator has checked Mr. Phillips' registration book from March 30, 1968, through April 4, 1968, and found no record or no names which would have indicated James Earl Ray stayed there under his given name or his aliases.

Mr. Chairman, I have no further questions.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Thank you.

Mr. Phillips, your testimony before this committee is under oath, you know, you are under oath.

Mr. PHILLIPS. Yes.

Mr. FAUNTROY. It flabbergasts me as chairman.

Are you telling this committee that during the month of November someone represented himself to you as Eric Starvo Galt; is that true?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Yes, sir.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Mr. Phillips, will you stand and turn around? I want you to look over this audience beginning on your right and see if you see in this room anyone whom you could identify as the person who represented himself to you as Eric Starvo Galt?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Yes, sir.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Would you point out the person?

[Witness pointed.]

Mr. FAUNTROY. Describe what he has on?

Mr. PHILLIPS. He has on a red tie and red shirt and tan coat.

Mr. FAUNTROY. All right.

Thank you. Have a seat.

Let the record show Mr. Phillips has identified Mr. Jerry Ray, the witness who was here yesterday and who testified under oath that he talked with you in Corinth and that you told him, if I recall, and I will certainly want to look at the record of this, you told him that the FBI had come by and picked up the records which you have now brought in here.

Is that your recollection of what happened when the person whom you identified approached you and identified himself as Eric Starvo Galt?

Mr. PHILLIPS. I don't understand what you—the question, sir.

Mr. FAUNTROY. I want to know if you told him—

Mr. PHILLIPS. That the FBI had—

Mr. FAUNTROY. Yes.

Mr. PHILLIPS. No, sir, I did not.

Mr. FAUNTROY. If he testified under oath to that effect before this committee would he have been telling the truth or would he have been telling us a lie?

Mr. PHILLIPS. If he told you I said that the FBI had confiscated my books he would be wrong. I would not call the man a liar.

Mr. FAUNTROY. He would not be telling us the truth?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Not telling you the truth, because I have the books and they have never been out of my possession.

Mr. FAUNTROY. And you did not say to him that the FBI had taken the books?

Mr. PHILLIPS. No, sir.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Did you tell anybody else that the FBI had taken the book?

Mr. PHILLIPS. No, sir.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Have they ever taken the book?

Mr. PHILLIPS. No, sir; they have looked at it, but they have never taken it.

Mr. FAUNTROY. I yield to the gentleman from Ohio.

Any questions of the witness?

Chairman STOKES. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

So that the record is patently clear, Mr. Chairman, I would like to make reference to a transcript of questions that I posed to Mr. Jerry Ray and the answers he gave to my questions in this hearing room yesterday, and then I will pose a question to the witness.

Chairman STOKES. Did you get the name of the manager?

Mr. RAY. No. He is still there; I haven't—I didn't get the name of him. He run me off. He threatened to call the police on me.

Chairman STOKES. I am sorry.

Mr. RAY. He threatened to call the police on me, run me off, and he wouldn't give me his name.

Chairman STOKES. Would not give you his name?

Mr. RAY. No.

Chairman STOKES. Did he ever ask for your name, sir?

Mr. RAY. I do not recall, sir.

Chairman STOKES. Did you ask him if your brother, James Earl Ray, was there on April 1, 1968?

Mr. RAY. No. I didn't ask him about James, I asked him if Eric Starvo Galt was there.

Chairman STOKES. You asked him what?

Mr. RAY. If Eric Starvo Galt was there.

Chairman STOKES. Did you ask him that?

Mr. RAY. Yes; I asked him if Eric Starvo Galt was there. Then his answer was the FBI has just been here, they got all, no, he didn't say they had all of the records, he says the FBI has just been here and get off my property or I am going to call the police on you, and I said could I look at the record, and he said, no, you can't look at the record, and so he said if you take any more pictures I am going to call the police. I have three pictures taken of the motel. He grabbed the three pictures, so I took some more pictures from a distance.

Now, did that occur?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Part of it, yes.

Chairman STOKES. What part occurred and what part didn't?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Picture taking took place. I took the pictures away from him and I told him to get off of my place. I did that.

As far as the telling him that the FBI had took my records, I do not—I remember telling him that the local authorities had looked at my records, and I remember telling him that I would call the local sheriff.

Chairman STOKES. OK.

With reference to April 1 in your records then, and Eric Starvo Galt, was there any conversation about that?

Mr. PHILLIPS. He told me that he was checking for the income tax or IRS, you know, that was his business of doing it for Eric Galt.

Chairman STOKES. Now, do you recall anybody else calling you?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Yes.

Chairman STOKES. About this matter?

Mr. PHILLIPS. I was called by, not personally, but to my place has been called from, I believe, it's an Anna Ray or something like that. And an ABC newsman called there and, like I said, the local sheriff had called me earlier and then Mr. Johnson called me from this committee.

Chairman STOKES. Let me just refer to this part of Mr. Ray's testimony here in the room yesterday.

After he makes mention of the fact he took some more pictures from a distance he says,

So I took them back to the prison and showed them to James. When I showed them to him he says he is almost positive that is the motel—it's the same way I drew it on the map. I got the map someplace around here where he drew it for me. So then Auble sent James Pope down and then Anna Ray, she called up over there, and the same manager was there talked to her that had run me off. He told her that the FBI had seized all of the records, first to back up the sheriff.

Now, did that occur?

Mr. PHILLIPS. I have never talked to Mrs. Anna Ray.

Chairman STOKES. Thank you, sir.

I have no further questions and yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FAUNTROY. I yield to the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. SAWYER. Am I correct that the gentleman that you have identified here first represented himself as an agent of the Internal Revenue Service?

Mr. PHILLIPS. No, sir; he—

Mr. SAWYER. Who did he say he was?

Mr. PHILLIPS. He indicated that he was—needed a picture of the place for his income tax records, that they was checking him for 1968.

Mr. SAWYER. For his income tax?

Mr. PHILLIPS. His income tax.

Mr. SAWYER. Thank you.

That is all I have, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. FAUNTROY. I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. Edgar.

Mr. EDGAR. Mr. Chairman, I apologize for being late. I was out of town today, and I came in and I understand the witness to have indicated that Mr. Jerry Ray came to the motel and took several pictures; is that correct?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Yes, sir.

Mr. EDGAR. And that you confronted him outside of the hotel?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Yes, sir.

Mr. EDGAR. And the FBI, while they looked at your records, have never seized them; is that correct?

Mr. PHILLIPS. To my knowledge, the FBI has only looked at this record around sometime in 1968, and that's the only time. That

may be, you know, for this, for James Earl Ray. They may have looked for something else, but not that I know of.

Mr. EDGAR. Thank you.

I have no further questions, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Mr. Phillips, it is our custom and rule that when a witness appears before this committee that we afford him 5 minutes at the close of his testimony to summarize, amplify, or otherwise modify his testimony, and that 5-minute period is now extended to you should you choose to utilize it.

Mr. PHILLIPS. I don't have anything else to say, sir.

Mr. FAUNTROY. Thank you, and I appreciate particularly your willingness to come on such short notice.

Counsel, do you have a question of the witness?

Mr. MATHEWS. I would just like to say, Mr. Chairman, that we called Mr. Phillips late last night, and he drove over 100 miles to be here today, and on behalf of the staff I would like to thank him for his cooperation and his willingness to do his duty as an American citizen.

Mr. FAUNTROY. And thank you, Mr. Phillips.

I yield now such time as he may require to the chairman of the full committee, the Honorable Louis Stokes.

#### CLOSING REMARKS BY CHAIRMAN LOUIS STOKES, CHAIRMAN OF THE FULL COMMITTEE

Chairman STOKES. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, as the final day of the public testimony before the King subcommittee on the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the Select Committee on Assassinations brings to a close its open evidentiary hearings on the death of Dr. King and President John F. Kennedy.

While the committee will hold policy hearings December 11 and 12 on how to prevent political assassinations or better respond to them when they do occur, the public phase of the investigation is now complete.

In over 35 days of open testimony the committee will have considered evidence in its effort to answer three basic questions set forth in its legislative mandate: Who assassinated President Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.?

Did the assassin or the assassins have the assistance of conspirators?

How well did the government agencies perform?

The committee now has before it the all-important task of drafting its conclusions and making recommendations for remedial action.

The December process will be structured to address the task through a process of synthesizing and evaluating the evidence that has been presented, not just in the public hearings, but in executive session by means of depositions, interviews, and file reviews as well.

In the 13 days of hearings just completed the committee has heard a distillation of the product of over a year of effort by 31 attorneys, investigators, and researchers of the King task force of the committee staff.



In those 13 days, which are in addition to 5 days of public hearings held last August, 38 witnesses have appeared before the committee, and 200 exhibits have been entered into the record.

The King subcommittee and its staff have devoted an untold number of man hours to the task of its investigation. Much of their work was done in the field, as trips were required to U.S. cities from coast to coast and to foreign countries such as Mexico, Canada, Portugal, and England.

In all, there were 572 trips to 834 points over a total of 2,687 days in the field.

Much of the work of the subcommittee has been conducted in private on the theory that quite often more can be accomplished in a sophisticated investigation when every step is not subjected to public attention. In all, 168 witnesses were heard, either in public or in executive session, and a total of 2,686 interviews were held.

To accomplish this, 260 subpoenas were issued, and orders of immunity from prosecution were obtained for 76 witnesses.

The subcommittee also depended on the work of consultants whose contributions, along with the cost of each, were as follows:

For pathology, 31 man-days at a cost of \$7,300;

For ballistics, 75 man-days at a cost of \$7,800;

For medical illustrations, 48 man-days at a cost of \$6,100;

For analysis of police procedures, 18 man-days at a cost of \$4,700;

For fingerprint analysis, 32 man-days at a cost of \$3,900;

For handwriting analysis, 25 man-days at a cost of \$3,900;

For photo-analysis and enhancement, 28 man-days at a cost of \$6,200;

For analysis of polygraph tests, 10 man-days at a cost of \$1,500;

For dentistry analysis, 2 man-days at a cost of \$400;

The totals for consulting work here were 269 man-days at a cost of \$41,800.

In addition to the consultants, an engineering contractor was paid \$3,650 for 15 days of work, and \$1,200 was spent on miscellaneous contract work.

This concludes my remarks on the work of the committee in its public hearings.

There are now, though, a number of individuals and institutions to whom I would like to express the gratitude of this committee for their efforts in supporting us in the conduct of these public hearings.

First to all of the members of the Capitol Police for providing security in the hearing room;

The U.S. Marshals for providing extra security for particular witnesses;

Ed Polan and the staff of the Property Supply Service, the staff of the Superintendent's Office and the sound engineers, to the Superintendents of the Press Gallery and their staffs, and members of the press, particularly those of National Public Radio who reported our hearings from start to finish, to the Official Reporters who recorded for written reproduction the lengthy testimony that has been heard by this committee and, finally, I would want to express the appreciation of this committee to its chief counsel, Professor Blakey, to the entire King subcommittee staff who worked many, many hours in order to produce the work that has

been put on in this hearing room, and which I think all of us have been very proud to have been a part.

Last, I would express my appreciation as chairman of the full committee to the hard work of both Judge Preyer of North Carolina and the Kennedy subcommittee; yourself, Mr. Chairman, for the outstanding and many hours you and your subcommittee members have expended on behalf of these investigations on the King investigation side; and then to all of my colleagues on the full committee who have done an outstanding job and who, notwithstanding the fact that Congress has been in adjournment since October 15, all of whom came back the day after their elections in November and have continued to put out the work product that has been produced in this hearing room.

Just one further statement, Mr. Chairman:

That is, it is particularly interesting that this is the anniversary of the date in 1955 when a lady by the name of Rosa Parks refused in Montgomery, Ala., to move to the back of a bus; it's ironic that on the day that we conclude the public hearings of the King assassination, the man who led the civil rights movement that emanated from this day in 1955 and, hopefully, this committee will have made a meaningful contribution to the unnecessary death of this great man.

Thank you.

**CLOSING REMARK BY DELEGATE WALTER E. FAUNTROY,  
CHAIRMAN OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. SUBCOMMITTEE**

Mr. FAUNTROY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

While we are passing along our feelings of gratitude, I would like as chairman of the subcommittee on the King assassination, on behalf of the full committee really to say thank you to the 31 members of the King subcommittee staff that worked so hard under the direction of our chief counsel, Prof. G. Robert Blakey, and our special counsel, I. Charles Mathews, and deputy chief counsel Gene R. Johnson.

I would like to indulge your time a few moments to call the names of those of the senior attorneys to whom we owe a great deal of gratitude:

Peter Beeson; Alan Hausman; William Webb; Mark Speiser.

To the staff attorneys: Jeremy Akers; Kenneth McHargh; Ronald Adrine;

To the research attorneys: Wendy Collins; Thomas Sacco; Robin Lindley; and Gale Oppenberg;

To our very competent staff of investigators headed by the chief investigator Eddie Evans: Conrad Baetz; Alfred Hack; Ernestine Johnson; Louis Parisi; Mel Waxman; Jerome Cullings;

To our researchers: Gerald Hamilton, chief researcher, together with Lisa Berlow; Susan Grimes; Elizabeth Feeley; Phoebe Orr; Barbara Robinson; and Brenda Welburn;

Finally, to the clerical staff; Louis Hindle, our office manager; Beverly Jackson; Barbara Mosley; Nancy Schultz; and to Joyce Larkin.

This fine staff, together with you and other members of the committee, I think have performed a great service in the last 2 years in the conduct of this inquiry.

You have enriched the public service, I think, and exalted the public life by your sense of conscience and your response to duty.

For all of that I thank all of those who have been associated with us in this undertaking.

With that, Mr. Chairman, and if there are no other comments to be made by members of the committee, I will gavel to a close these hearings into the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

[Whereupon, at 4:05 p.m., the Select Committee on Assassinations adjourned.]



