

the seat reservation counter and seemed to be having a "hassle" with one of the seat reservation agents and he figured it was concerning his travel to New Orleans and the flight which he desired to take. Mr. SHARPE stated that inasmuch as he had to wait until evening for his plane to New Orleans, he sat in the lobby and approximately 30 minutes later, noted that this man whom he had thought to be DARDEN was still talking to the same Delta Seat Reservation Agent. He assumed that the man had been there all of this time and for this reason felt that the Delta agent would probably remember this man.

Mr. SHARPE advised that he did not see this man again and does not know whether the man was on the Delta flight to New Orleans which he, SHARPE, took later that evening. He explained that his flight left Chicago for New Orleans at approximately 6:00 P.M. on that date, April 9, 1968.

Mr. SHARPE advised that he recently observed a picture of JAMES EARL RAY being sought by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which picture was different from the first photograph published of a man called ERIC STARVO GALT. He continued that upon seeing this picture of RAY, he realized how much this photograph looked like ARTHUR DARDEN of New Orleans and, therefore, believes that the man whom he observed at the Delta ticket counter of O'Hare Airport in Chicago, Illinois, on April 9, 1968, was, in fact, JAMES EARL RAY.

Mr. SHARPE explained that he has known ARTHUR DARDEN for 15 years and knows that DARDEN is not identical with RAY.

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NO 157-10673
WBW:ush

The following investigation was conducted by SA WILLIAM B. WOOD on April 24, 1968, at New Orleans, Louisiana:

JOHNNY POLK JOYNER, ticket agent, Continental Trailways Bus Station, advised that he recalls selling a large amount of money orders to an unknown individual on April 17, 1968, at approximately 8:30 P.M. JOYNER advised that this individual wanted to purchase \$4,000. worth of money orders; however, JOYNER only had ten blank money orders left and these money orders can only be made out for \$100. apiece. JOYNER stated that this individual purchased all ten of his remaining money orders and each was for \$100.

JOYNER described this individual as approximately 5'11"-6'; about 175 pounds; appearance grubby; hair brown, wearing sports clothing.

JOYNER stated that he recommended to this individual that he try to obtain more money orders at the Greyhound Bus Station; however, this individual told him that he had already tried the Greyhound Bus Station and had been unable to obtain any money orders there.

JOYNER was unable to recall this individual's name, to whom the money orders were sent, or to what city they were sent.

JOYNER further advised that the money orders numbers, which this individual purchased, were AT 671,560,370 through 379. JOYNER stated that they do not keep a receipt with the destination of the money order or the sender's name.

JOYNER advised that the only information contained on the receipt kept by him is the amount of the money order and the amount charged for the purchase of the money order. JOYNER stated that these are American Express money orders and their receipts are forwarded to American Express in Atlanta, Georgia.

157-10673-sub 2-376

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NO 157-10673

JAW/kmt

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

JOHN PAUL VELANTI
JAMES W. BROWN

MYRTIS DYER, Credit Bureau Shreveport, Louisiana, advised on May 13, 1968, she has no record for BETTYE VELANTI or BETTYE PITTARD, PETERSEN or PRITCHARD.

FRANK WATSON, Alcoholics Anonymous, Shreveport, Louisiana, advised on May 13, 1968, he has no record for BETTYE VELANTI, PITTARD, PETERSEN or PRITCHARD, and does not recall this person as a member or former member of the Alcoholics Anonymous in Shreveport.

Mrs. VERLIN FINCHER, Kansas City Southern Railroad, Shreveport, advised on May 13, 1968, that that railroad is also known locally as the Louisiana and Arkansas Railroad. She stated BETTYE VELANTI, PITTARD, PETERSEN, or PRITCHARD is not employed by that railroad and she does not recall her as a former employee. Mrs. FINCHER said employment records are located at Kansas City Southern Offices, Kansas City, Missouri, and she had these records checked telephonically on May 13, 1968, and records revealed the following:

BETTYE PITTARD was employed as a key punch operator at Shreveport, Louisiana, from October 16, 1957, to May 17, 1959, when she failed to report for work and was terminated. There is no information in the file to show her present whereabouts. BETTYE PITTARD's maiden name was BURNETTE and she was born at Atlanta, Georgia, and attended Commercial Senior High School, Atlanta, until about 1951. She was employed as a key punch operator for Southern Railroad, Atlanta, until about 1957. Her father is shown as GROVER W. BURNETTE, no street address shown, Atlanta. References listed by her were Mrs. DELORES GORMAN, 1123 Stewart Avenue, Southwest, and Mrs. BARBARA WILSON, 877 Boulevard Northeast, both of Atlanta. Former employers of PITTARD were listed as Courts and Company, Atlanta, in 1954,

157-10673-sub 2-377

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NO 157-10673
JAW/kmt

Atlanta General Depot, Conley, Georgia, in 1953, General Foods Corporation, Atlanta, in 1952, and First National Bank, Atlanta, in 1951.

NO 157-10673:emh

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"HIPPIE" ROOMING HOUSES

The following investigation was conducted by
SA WILLIAM P. GREAVES at Shreveport, Louisiana, on April 29,
1968:

CLYDE HYDE, Owner, Arlington Hotel, Cotton and
Louisiana Streets, was displayed a photograph of JAMES EARL
RAY and advised that the photograph was unfamiliar to him.
He advised that he normally sees all the individuals registered
at the hotel and none fitting the description of RAY have ever
been registered to his knowledge.

The following investigation was conducted by
SA PATRICK R. COONEY at Shreveport, Louisiana, on April 29,
1968:

Mr. CLIFTON HAMPTON, Manager, Salvation Army Rescue
Mission, 2033 Texas Avenue, was displayed a photograph of
JAMES EARL RAY and he advised he had never seen this individual
at the rescue mission.

DAVID KUBACKI, Desk Clerk, Salvation Army Social Center,
109 Spring Street, was displayed a photograph of RAY and advised
he had never seen this individual before.

157-10673-sub 2-378

NO 157-10673

JFW/bnk

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The following investigation was conducted by
SA JAMES FRANCIS WRIGHT on April 29, 1968:

At Lake Charles, Louisiana

Chief of Detectives, RODNEY SIMON, Lake Charles Police Department, advised there is only one establishment which could be termed a "hippie" dwelling and it is located at 603 East School Street. SIMON stated that his department had pulled narcotic raids at this address approximately two weeks ago which resulted in many of the former tenants moving out and there are very few hippies residing at that address at the present time. He stated that as he recalls a Mr. First Name Unknown (FNU) HENRY is the present owner of this apartment dwelling.

Inquiries at 603 East School Street, determined Mr. FNU HENRY is out of town and not expected back for two or three days. Observations of tenants at this address on April 29, 1968, were negative regarding any person identical with the subject.

At Oakdale, Louisiana

PAUL DUETT, Chief of Police, Oakdale Police Department, advised there is no "hippie" rooming house or similar establishments located in Oakdale or in the Oakdale area.

At Oberlin, Louisiana

JACK SIRMAN (NA), Allen Parish Deputy Sheriff, advised there is no "hippie" establishments in the Oberlin area.

157-10673-sub 2-379

NO 157-10673

JFW/bnk

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At Jennings, Louisiana

Chief Deputy O. J. HEBERT, Jefferson Davis Parish Sheriff's Office, and the Chief of Police J. C. GAUTHIER, Jennings Police Department, advised there are no "hippie" establishments in the Jennings area.

At Cameron, Louisiana

Chief Deputy CHARLES MURPHY, Cameron Parish Sheriff's Office, advised there are no "hippie" rooming houses or similar dwellings in the Cameron Parish area.

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NO 157-10673
DEV/cam

Investigation re "Hippie Hangouts"

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent DONALD E. VAN PELT on April 29, 1968:

The following individuals representing their respective agencies were contacted and advised that there were no "Hippie Hangouts" in their respective areas:

AT BEAUREGARD PARISH, LOUISIANA

Sergeant JOSEPH FRITZ,
Acting Chief of Police,
DeRidder Police Department,
DeRidder, Louisiana

AT VERNON PARISH, LOUISIANA

Captain WILLIAM HELLMAN,
Chief of Police,
Leesville City Police,
Leesville, Louisiana

157-10673 sub 2-380

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NO 157-10673 -epk

The following investigation was conducted at New Orleans, Louisiana, by Special Agent KEVIN J. HARRIGAN and MARTIN L. ONDREJKO on April 26, 1968:

WILLIAM HERBERT, Manager, Gulf Hotel, 610 St. Charles Street, telephonically advised Special Agent HARRIGAN on April 26, 1968, that a person staying in room 21 at his hotel resembled the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, which he had recently seen in the newspaper. HERBERT advised this person was registered under the name of LAWRENCE, claimed to be from Mississippi and had been at the hotel for approximately three weeks. HERBERT further advised this person told him he was a gun fancier, had been in Birmingham, Alabama, prior to coming to New Orleans and talked as if he might be slightly mentally unbalanced.

Special Agents HARRIGAN and ONDREJKO contacted the person who identified himself as JAMES ESTES LAWRENCE, SR., in room 21 at the Gulf Hotel. Close examination of this individual showed his eyes to be brown, two large hernia scars were noted on his abdomen and examination of his fingerprints indicated they were not identical to those of JAMES EARL RAY. LAWRENCE furnished the following descriptive data concerning himself:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Born	<input type="text"/> Cleveland, Mississippi
Height	6'
Weight	168 pounds
Eyes	Brown
Hair	Black (streaked with gray), curley and thick
Social Security Number	<input type="text"/>
Home address	1616 Lone Tree Road Victoria, Texas

157-10673-sub 2 - 381

2
NO 157-10673 -epk

Selective Service

Displayed draft card with 5-A classification, bearing SSN [redacted] registered with Local Draft Board, Yazoo City, Mississippi

Scars

Two large hernia scars observed on lower portion of abdomen on both right and left side

Tattoos

Word "AUGUST 11, 1944" beneath picture of bald-headed eagle and letters "USN" outer right forearm

LAWRENCE advised he had arrived in New Orleans approximately a month ago and was employed as a refrigerator repairman for Glynn & Peyton Company, 4119 Tchoupitoulas Street.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/18/68

Mr. EDGAR T. PLANCHE, Bumper and Auto of Louisiana, 925 Gaiennie Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, furnished the following information:

On April 17, 1968, Mr. PLANCHE advised that Mrs. BEVERLY HEBERT was travelling somewhere in the State of Texas and would return to Ft. Smith, Arkansas on either Friday April 19, or Saturday April 20, 1968. He advised that he had her Ft. Smith address at his home, and that he would look it up and furnish it on April 18, 1968.

On April 18, 1968, Mr. PLANCHE advised that Mrs. BEVERLY HEBERT, nee KOLLER, would return to Ft. Smith, Arkansas on Saturday April 20, 1968, and that she would be residing at 704 Clifton Court, Ft. Smith, Arkansas.

On 4/17, 18/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # 157-10673 sub 2-382
by SA G. MYRYWIN ALDERSON/gma Date dictated 4/18/68

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NO 157-10673 - mak

On April 23, 1968, DANNY GREEN of the New Orleans "States Item" telephonically contacted the New Orleans Office to advise he had conducted an investigation on behalf of the newspaper concerning ERIC GALT. He stated that on the morning of April 23, 1968, he had talked to JOSIE MAPLE, a maid at the Cornstalk Hotel, 915 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. GREEN advised that MAPLE had told him that she saw an individual whom she stated strongly resembled GALT at the Walgreens Drug Store located at the corner of Canal and Claiborne the previous evening. GREEN advised that he was informing this office of the above since MAPLE indicated she was afraid to call the police for fear she would get into trouble.

On April 23, 1968, JOSIE MAPLE, a maid at the Cornstalk Hotel, and who resides at 221 Perieur Street, furnished the following information to SAs WILLIAM F. KUSCH and THOMAS E. DUHADWAY:

Mrs. MAPLE stated she saw an individual at 5:30 p.m. in Walgreens Drug Store located at the corner of Claiborne and Canal Street in New Orleans, whom she stated looked like the individual whose picture had appeared in the newspapers as ERIC GALT.

She advised this individual was about 5'5" in height, had black hair combed straight back, was in his 30's and wore a white shirt with short sleeves and blue pants. She stated that she could not recall any other identifying data or distinguishing characteristics and she also stated that she did not know if anyone else had noticed this person. She stated that she was standing in the Female Toiletry Department and this individual was standing to the left, near the Drug Department.

Mrs. MAPLE noted that she was blind in her left eye as a result of an automobile accident.

The following clerks at Walgreens Drug Store, Canal and Claiborne, were contacted and advised that photographs of JAMES EARL RAY were unfamiliar to them with the exception of the fact that they had previously seen RAY's photograph in the newspapers:

Mrs. MAGGIE WOMACK,
Cosmetics;

157-10673-sub 2-383

2
NO 157-10673

LAURA MOREY,
Drug Counter;

CARL ZUMMO,
Pharmacist.

Mrs. ALFREDA RAGUSA, Accounting Office Sheraton-
Delta Motel, Canal and Claiborne, made available registration
cards for the Sheraton-Delta for the months of March and
April, 1968: These cards were searched by SAs THOMAS E.
DUHADWAY and WILLIAM F. KUSCH and no reference to the subject
under his name or aliases could be located.

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NO 157-10673 -epk

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent KEVIN J. HARRIGAN on April 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26, 1968, at New Orleans, Louisiana:

On the above dates Special Agent HARRIGAN conducted inquiry at several of the known hangouts for "hippies" and beatniks in the French Quarter in an effort to develop information concerning JAMES EARL RAY. The results of these inquiries were negative and included the display of all available photographs of RAY.

Inquiry was conducted at the following places:

Lafitte's in Exile, 901 Bourbon Street

Seven Seas Bar, 515 St. Philip Street

Finale Bar, 1041 Royal Street

Safari Lounge, 608 Iberville.

In addition, reliable persons were also contacted at the following hangouts which are frequented by French Quarter homosexuals and lesbians. Again, RAY's photograph was displayed with negative results.

Wanda's Bar, 610 Iberville

Society Page Bar, 817 St. Louis Street

Marian's Bar, 615 Iberville

In addition, Special Agent HARRIGAN contacted several French Quarter lesbians who have been known for the past several years, in an effort to develop information concerning JAMES EARL RAY. All persons contacted advised subject had never been observed by them in the French Quarter area and they could furnish no information concerning his possible location. In addition, RUTH McGRATH was contacted at Cookie's Bar, 1204 North Rampart

157-10673-sub 2-384

2
NO 157-10673 -epk

Street. It should be noted that McGRATH has been known to Special Agent HARRIGAN for several years and is the owner of this bar which is frequented exclusively by lesbians. McGRATH is personally acquainted with all of the lesbian element in the French Quarter and stated she could furnish no information regarding subject. She also advised she would make discreet inquiry among several of the "butches" and "dykes" who frequent her bar regarding subject and if any positive information developed, she would immediately contact Special Agent HARRIGAN.

Special Agent HARRIGAN also contacted several reliable persons who operate cheap hotels and flop houses which cater to the "hippie" and beatnik element in the French Quarter. Hotel registration records were checked and subject's photograph displayed with negative results.

NO 157-10673
DEVP:mah

The following investigation was conducted by SA DONALD E. VAN PELT on April 24, 1968:

The following individuals representing their respective law enforcement agencies were contacted regarding any vehicles bearing Georgia license tags abandoned in their respective territories, April 4, 1968, with negative results:

AT VERNON PARISH, LOUISIANA

Captain P. W. HILTON
Louisiana State Police
Troop M
Leesville, Louisiana

Lieutenant GILMER JEANE
Leesville City Police
Leesville, Louisiana

Chief Deputy MALCOLM SMART
Vernon Parish Sheriff's Office
Leesville, Louisiana

AT BEAUREGARD PARISH, LOUISIANA

JOHN LAURENT
Chief Deputy
Beauregard Parish Sheriff's Office
DeRidder, Louisiana

Sergeant JOSEPH FRITZ
DeRidder, Police Department
DeRidder, Louisiana

157-10673-sub 2-385

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NO 157-10673/ac

The following investigation was conducted by
Special Agent DONALD E. VAN PELT on April 24, 1968

RE: UNSOLVED ROBBERIES AND/OR BURGLARIES
PERPETRATED BY INDIVIDUALS FITTING
DESCRIPTION OF JAMES EARL RAY

The following individuals representing
their respective agencies were contacted and advised that
they had no unsolved armed robberies or burglaries
perpetrated by individual fitting description of JAMES
EARL RAY:

AT VERNON PARISH, LOUISIANA:

Captain P. W. HILTON,
Louisiana State Police,
Troop H,
Leesville, Louisiana

Lieutenant GILMER JEANE
Leesville City Police
Leesville, Louisiana

MALCOLM SMART,
Chief Deputy,
Vernon Parish Sheriff's Office,
Leesville, Louisiana

GEORGE HIGGINS,
Commanding Officer,
Detachment E, Fourth MP Group (CI)
Fort Polk, Louisiana

AT BEAUREGARD PARISH, LOUISIANA:

Sergeant JOSEPH FRITZ,
Acting Chief of Police,
De Ridder Police Department,
De Ridder, Louisiana

157-10673-sub 2-386

2

NO 157-10673/ac

JOHN LAURANT (NA)
Chief Deputy
Beauregard Parish Sheriff's Office,
De Ridder, Louisiana

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NO 157-10673

JED:cmp

The following investigation was conducted by
SA JOHN E. DECKER at New Orleans, Louisiana:

On April 24, 1968, Lieutenant LOUIS O'NEIL, Bureau of Identification, New Orleans Police Department, furnished the following information:

Lieutenant O'NEIL advised that as soon as he received the FBI flyer on JAMES EARL RAY, he immediately caused a review to be made of the fingerprint cards in the Bureau of Identification. Lieutenant O'NEAL stated that this review was personally made by himself and that there are no fingerprint records in the Bureau of Identification files identifiable with RAY at the present time. Lieutenant O'NEIL said that if any fingerprints did turn up identifiable with RAY, he would immediately notify the FBI Office.

157-10673-sub 2-388

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NO 157-10673 - kat

On April 23, 1968, Sergeant J. L. HOOD, Identification Officer, Shreveport, Louisiana, Police Department, advised SA THURMAN P. KELLEY that his office does not have any latent fingerprints in unsolved armed robberies or burglaries appearing to have been committed by JAMES EARL RAY, FBI number 405 942 G.

157-10673-sub 2-389

28/Jan 2-2

WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

POSTCARD

1
NO 157-10673
TPK:jah

On April 24, 1968, the following individuals checked their respective agencies and advised they were unable to locate any record of car stolen in Georgia and abandoned in Shreveport, Louisiana, or vicinity subsequent to April 4, 1968:

Lieutenant WALTER CASH, Central Records,
Shreveport, Louisiana Police Department

Major H. H. PITTMAN, Caddo Parish Sheriff's
Office

Captain LOUIS YARBROUGH (NA), Commander,
Troop G, Louisiana State Police

FOR 10 1/2" SHEET STOP HERE

157-10673-sub 2-390

1
NO 157-10673
THG:jpb

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent TROY H. GIST on April 23, 1968:

The following law enforcement officials were contacted and advised they had no latent fingerprints in unsolved armed robberies or burglaries perpetrated by individuals fitting the description of JAMES EARL RAY:

HARRY JOYNTON, Criminal Deputy,
Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's
Office, Amite, Louisiana;

BROOKS ROBINSON, Chief of Police,
Hammond, Louisiana;

ARLIE PASSMAN, Chief Criminal
Deputy, Washington Parish Sheriff's
Office, Franklinton, Louisiana;

GEORGE BROOM, Sheriff, St. Tammany
Parish Sheriff's Office, Covington,
Louisiana.

157-10673-sub 2-391

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/21/68

On May 15, 1968, photographs of the following individuals were shown to Mrs. SUE GREEN, Teller, Baton Rouge Savings and Loan Association, 4321 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana:

THOMAS FRANCIS RATHWELL

RONNIE DWAYNE TRAVIS

Date of Birth:

MALCOLM EDWIN MC GRAY

WESLEY DALE KING

Date of Birth:

JAMES EARL RAY

FBI Number: 405 942 G

Mrs. GREEN did not identify any of these individuals as being identical to the person who robbed the Baton Rouge Savings and Loan Association on February 15, 1968.

On 5/15/68 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673-sub 2-392

by SA ELMER B. LITCHFIELD/ac Date dictated 5/21/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/10/68

Records of the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, New Orleans, Louisiana, Gentilly District Office, which are available only upon issuance of a subpoena duces tecum directed to J. T. PFANNKUCHI, District Accounting Manager (Toll), reflect the following information:

Telephone number 945-7312 is a private number subscribed to by MARIE STEIN, 1907½ Royal Avenue. This number was connected on November 29, 1967, and on March 28, 1968, was moved to the present address from 1429 Burgundy. Telephone records reflect that STEIN is employed at the Burger Drive Inn, Fourth Street, Westwego, telephone number 347-8192.

Telephone number 944-8318 is a semiprivate number listed in the name of TERESA STONE, 4019 Royal Street. This number is billed to LORRAINE RODRIGUEZ, 611 Bartholomew. This number was connected on February 15, 1968 and telephone records reflect that RODRIGUEZ also has service under telephone number 949-5455.

Telephone number 949-5150 is a private number subscribed to by LORRAINE RODRIGUEZ, 611 Bartholomew. This number was connected on March 22, 1968, telephone records reflect that RODRIGUEZ is self-employed in sewing and gave a reference of Mrs. WILLIE ALONZO, 1907½ Royal.

Telephone number 949-5455 is a private number, subscribed to by MAMIE BRANCH, 1718 Marais, Apartment #2. This number was connected on January 26, 1968. Telephone records reflect that BRANCH is not employed and receives a pension.

On 5/7/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 sub 2-393

by SA JOHN E. DECKER/bnk Date dictated 5/7/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/21/68

On May 15, 1968, photographs of the following individuals were shown to Mrs. ELLEN BARBER, Teller, Baton Rouge Savings and Loan Association, 4321 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana:

THOMAS FRANCIS RATHWELL

RONNIE DWAYNE TRAVIS

Date of Birth:

MALCOLM EDWIN MC GRAY

WESLEY DALE KING

Date of Birth:

JAMES EARL RAY

FBI Number 405 942 G

Mrs. BARBER did not identify any of these individuals as being identical to the person who robbed the Baton Rouge Savings and Loan Association on February 15, 1968.

On 5/15/68 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana File # 157-10673-sub 2-394
NO 91-3544
by SA ELMER B. LITCHFIELD/ac Date dictated 5/21/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date 5/14/68

NORRIS CAMERDELLE, 945 Avenue A, Westwego, Louisiana, telephone number 341-4052, advised that he is the owner and operator of the Canal Bank Inn located at 317 Laurossini Street, Westwego, Louisiana.

He advised that sometime during the spring of 1965 "SONNY" BILLINGS and an unknown white companion entered his club and inquired about an apartment to rent. He advised that he rented BILLINGS and his unknown companion Apartment 6 located at 315 Laurossini Street. He advised that BILLINGS and his companion stayed in this apartment for about three months, then they left the New Orleans area for a short time and returned to the apartment, staying a very short time. He advised that BILLINGS and his companion then left and remained away from the apartment for about one year. BILLINGS returned by himself about a year later and dropped in the nightclub and said hello.

CAMERDELLE advised that neither BILLINGS nor his companion were known to him before they entered his nightclub and rented an apartment from him. He advised that BILLINGS drove a maroon vehicle but he was unable to recall either the make or model of this vehicle.

CAMERDELLE described BILLINGS' companion as a white male, shorter than BILLINGS and fairly good looking. He further described this individual as a troublemaker who was prone to violence when drinking.

He described BILLINGS and his companion as "drifters" and stated the reason he specifically recalls BILLINGS and his companion is that BILLINGS gave him a \$165 worthless check drawn on the Guaranty Bank and Trust Company of Westwego, Louisiana, which was returned to him marked "no account."

CAMERDELLE stated he knew nothing concerning a stolen machine gun that was to be delivered to the owner of the Canal Bank Inn and added that he did not consider himself to be a friend of either BILLINGS or his companion. He stated that he recalled BILLINGS telling him that he

On 5/13/68 at Westwego, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 sub 2-395

by SA THOMAS E. DuHADWAY:pd Date dictated 5/13/68

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NO 157-10673

TED:pd

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was from either North or South Carolina, but he could not recall any additional information about BILLINGS, his companion or any friends they might have had while residing in New Orleans.

CAMERDELLE advised that he would search through his rental records and attempt to find the bogus check given to him by BILLINGS in order to pinpoint the exact date of BILLINGS' stay in the apartment in Westwego, Louisiana.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/22/68

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SYLVESTER JOHNSON, Negro male, born [REDACTED] 5'11", 167 pounds, was contacted at 519 Fannin Alley, Shreveport, Louisiana. After being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent, JOHNSON furnished the following information:

JOHNSON advised that on, or about Saturday, May 18, 1968, he had occasion to be in the Continental Trailways Bus Depot, 408 Fannin Alley, where he had gone to order some french fries. He advised that he went into the depot at approximately 9:30 PM.

While in the depot, and before placing his order, he conversed with another Negro male who worked at the depot, and while conversing with this individual, he (JOHNSON) overheard a conversation between two white males who were sitting on the bench directly behind him in the main lobby of the depot.

JOHNSON stated that one of these white males was overheard to say, "If he could keep JAMES RAY STARVO hid at C. A. W. CLARK's house in Dallas, Texas, for awhile, they could get things arranged for him."

JOHNSON advised that he has never seen these two individuals before, and has not seen them since. He described the white males as follows:

First White Male:

Over six feet, weight about 190 pounds, dark brown hair, dark blue suit; clean shaven, no scars; wearing a ring with an eagle with wings spread insignia on ring finger of right hand.

Second White Male:

Over six feet, approximately 165 pounds, sandy hair, light grey suit, brown necktie, and black shoes.

JOHNSON indicated that the second white male was the individual who made the conversation which he overheard.

On 5/22/68 at Shreveport, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 sub 2-396
by SA JAMES T. VOLZ:sja Date dictated 5/22/68

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NO 157-10673/JTV:sja

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JOHNSON stated that everything he said above was the absolute truth.

JOHNSON indicated that he has been arrested for burglary, non-support, and has spent ten months in the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola, Louisiana.

NO 157-10673/cst

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The following investigation was conducted at New Orleans, Louisiana, on May 10, 1968, by SA PATRICK J. DENTE:

Mr. J. HUBER, Manager, Baggage Room, Union Terminal, advised that Southern Pacific number 2 departs Los Angeles, California, at 8:15 PM and arrives New Orleans, Louisiana, two days later at 7:45 AM. Mr. HUBER stated that the Southern Pacific train which departed Los Angeles, California, on April 4, 1968, arrived at New Orleans, Louisiana, at 7:45 AM, April 6, 1968. He further advised that one train arrives each day at this time from Los Angeles. Mr. HUBER stated that Mr. JOSEPH FOOTE is an employee at the terminal and resides at 2123 Iberville Street, New Orleans, Louisiana.

On the same date, Mr. JOSEPH FOOTE was interviewed at his place of employment, Union Terminal, who advised that on Saturday, April 6, 1968, he boarded Southern Pacific Train number 2 at Lafayette, Louisiana, and recalls briefly chatting with an individual whom resembled the subject. Mr. FOOTE stated, however, that his contact with this individual was for a brief moment and he could not furnish any specific information regarding him.

Mr. FOOTE was shown several photographs of the subject, JAMES EARL RAY, whom he could not identify as the individual that he observed on Southern Pacific number 2. Mr. FOOTE further advised that he was certain the date was April 6, 1968, inasmuch as it was this particular Saturday, the first Saturday of April, that he visited his relatives at Lafayette, Louisiana, and there boarded the train for his return to New Orleans.

157-10673-sub 2-397

NO 157-10673/cst

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The following investigation was conducted by
SA PATRICK J. DENTE at New Orleans, Louisiana:

On May 16, 1968, Miss DIANE SHAW was interviewed at her place of employment, The Place, 1931 St. Claude Avenue and advised that she had been employed at the Music Box Bar for approximately three years and terminated her employment there about three months ago. Miss SHAW stated that she did not recall the subject ever being employed at the Music Box nor to the best of her knowledge did she ever observe the subject in that particular establishment. Miss SHAW explained that over the years during her employment at the Music Box, hundreds of customers were served by her. As a result, it was extremely difficult to remember anyone's face but to her knowledge, she had never seen the subject. Miss SHAW was shown several photographs of the subject whom she could not identify as anyone she may have seen in her former place of employment.

On the same date, Mr. J. JONES, Manager, Dutchess Hotel, 2810 Magazine Street, advised that a Mr. BILL MILLER had resided there for approximately two weeks but had moved out on April 4, 1968, and left no forwarding address. Mr. JONES stated he could furnish no information as to MILLER's present location.

On May 17, 1968, Mr. C. MONTI, A & M Amusement Company, 1025 Baronne Street, advised that he formerly serviced the pinball machines at the Music Box and recalled a bartender by the name of BILL MILLER. Mr. MONTI stated that he last saw MILLER approximately several weeks ago at which time he indicated he was seeking employment at Mary's Tavern located on Magazine Street. Mr. MONTI stated he could not furnish any specific information regarding MILLER's present location.

On May 17, 1968, Mr. J. SCOVOTTO, Owner, Mary's Tavern, 1926 Magazine Street, advised that a BILL MILLER is not employed at his establishment nor to the best of his recollection did he ever meet an individual by this name.

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Mr. SCOVOTTO advised that he could furnish no information regarding MILLER's present address or employment.

On the same date, the files of the following agencies were searched and revealed no record identifiable with one BILL MILLER:

B. T. KAYLOR
Manager
New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau

Cadet PATRICK J. HARRIGAN
Records Division
New Orleans Police Department

Mrs. ALICE DORAN
Bureau of Identification
New Orleans Police Department.

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Postal Inspector JACK HAYS, 701 Loyola Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana, advised Special Agent PHILLIP M. KING on May 20, 1968, that his office does not have any information concerning the existence of a "Swinger" or "Lonely Hearts" type group or organization in the greater New Orleans area. Mr. HAYS stated that no such information concerning any such organization has come to his attention since his arrival in the area in August, 1967.

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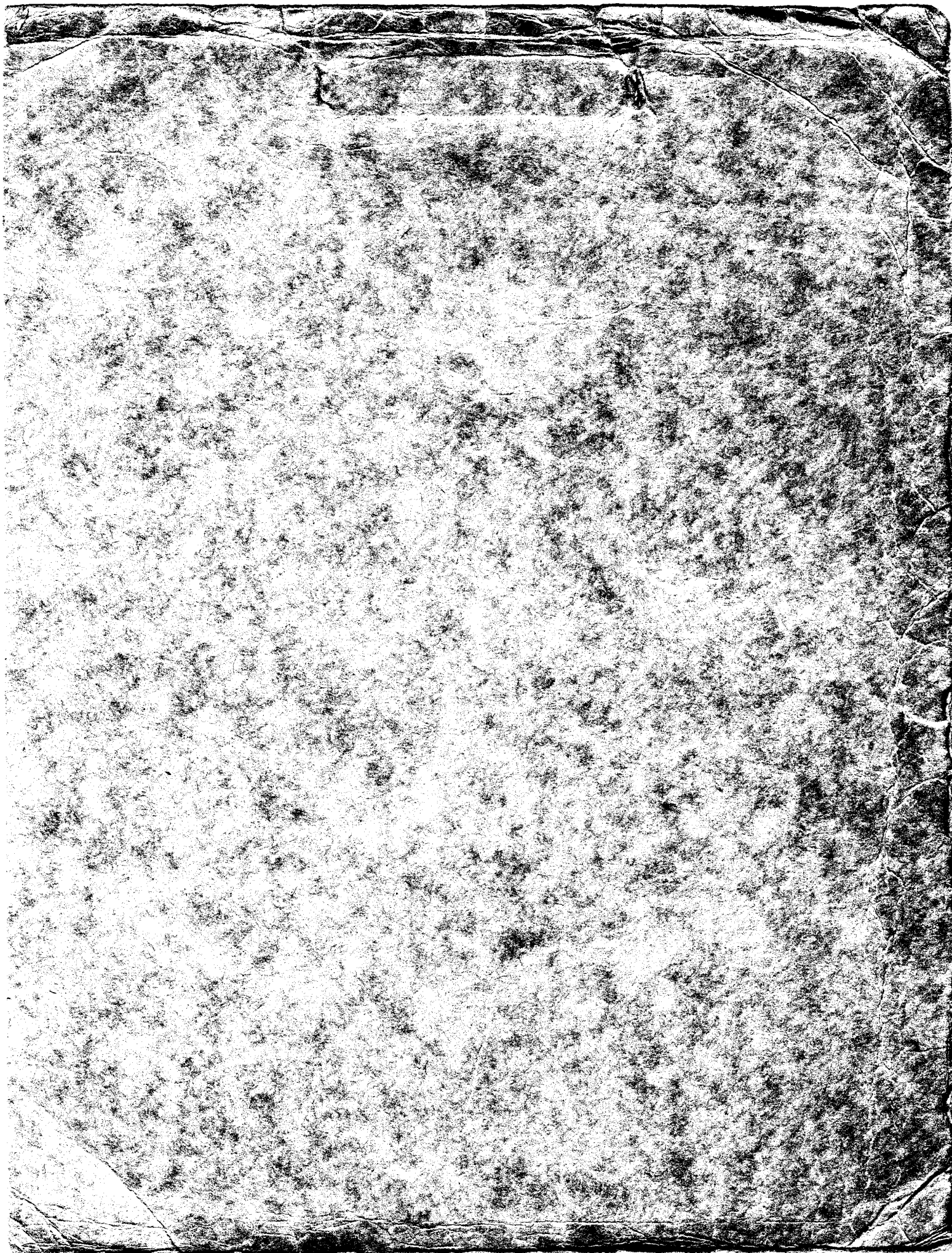
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NO 157-10673 -epk

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent LESTER G. DAVIS on May 20, 1968, at New Orleans, Louisiana:

Lieutenant TED FIELD, Robbery Division, New Orleans Police Department, advised he knew of no robbery committed in June or July, 1967, in New Orleans, in which approximately \$50,000 was taken as described by JOHN EUGENE GAWRON.

Lieutenant ROY JACOBS, Detective Division, Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office, advised he knew of no robbery in the New Orleans area in which \$50,000 was taken in a manner described by JOHN EUGENE GAWRON.

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