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FEDERAL BUREAU

**DO NOT DESTROY -
PENDING LITIGATION**
of

**DO NOT STRIP
INVESTIGATION**

Bureau File Number 44-38861

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See also Nos. 1A Exhibit Section

Max file
Sub B - Newspaper Clippings
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Bellich 9/8/78
Home 4/5/68

44-760

Sub A-302

Volume Number
Serials

1 row

44-760
Sub A

VOL. 1

1 thru

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/16/68

JERRY LEHMAN, Physical Instructor for the YMCA, Springfield, Missouri, stated a review of their registration cards for their guests failed to locate any record for LYNN RAY CLEVELAND as having resided at the Springfield, Missouri, YMCA since March 15 through April 9, 1968.

10/68 at Springfield, Missouri

File# KC 44-760 *Sub A-1*
159

pp
GEORGE D. ADAMS :

SS

Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/16/68

Mr. B. A. LIPSCOMB, Desk Clerk, State Hotel, 400 South Jefferson, Springfield, Missouri, advised a review of their records indicate an individual using the name of LYNN CLEVELAND registered in their hotel at 11:05 p.m. on April 3, 1968, and was assigned room number 228. This individual checked out of the hotel prior to 2:00 p.m., but the actual time of his leaving the hotel was unknown to Mr. LIPSCOMB. Mr. LIPSCOMB stated he was on duty at the time he would have checked out, but that they did not record the time of his departure and therefore he could not fix the exact time on April 4.

On 4/10/68 at Springfield, Missouri File # KC 44-760 - 160 *Sub 2*
 by SA GEORGE D. ADAMS : SS Date dictated 4/15/68 *pa*

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/16/68

H. C. HOFMEISTER, Manager of the Hoff Hotel, 203 East Olive Street, Springfield, Missouri, reviewed all of his registration records for guests from March 26 through and including April 8, 1968, and these records contained no record of anyone staying at the Hoff Hotel using the name of LYNN RAY CLEVELAND.

On 4/10/68 at Springfield, Missouri File # KC 44-760 - Hoff Hotel 23
 by SA GEORGE D. ADAMS : SS Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/16/68

RICHARD RUBLE, 1871 North Broadway, Springfield, Missouri, advised approximately one month ago he befriended a person by the name of LYNN RAY CLEVELAND, and has been trying to get rid of this individual ever since. RUBLE stated he was formerly a minister but has discontinued preaching inasmuch as he was convicted of mistreatment of his children and is currently on parole. RUBLE stated he could not furnish any information as to CLEVELAND's whereabouts on or about March 29 and 30 or his whereabouts on April 4, 1968. RUBLE stated his association with CLEVELAND was prior to either of these dates.

On 4/10/68 at Springfield, Missouri File# KC 44-760 - *Hot Sus 4*
 by SA GEORGE D. ADAMS : SS Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/16/68

MARY SHARP, Manager, One-Hour Martinizing Cleaners, 1838 North Glenstone, advised ticket number 2925 was issued to an individual with the last name CLEVELAND, and was taken in for cleaning between 5:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 4, 1968. The above ticket covered one white shirt, a tie, one suit coat and trousers. The above items were promised to be ready at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, April 5, 1968. Mrs. SHARP stated she was the one who received the items for cleaning and the items were still at their cleaning establishment at 1838 North Glenstone, Springfield, Missouri, unclaimed, to date. Mrs. SHARP stated she did not know whether she could definitely identify photograph of the person leaving the items for cleaning or not inasmuch as she has numerous customers.

On 4/10/68 at Springfield, Missouri File# KC 44-760 - 163 Lucas
 by SA GEORGE D. ADAMS : SS Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/16/68

Mrs. MILDRED WILSON, Librarian, Springfield, Missouri, Public Library, advised an individual using the name LYNN RAY CLEVELAND was issued a Springfield, Missouri, library card, number 7218575, date of issue not indicated. On this card CLEVELAND indicated a reference as Reverend JOHN RINDE, 2222 South Holland, telephone number TU1-2737. CLEVELAND indicated his occupation as a painter-IBM. Mrs. WILSON stated the original card was issued by Mrs. DORIS HUNGERFORD.

Mrs. WILSON reviewed all books currently outstanding from the Springfield, Missouri, library, which were signed out on April 4, 1968, and there was not a book issued for LYNN RAY CLEVELAND under library card number 7218575.

On 4/10/68 at Springfield, Missouri File# KC 44-760 - Hot Sus 6
 by SA GEORGE D. ADAMS : SS Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

4/16/68

Date _____

Records of Western Union, Springfield, Missouri, were made available on April 10, 1968, concerning the receipt of a telegraphic money order for LYNN CLEVELAND. These records indicate a telegram directed to LYNN CLEVELAND, in care of RICHARD RUBLE, 1871 Broadway, Springfield, Missouri, was received on March 29, 1968, telegraphing \$20.00. These records indicate individual claiming to be LYNN CLEVELAND, using a Springfield, Missouri, library card in this name for identification picked up the \$20.00 on April 3, 1968, at 9:45 p.m.

On 4/10/68 at Springfield, Missouri File # KC 44-760 - 165 Sub A 7
 by SA GEORGE D. ADAMS : SS Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/16/68

Reverend CLAUDE E. BARCLAY, 1727 Lee, Springfield, Missouri, advised CLEVELAND contacted him on two occasions at his home and it was quite apparent to him that CLEVELAND apparently had some mental difficulty. Reverend BARCLAY stated he did not know the dates of the above contacts but that they were prior to March 28, 1968, and to the best of his recollection they were approximately one month ago. On both of these occasions CLEVELAND indicated to him that he came in Springfield by bus and was a very nervous individual. Reverend BARCLAY stated he had not had any contact with CLEVELAND for approximately one month and could not furnish ~~any~~ information concerning CLEVELAND's recent activities.

On 4/10/68 at Springfield, Missouri File # KC 44-760 - 166 Sub 28
 by SA GEORGE D. ADAMS ^{ADW} : SS Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/16/68

Reverend TOM GEERS, 2019 East Walnut Street, advised he first had contact with LYNN CLEVELAND approximately four or five months ago, inasmuch as this individual contacted him indicating he did not have any money for meals or lodging. Reverend GEERS stated on this occasion he told CLEVELAND to come to his residence and they feed him a meal and allowed him to sleep at his residence overnight. GEERS stated he has observed CLEVELAND in the Springfield, Missouri, area on several occasions since this time and on each occasion he tried to avoid him. Reverend GEERS stated on March 26, 1968, he and his wife were shopping in a Springfield, Missouri, department store, at which time he observed LYNN CLEVELAND in the store and he pointed CLEVELAND out to his wife, but they did not contact CLEVELAND and did not have any conversation with him. Reverend GEERS stated other than the observation of CLEVELAND in the department store on March 26, 1968, he had not had any further contact with him. GEERS stated he could not furnish any information concerning CLEVELAND's whereabouts on March 29, 30, or April 4, 1968.

On 4/10/68 at Springfield, Missouri File # KC 44-760 - 167 Sub 29
 by SA GEORGE D. ADAMS : SS Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/16/68

KEN RAGSDALE, 411 West Colgate, Bolivar, Missouri, telephonically advised on April 5, 1968, at approximately 3:00 to 3:30 p.m. an individual using the name of LYNN CLEVELAND contacted his home in an effort to locate him and then contacted the Baptist church at Bolivar, Missouri, where he was located. RAGSDALE stated he is the minister of music for the Baptist Church in Bolivar, Missouri, and CLEVELAND was attempting to contact someone in the ministerial position in order to obtain a free meal. RAGSDALE stated he talked with this individual for a short period of time and pursuant to the policy of the ministerial alliance in Bolivar, Missouri, he contacted the hotel in Bolivar and made arrangements for them to furnish CLEVELAND with a meal. RAGSDALE stated he took CLEVELAND to the hotel at approximately 3:30 p.m. and he has not had any additional contact with him since this time.

On 4/10/68 at Springfield, Missouri File # KC 44-760 -169 Sub 10
 by SA GEORGE D. ADAMS : SS Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/16/68

Lieutenant RAY BENTON, Chief of Detectives, Springfield, Missouri, Police Department, advised LYNN RAY CLEVELAND was apprehended in connection with the investigation of a burglary at the Second Baptist Church on March 22, 1968. Lt. BENTON stated he ordered CLEVELAND released at approximately 7:00 a.m. the following day inasmuch as they had detained him for the allowed twenty hours on an open charge of investigation of burglary and the identification officer was not on duty and therefore CLEVELAND was not photographed. Lt. BENTON stated he could not furnish any information concerning CLEVELAND's activities after he was released shortly after 7:00 a.m. on March 23, 1968.

On 4/10/68 at Springfield, Missouri File # KC 44-760 - 169 Sub C 11
 by SA GEORGE D. ADAMS : SS Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/16/68

Lieutenant E. D. BROWN, Identification Officer, Springfield, Missouri, Police Department, advised their records indicate LYNN RAY CLEVELAND was arrested at 11:50 a.m. on March 22, 1968, on a charge of investigation for a burglary at the Second Baptist Church, Springfield, Missouri. Records indicated at time of his arrest he listed his address as Post Office Box 9263 Palmer, Texas, and he had a total of four cents in his possession. Lieutenant BROWN stated CLEVELAND was arrested in the vicinity of 2200 East Sunshine, Springfield, Missouri, and was released at 7:10 a.m. on March 23, 1968.

A review of their records indicate apparently CLEVELAND was not photographed.

On 4/10/68 at Springfield, Missouri File# KC 44-760 - 770 Sub A 12
 by SA GEORGE D. ADAMS : SS Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/16/68

IVA ROBBINS, Manager of the Mayfair Hotel, 412 1/2 South Jefferson Street, advised a review of their records failed to locate any guest registered at the Mayfair Hotel between March 15 and April 9, 1968, using the name LYNN RAY CLEVELAND.

On 4/10/68 at Springfield, Missouri File# KC 44-760 - 17 Sub C 13
by SA GEORGE D. ADAMS : SS Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

LYNN RAY CLEVELAND was contacted at the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, and prior to being interviewed, was advised of his rights as indicated on a duly executed warning and waiver form. He stated he had no objection to orally answering questions, and he was told he was being questioned due to the fact an individual had reported him as resembling an artist's conception of the assassin of Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., the artist's conception having recently appeared in a local newspaper.

CLEVELAND was questioned in the presence of Detective Captain WALTER FLENNER, Joplin, Missouri Police Department, and furnished the following information:

CLEVELAND stated he did not shoot the Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., nor had he been in Memphis, Tennessee or Birmingham, Alabama at any time during the past two weeks. He stated he was not aware that Reverend KING had been murdered until two or three days after the incident, when he recalled someone talking about it. He advised he could furnish no information whatsoever as to the murder.

As to his exact whereabouts on April 4, 1968, he advised he was a traveling Baptist minister and evangelistic singer, and did not maintain any permanent residence. He advised he was unemployed and knew of no way to verify his whereabouts at any time unless some minister recalled being in contact with him on a certain date. He noted that for the past two to three weeks he had been intermittently at Springfield, Missouri, and when arrested by the Joplin, Police Department, on April 9, 1968, was hitchhiking from Springfield, Missouri to Tulsa, Oklahoma. He recalled he spent the night of April 8, 1968, sleeping in a truck at the Queen City Truck Stop in Springfield, Missouri. Efforts were made to trace his whereabouts, and when he could not furnish any definite information as to times, dates and places, he admitted having formerly been an inmate at the Terrill State Hospital, Terrill, Texas, on three different occasions in 1965 and 1966. He stated he entered the hospital because of "nerves".

On 4/9/68 at Joplin, Missouri File # KC 44-760 *Sub Q-14*
 by SA ROBERT E. HICKAM:ENV Date dictated 4/13/68

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While he could not, in any way be exact, he vaguely recalled having left Springfield, Missouri during the latter part of March, 1968, and hitchhiked West. He noted, since he did not have any money, he normally contacted ministers at any town he was in, volunteering his services as a Baptist minister, and further noted he was an evangelistic singer and could play the piano at revival meetings. He stated this is the way he secured his food and enough money to live on.

On or about March 28, 1968, he recalled being in Kingman, Arizona, and in contact with individuals at the Assembly of God church. He believes he left Kingman, Arizona on or about March 28, 1968, hitchhiking back to Springfield, Missouri, and estimates arrival in Springfield, Missouri on or about April 4, 1968. After arriving in Springfield, he stated, to the best of his recollection, he spent the night at Hoff's Hotel on Olive Street in Springfield, Missouri. He stated the night before was spent at the Church Rectory somewhere in Oklahoma, exact location unrecalled.

When questioned as to the pamphlet in his possession, entitled "Is There Any Hope?" which bears the stamped address of The Southern Avenue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee, he advised he recalled having been in Memphis, Tennessee about one month ago and believed he stayed over-night at the bus station. He stated he was only passing through the area hitchhiking as he does continually, but believed he was in contact with a Catholic priest who bought him some breakfast at Memphis, Tennessee. He could not recall the name of the priest and knew of no one in Memphis who could verify this information. He noted he may have hitchhiked through Birmingham, Alabama a month or so ago, but did not stay overnight there and could furnish no information concerning anyone he might have contacted, or any place he might have stayed in Birmingham, Alabama.

CLEVELAND noted he had been in Springfield, Missouri more than any place else during the past several weeks, and while in Springfield, normally stayed at the YMCA, a small hotel across from the YMCA, the Midway Hotel, Calvary Mission, Hoff's Hotel, and the State Hotel. He could think of no other

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locations other than the Queen City Truck Stop, where he might have stayed in Springfield, Missouri. As to individuals with whom he was acquainted in Springfield, who might be able to furnish information pertaining to him, he furnished the following:

Reverend BARCLAY,
Northwest Baptist Church,
Springfield, Missouri;

Reverend TOM GEARS,
Pythian Street Baptist Church,
Springfield, Missouri;

RICHARD RUBLE,
1871 N. Broadway,
Springfield, Missouri.

CLEVELAND stated he presently had no room rented in Springfield, Missouri, and reiterated since he traveled continually, he had no way to positively establish his whereabouts on any given day.

As to prior arrests, he admitted having been arrested at Springfield, Missouri two or three weeks ago on a charge of investigation, and at Creve Coeur, Missouri, approximately one year ago; this also being on an investigation charge. He stated both arrests were because he had no personal identification on his person, or in his possession. As pertains to his having no identification, he stated his identification was stolen from him several months ago. He observed he also lost his glasses several months ago, and noted he is extremely near sighted.

CLEVELAND advised he left his home in Palmer, Texas in 1956 or 1957, and had not returned to Palmer, Texas at any time during the past year. He advised during the past year he had continually been on the road and the only place he had lived more than a few days at a time was at St. Louis Missouri where he resided at 2337 Whitmore Place, and was acquainted with one JIM FISHBACK who resided at that address. He stated he had not been in St. Louis, Missouri during the past month, and therefore no one in that area could furnish any information as to his whereabouts on a given date during the past two weeks.

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CLEVELAND advised he recalled leaving a suitcase at the Greyhound Bus Station in Springfield, Missouri about one month ago, and doubted if the suitcase was still there. He noted this contained personal clothing and he knew of no other clothing he had stored at any location.

The following description of CLEVELAND was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	LYNN RAY CLEVELAND
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of birth	
Place of birth	Palmer, Texas
Height	5'11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Weight	155 pounds
Build	Slender
Hair	Brown (receding and thin)(long sideburns)
Eyes	Blue
Scars and marks	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch horizontal scar, right upper arm; 3 inch scar inside left forearm.
(permanent)	
Home Address	701 Main Street, Palmer, Texas
Parents	Mr. and Mrs. GARLAND FRANCIS CLEVELAND, 701 Main Street, Palmer, Texas.
Education	Claims lacked three months receiving BA Degree at Baylor University, Waco, Texas
Occupation	Baptist minister and evangelistic singer
Marital status	Single
Military Service	None
Miscellaneous	Claims formerly confined at Terrill State Hospital, Terrill, Texas during 1965 and 1966.

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After furnishing the above information, and being unable to furnish any definite information as to his whereabouts on any given date during the past two weeks, CLEVELAND was contacted by Reverend BILLY MAX WUELLNER, Baxter, Springs, Kansas, who identified CLEVELAND as having been at his church at 2:30 PM on April 3, 1968. When Reverend WUELLNER related the incidents to CLEVELAND, he was able to recall same, and recalled that he left Baxter Springs, Kansas, hitchhiking to Springfield, Missouri. His memory refreshed, he recalled he arrived in Springfield on the night of April 3, 1968, where he obtained \$20 at the Western Union Office, this money having been there approximately four or five days. The money was sent to him at his request from his father in Palmer, Texas. He noted he apparently left Springfield, Missouri prior to the money arriving there, and further recalled after he received the \$20, he stayed the night of April 3, 1968 at the State Hotel. To the best of his recollection, he stayed in Springfield, Missouri the next day and more than likely would have been in contact with RICHARD RUBLE, 1871 N. Broadway.

To the best of his recollection, he stayed the night of April 4, 1968 at the Hoff's Hotel. As to his whereabouts on March 29, 1968 and March 30, 1968, he could only state he was probably hitchhiking from Kingman, Arizona to Springfield, Missouri.

CLEVELAND's attention was called to the One-Hour Martinizing receipt in his possession which bore the notation "Promised Friday, 9:00 AM", and he was able to recall that he had some clothing at that establishment and he felt certain he would have placed the clothing there the day before, on a Thursday, April 4, 1968.

CLEVELAND was questioned as to the key in his possession when arrested and he stated, to the best of his knowledge, this possibly was a key to a locker at the Greyhound Bus Station, Springfield, Missouri, where he placed his clothing over a month ago. He noted he attempted to obtain the clothing from the locker, but the key no longer would fit the locker. He felt this was because the locker had been sealed due to the fact he had kept the key longer than the time allowed.

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Based upon above information, CLEVELAND stated he feels certain he would have been in Springfield, Missouri on April 4, 1968. He advised he would definitely state he was not in Memphis, Tennessee on that date, and that he had not been in Memphis, Tennessee or Birmingham, Alabama for at least one month. He observed that after his memory had been refreshed as to where he was, at a given time, that he was able to recall his actions immediately after leaving Baxter Springs, Kansas.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

Detective Captain WALTER FLENNER, Joplin, Missouri Police Department, furnished the following information:

On April 10, 1968, LYNN RAY CLEVELAND appeared in Municipal Court, Joplin, and pled guilty to a charge of Vagrancy. On April 10, 1968, CLEVELAND was sentenced to three days in the City Jail.

On April 10, 1968, one Reverend KEN RAGSDALE, Bolivar, Missouri, telephonically contacted Captain FLENNER and stated he recalled serving dinner to CLEVELAND on April 5, 1968 at approximately 3:30 PM at Bolivar, Missouri. Reverend RAGSDALE telephonically contacted the Police Department due to news accounts pertaining to the arrest of CLEVELAND. Captain FLENNER advised he did not secure any additional information from Reverend RAGSDALE, however, it was his opinion CLEVELAND had appeared in Bolivar, Missouri without funds, and sought assistance through the local ministers at Bolivar, Missouri.

On 4/10/68 at Joplin, Missouri File # KC 44-760 Sub 15
 by SA ROBERT E. HICKAM:ENV Date dictated 4/13/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

A review of the personal property in the possession of LYNN RAY CLEVELAND, when arrested by the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, revealed he had the following items on his person.

1. One five-cent piece.
2. One black billfold, containing the following items:
 - a. Receipt #2925 from One-Hour Martinizing, 1838 N. Glenstone, Springfield, Missouri, with notation "Promised Friday, 9:00 AM".
 - b. Small religious pamphlet, entitled "Is There Any Hope?"; bearing stamp "Southern Avenue Baptist Church, 3084 Southern Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee" "Dial-A-Devotion 323-2653". This pamphlet published by Faith, Prayer and Tract League, Grand Rapids, Michigan.
 - d. Library card #72 18575 in the name of LYNN R. CLEVELAND, 1870 N. Broadway, for the Public Libraries of Springfield and Greene County, Missouri.
 - e. Card bearing the printed notation Kirkwood Hotel, Kirkwood 22, Missouri, and the hand printed telephone number TH1-9791.
 - f. Identification card, First Assembly of God, 528 E. Main, Norman, Oklahoma, Reverend B. R. BRUMMETT, Pastor.
 - g. Identification card, Central Presbyterian Church, 20th and Arch Street, Little Rock, Arkansas.

On 4/9/68 at Joplin, Missouri File # KC 44-760 Sub C 16
 by SA ROBERT E. HICKAM:ENV Date dictated 4/13/68

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- h. Identification card, GEORGE BRITTAIN, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Grants, New Mexico.
- i. Slip of paper containing the names LARRY HAYNES, RICHARD OLIVER, Missionary Pastor, 49 E. 15th Street.
- j. Slip of paper containing the name JERRY C. MURPHY, 806 N.W. 45th Street, Des Moines, Iowa.
- k. Identification card, American National Red Cross, St. Louis, bi-State Chapter, 212 E. Lockwood Avenue, Webster Groves, Missouri. This card contains the name ROSEMARY GAEBLER, Service To Military Families, printed in the lower left corner of the face of the card. The reverse side of this card contains the handwriting, Travelers Aid, Greyhound Bus Depot, 809 N. Broadway.
- l. Identification card, Haley Motor Company, Inc., 3rd and Marquette, N.W., Albuquerque, New Mexico. The hand-printed name GLEN SKIPWORTH appears on face of card.
- m. Social Security Application card in the name LYNN RAY CLEVELAND, Social Security Number [REDACTED] The card issued on January 2, 1968 for twenty-one days. Under the address of Social Security Office is address 907 Walnut (no city), telephone #FR4-2263.
- n. One key, bearing numbers 806 and 074233.
- o. Slip of paper containing the hand printed name BILL WILLIAMS, LA 1-5341, Dallas; and the name Rev. CLYDE BOX, Brookhollow Bapt., DeSoto, Texas.

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- p. Slip of paper containing printed name and handwritten name ROBERT BECKS - Baptist.
- q. Slip of paper containing the hand printed name Reverend PAB MYERS, Box 253, Courtland, Alabama.
- r. Identification card, Mills Hotel, 442 N. Union Avenue, Ozark, Alabama, showing Mr. and Mrs. E. E. TIDWELL as managers.
- s. Weekly Gold Pass #11656, for the week of January 22 through 28, 1968, transit Bi-State System, good for free transportation service in Missouri-Illinois central fare area.
- t. Identification card, Calvary Temple Assembly of God, Springfield, Missouri, S. H. ROBINSON, Pastor.
- u. Guest card on Good Shepherd Refuge, 601 2nd Street, Albuquerque, New Mexico. This card is stamped December 18, 1967, and notes one LYNN R. CLEVELAND, St. Louis, Missouri, occupied bed #1-4 on December 4, 1967. The name Brother "EDWARDS" appears on the face of this card.
- v. Identification card Northvale Baptist Church, Durand Avenue, Harrison, Arkansas, J. A. KUHN, Pastor.
- w. Identification card, Dr. WILLIAM C. REED, Podiatrist, Suite 1405-A, The Stevens Building, 17 N. State, Chicago 2, Illinois.
- x. Guest card, Good Shepherd Refuge, 601 2nd Street, Albuquerque, New Mexico, showing LYNN R. CLEVELAND occupied bed #13, on November 21, 1967. The name Brother "GREGORY" appears on the face of this card.

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A Thermofax record was made of the front and reverse sides of all above items, copies of which have been retained.

3. Three pamphlets on the Shepherd of the Hills Farm, Branson, Missouri (no dates or notations thereon).
4. One Standard Service Station map of the United States and Eastern United States (no notations, addresses or dates thereon).
5. CLEVELAND, when arrested, was wearing blue pants, short sleeved white shirt, brown loafers, black socks, one blue suit coat (did not match pants), one blue tie, one dark color tweed coat, and a belt. All clothing was old and well worn.
6. One gold color safety razor, found in pocket of coat.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

Reverend BILLY MAX WUELLNER, Bethel Community Church, 21st and Military Avenue, Baxter Springs, Kansas, voluntarily appeared at the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, and furnished the following information:

On Wednesday, April 3, 1968, at approximately 2:30 PM, he attended a church board meeting at the Blue Castle Restaurant in Baxter Springs, Kansas. Around 1:45 PM, he was sitting in his church office, and LYNN RAY CLEVELAND walked into his office, unannounced, stating he wanted to rest and play the piano. He also requested a prayer session and during their brief conversation, CLEVELAND indicated he had been in a mental institution. He stated he was en route to Springfield, Missouri to contact a friend. CLEVELAND was observed to be hitchhiking and was not accompanied by anyone.

He indicated he had been on the road for approximately five days, and Reverend WUELLNER observed CLEVELAND did not have any luggage, however, was carrying a dark color tweed top-coat. He left the church office shortly before 2:30 PM, indicating he was hitchhiking to Springfield, Missouri. Reverend WUELLNER advised he could furnish no further information except to state this was the only time he had observed CLEVELAND, and further noted CLEVELAND could play the piano quite well.

Reverend WUELLNER personally confronted CLEVELAND at the City Jail in Joplin, Missouri on the night of April 9, 1968, and positively identified CLEVELAND as being the individual referred to above. He conversed with CLEVELAND, and stated there was absolutely no doubt in his mind whatever as to CLEVELAND being the individual referred to above; nor was there any doubt in his mind as to the fact he left the church shortly before 2:30 PM on April 3, 1968, as he, Reverend WUELLNER went directly from the church to his board meeting at the Blue Castle Restaurant.

Reverend WUELLNER added he could furnish no additional information and knew of no background data regarding CLEVELAND.

On 4/9/68 at Joplin, Missouri File # KC 44-760
 by SA ROBERT E. HICKAM:ENV Date dictated 4/13/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

On April 10, 1968, fingerprints and palm prints were obtained from LYNN RAY CLEVELAND at the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, and retained as possible evidence.

While being printed, it was observed that CLEVELAND was very near sighted, having to squint and move his eyes close to a sheet of paper to read any normal printing or handwriting.

On 4/10/68 at Joplin, Missouri File # KC 44-760 *Sub 18*
 by *[Signature]* SA ROBERT E. HICKAM:ENV Date dictated 4/13/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

Mr. and Mrs. GARLAND CLEVELAND, 701 Main Street, Palmer, Texas, arrived at the Joplin, Missouri Police Department to assume custody of their son, LYNN RAY CLEVELAND.

Mr. CLEVELAND, who stated he had been manager of the Barron Brick Company, Palmer, Texas, for the past 32 years, furnished the following information:

His son, LYNN RAY CLEVELAND, was born on [] at Palmer, Texas. His son is an ordained Baptist minister, having been ordained at Palmer, Texas. Approximately seven or eight years ago LYNN RAY CLEVELAND suffered a nervous breakdown and lacked only three months graduating from Baylor University. After suffering the nervous break-down, his son lost his church, and began a rather unstable existence with no permanent employment. He was placed in the Terrill State Hospital, Terrill, Texas, on three different occasions, during 1965 and 1966 due to his break-down and general mental condition. During the first part of 1967, his son walked away from the hospital and for the past year had been away from home, and apparently traveling over the country with no permanent residence or employment. He noted his son had not been in Palmer, Texas for the past year, and they in no way could verify his whereabouts on any given day during the past two weeks. He stated his son had never been known to carry a gun, and was considered completely harmless.

Mr. CLEVELAND noted the last word they had from their son was on or about March 26, 1968, when they received a Western Union Telegram from him requesting \$20 be sent to him at 1871 N. Broadway, Springfield, Missouri in care of RICHARD RUBLE. They sent this \$20 on March 29, 1968, from Ennis, Texas and had not seen or heard from LYNN RAY CLEVELAND since receiving the telegram. They advised this was not unusual as this was the only time they had contact with their son, that being when he needed money, and would either send them a telegram or telephone them, requesting same.

Mr. CLEVELAND stated their son had never been married, nor had he ever been in the Military Service.

On 4/10/68 at Joplin, Missouri File# KC 44-760 Sub A-19
 by SA ROBERT E. HICKAM:ENV Date dictated 4/13/68

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KC 44-760

Mr. CLEVELAND advised he was extremely upset, due to the publicity the arrest of his son had received. He stated he had already contacted an attorney and planned on suing the responsible persons for the news releases which had indicated that his son had been arrested as a suspect in the slaying of the Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mr. CLEVELAND was advised that his son was not in Federal custody, had not been arrested by the FBI, nor had any comment been made by the FBI at Joplin, Missouri, to any news media whatever.

Mr. CLEVELAND was interviewed in the presence of ADRIAN MEACHAM, Chief of Police, Joplin, Missouri.

On the evening of April 10, 1968, LYNN RAY CLEVELAND was released in custody of his father, GARLAND CLEVELAND for travel back to Palmer, Texas.

Mr. CLEVELAND advised that if it was necessary to contact his son in the future, contact could be made through him at Palmer, Texas.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

4/17/68

Date _____

Officer D. A. MC AFEE, Joplin, Missouri Police Department, furnished the following information:

At 4:24 PM, on April 9, 1968, he was instructed by the Police Dispatcher to contact one VIRGINIA UHLER, Corral Motel, 3040 E. 7th Street, for information concerning a hitchhiker. He requested the description of the hitchhiker, and en route to the Corral Motel, observed a hitchhiker at 18th and Range Line. He checked this individual for information as to his identity and ascertained he was one LYNN R. CLEVELAND. He left the individual on the highway and proceeded to the Corral Motel, and contacted VIRGINIA UHLER, Manager of the motel.

Mrs. UHLER stated LYNN R. CLEVELAND had walked into the motel office and inquired as to directions to Tulsa, Oklahoma. While he was in the motel office, she had the television on, at which time a broadcast was being made of the MARTIN LUTHER KING funeral procession. CLEVELAND inquired as to whether or not it was the MARTIN LUTHER KING funeral, and according to UHLER, CLEVELAND appeared to be very interested in the television broadcast. After CLEVELAND departed, she telephonically contacted the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, as she felt CLEVELAND resembled an artist's conception of the individual who was being sought for the killing of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. She observed this artist's conception was recently published in the Joplin Globe Newspaper.

Due to the fact MC AFEE had not observed the artist's conception in the newspaper, he requested assistance to further check out the hitchhiker, and was assisted by officer B. W. FORNEY.

Officers FORNEY and MC AFEE arrested LYNN RAY CLEVELAND while he was hitchhiking at 31st and Range Line, and at the time of arrest, all that CLEVELAND had in his possession for identification was a library card on a Springfield, Missouri library. He also had a torn Social Security application card which was barely legible, showing Social Security Number CLEVELAND stated he was en route to Tulsa,

On 4/9/68 at Joplin, Missouri File# KC 44-760 *Sub A 20*
 by *[Signature]* SA ROBERT E. HICKAM:ENV Date dictated 4/13/68

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KC 44-760

Oklahoma from Springfield, Missouri, and had been traveling around in Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, and Tennessee. Found in his possession was one piece of religious material with the address, Memphis, Tennessee stamped on the back, which he stated he obtained from a bus station. At the time of arrest, CLEVELAND was carrying a top-coat, sports coat, and had a tie in his pocket.

It was observed CLEVELAND fit the description of the artist's conception which had appeared in the Joplin Globe, and he was therefore taken to the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, and booked on a charge of "Hold for Investigation - Homicide other cities".

At time of arrest, CLEVELAND had only five cents in his possession, and a billfold containing numerous cards from various churches.

When booked at the City Jail, CLEVELAND furnished the following information:

Name	LYNN RAY CLEVELAND
Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	33 years
Date of birth	
Place of birth	Palmer, Texas
Height	5'11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Weight	157 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Build	Slender
Complexion	Medium
Occupation	Musician
Father,	G. T. CLEVELAND Box 9263, Palmer, Texas
Marital status	Single
Address	2387 Witmore Place, St. Louis, Missouri

KC 44-760

CLEVELAND was booked in at the City Jail at 4:50 PM, to be questioned further by Detective Captain WALTER FLENNER.

Officer MC AFEE noted that neither he nor Officer FORNEY had any information whatever linking CLEVELAND with the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., other than the fact CLEVELAND resembled the artist's conception of KING's assassin as set forth above.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

Detective Captain WALTER FLENNER, Joplin, Missouri Police Department, furnished the following information:

One LYNN RAY CLEVELAND was arrested by officers of the Joplin Police Department on April 9, 1968, and booked in the City Jail on charge of "Hold for Investigation - Homicide Other Cities". He advised the basis for the arrest was the fact some woman had observed CLEVELAND hitchhiking and felt he resembled the artist's conception of the slayer of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., which recently appeared in the local newspaper.

Captain FLENNER advised there was no other information and no evidence linking CLEVELAND with the slaying of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

On 4/9/68 at Joplin, Missouri File # KC 44-760 *Sub A 21*
 by *RE* SA ROBERT E. HICKAM:ENV Date dictated 4/13/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/18/68

Mrs. VIRGINIA E. UHLER, Owner and Manager, Corral Motel, 3040 East 7th Street, furnished the following information:

On the evening of April 9, 1968, an unknown individual, later identified as LYNN RAY CLEVELAND, walked in to her motel office and requested directions to the Tulsa, Oklahoma Turnpike. She furnished him the directions, and he then asked a question pertaining to the program that was on the television set in the motel office. She recalled at the time there was a program concerning the funeral procession of Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and CLEVELAND inquired if the program was about KING's funeral. She then recalled CLEVELAND making some sort of comment that not only KING, but BILLY GRAHAM, should devote more of their time toward other things than their own religious purposes. She stated she could not directly quote him, but felt he meant that no one should become wrapped up in their own thoughts to the exclusion of all other matters.

She stated CLEVELAND was alone, did not ask for any handouts, and she did not observe him carrying any luggage.

Mrs. UHLER advised he stayed in the motel office less than ten minutes and when he left the motel, she telephonically contacted the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, as she felt CLEVELAND resembled the artist's conception of KING's slayer which recently appeared in the local newspaper. She advised she had absolutely no reason at all to suspect CLEVELAND other than the fact he resembled the artist's conception, and he made no comment whatever indicating he had been in Memphis, Tennessee, or any comment even remotely indicating he was connected with the murder of Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mrs. UHLER advised she did recall CLEVELAND mentioning he was hitchhiking. This was the only time she had ever observed this person who was later identified as LYNN RAY CLEVELAND.

On 4/16/68 at Joplin, Missouri File# KC 44-760 *Sub Add*
 by *[Signature]* SA ROBERT E. HICKAM - lw Date dictated 4/17/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/25/68

Mr. M. J. STEWART, Treasurer, Missouri State Penitentiary (inmates' accounts), stated money orders had been received by JAMES EARL RAY at the Missouri State Penitentiary as follows:

<u>1963</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Sender</u>
February 20	\$ 35.00	JOHN RAY, 1807 Galle, St. Louis, Missouri
April 16	65.00	"
May 23	25.00	JERRY RAY, Box 337, Glenview, Illinois
June 19	50.00	PHILLIP L. BAKER, 516 Guitar Building Columbia, Missouri
June 19	50.00	JOHN RAY, 1807 Galle St. Louis, Missouri
July 10	15.00	JERRY RAY, Box 337, Glenview, Illinois
August 15	1.00	West Publishing Company St. Paul, Minnesota
August 20	30.00	JERRY RAY, Box 337, Glenview, Illinois
August 28	35.00	JERRY RAY, 1713 Lafayette St. Louis, Missouri
<u>1964</u>		
January 3	5.00	Mrs. M. FULLER, 2601 Chestnut, Quincy, Illinois

On 4/24/68 at Jefferson City, Missouri File# KC 44-760 *Sub A-23*
 by SA ROWEN B. AYERS *RA* (lib) Date dictated 4/24/68

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KC 44-760

<u>(1964)</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Sender</u>
January 13	1.50 (return draft)	Circuit Court St. Louis, Missouri
February 17	1.00 (return draft)	West Publishing Company St. Paul, Minnesota
March 25	10.00	Mrs. MARY MAHER, 1324 Lami, St. Louis, Mo.
May 27	40.00	JERRY RAY, Box 269 Glenview, Illinois
July 9	15.00	JERRY RAY, Box 93 Flossmarr, Illinois
August 31	20.00	JERRY RAY, 1324 Lami, St. Louis, Mo.
December 24	10.00	Mrs. M. FULLER, 2601 Chestnut, Quincy, Illinois
<u>1965</u>		
March 11	1.00	JERRY RAY, Box 82, Wheeling, Illinois
April 5	4.50	JERRY RAY, Box 82 Wheeling, Illinois
May 18	8.50	JERRY RAY, 1819 Park Ave., St. Louis, Missouri
June 14	8.50	JERRY RAY, 1819 Park Ave., St. Louis, Missouri
August 11	1.50	JERRY RAY, Box 22, Wheeling, Illinois
September 1	13.50	JERRY RAY, Box 22, Wheeling, Illinois
December 8	1.50	JERRY RAY, Box 22, Wheeling, Illinois

KC 44-760

(1965)
December 20

\$ 10.00

MABEL FULLER,
2601 Chestnut,
Quincy, Illinois

1966
February 10

1.00

JERRY RAY, Box 22
Wheeling, Illinois

March 24

8.50

"

April 1

8.50

"

May 17

3.50

"

May 27

10.00

"

July 7

4.50

Circuit Court
St. Louis, Missouri

August 18

6.75

JERRY RAY, Box 22,
Wheeling, Illinois

December 20

5.00

MARY MAHER,
1819 Park,
St. Louis, Missouri

December 20

5.00

JERRY RAY, Box 22,
Wheeling, Illinois

1967
February 3

15.00

JOHN RAY, 2010 Shenandoah
St. Louis, Missouri



West Publishing Company • 50 W. Kellogg Blvd., P.O. Box 3526, St. Paul, MN 55165 Tel: 612/228-2500

May, 1978

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/24/68

Mr. HAROLD SWENSON, Warden, Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, furnished the cell assignments of JAMES EARL RAY and RAYMOND LEWIS CURTIS.

RAY was in the penitentiary from March 17, 1960 to April 23, 1967, when he escaped.

He occupied the following cells:

April 12, 1960 - July 28, 1960	B-24
July 28, 1960 - March 15, 1961	K-178
March 13, 1961 - November 22, 1961	K-118
November 22, 1961 - May 25, 1962	E-224
May 25, 1962 - June 8, 1962	B-16
June 8, 1962 - July 23, 1962	E-66
July 23, 1962 - August 10, 1962	K-15
August 10, 1962 - August 15, 1962	K-161
August 15, 1962 - March 8, 1963	K-168
March 8, 1963-- October 22, 1965	K-172
October 22, 1965 - December 16, 1965	K-2
December 16, 1965 - March 4, 1966	J-42
March 4, 1966 - March 14, 1966	CB-6
March 14, 1966 - June 11, 1966	BB-9
June 11, 1966 - September 8, 1966	State Hospital #1
October 21, 1966	Returned
November 17, 1966	C-17
November 17, 1966 - January 18, 1967	C-17
January 18, 1967 - April 23, 1967	K-135.

RAYMOND LEWIS CURTIS, #04849, served from May 15, 1962 to June 27, 1966, when he was paroled. He occupied the following cells:

June 21, 1962 - June 29, 1962	C-46
June 29, 1962 - July 1, 1962	C-45
July 1, 1962 - July 19, 1964	J-134
July 19, 1964 - September 5, 1964	C-60
September 5, 1964 - September 24, 1964	C-58
September 24, 1964 - September 26, 1964	F-6
September 26, 1964 - January 3, 1966	F-40
January 3, 1966 - June 27, 1966	F-3

On 4/22/68 at Jefferson City, Missouri File # KC 44-760 *Sus A 2K*

by WCM IC WILLIAM C. MC DONALD - MD Date dictated 4/23/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

4/24/68

Date _____

JEROME (NMN) CARPENTER, Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP) #0304, serving life for murder from June 15, 1961, stated he has been confined and has worked in the psychiatric section of the prison. He said he has known JAMES EARL RAY in prison since about 1963, but does not know him well. He said he used to live in Quincy, Illinois and attended school with JERRY RAY, brother of JAMES. He said he knew the father of the RAY boys as JERRY RAY. He recalled that when he was about 15 years of age, his mother ran away with JERRY RAY and went to St. Louis, Missouri. He said they separated about two years ago and his mother moved back to Quincy and lives at 630 North 6th Street. He did not know what happened to JERRY RAY. He said his mother also wrote to him from 1818 South 12th Street in St. Louis, Missouri. She used the name of RUBY CARPENTER and RUBY RAY and worked as an inspectress at various hotels such as the Jefferson, Coronado and the Park Plaza in St. Louis.

He said he knew JIMMY CARPENTER who left the penitentiary some time ago. He said he did not know if this CARPENTER knew JAMES RAY or not. JEROME CARPENTER said he only saw the mother of JAMES RAY once and that was when she came to the home of his grandmother to find out what happened to her husband and his mother.

He said he heard of RAY escaping from the penitentiary but did not know the details. He said RAY was a quiet, meek person who was very soft spoken. He said he rarely saw RAY in the penitentiary and did not know him in Quincy, Illinois. He said he could furnish no information as to the whereabouts of RAY.

On 4/22/68 at Jefferson City, Missouri File # KC 44-760 *Sub A 25*
 by SA ROWEN B. AYERS : SSC Date dictated 4/23/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/24/68

Dr. D. B. PETERSON, MD, Superintendent of State Hospital Number One, Fulton Missouri, advised that JAMES EARL RAY was confined in the maximum security unit of the hospital for mental evaluation from September 8 to October 21, 1966. He said mental evaluation was requested by RAY'S attorney after the latter had been charged with attempting to escape (within the walls) of the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri.

Dr. PETERSON furnished a negative of photo taken of RAY. He also furnished a letter written to the hospital by RAY in his handwriting.

Dr. PETERSON likewise furnished a diagnostic evaluation of RAY. He explained that this item is confidential, and the contents thereof can be made available only by subpoena duces tecum which should be addressed to him.

On 4/19/68 at Fulton, Missouri File # KC 44-760 Sub A 26
 by SA ROWEN B. AYERS - MD Date dictated 4/21/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/24/68

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

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

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

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

On 4/22/68 at Jefferson City, Missouri File # KC 44-760-100 *Sub A 27*
 by SA ROWEN B. AYERS : SSC Date dictated 4/23/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/24/68

Mr. BEN GOODIN, Salesman, Schantzmeier Ford, Southwest Blvd., Jefferson City, Missouri, advised that he formerly was chef at the Missouri State Penitentiary and knew JIMMY RAY well, actually being his boss for about six years. He said RAY was a good friend of a blond inmate by the name of DOWDA. He said DOWDA hated Negroes. He said that sometime about a year ago, DOWDA came through Jefferson City driving a Volkswagen. He stopped to see GOODIN and had a female with him he introduced as his wife. He told GOODIN he had a Mustang and his father operated a resort in Florida and he was manager of a chicken fry cafe in either Atlanta, Georgia, or Montgomery, Alabama. He asked GOODIN not to indicate to his wife that he had been in the "pen".

GOODIN said that sometime later DOWDA telephoned him from California, and said that he needed money and asked GOODIN to send him some. He refused, and DOWDA called a second time and GOODIN refused. He said he has not heard from him since.

GOODIN stated that since DOWDA was a "racist" that he might be an accomplice of RAY in the murder of Doctor KING. He also thought that both RAY and DOWDA were mixed up in "peddling dope" in the penitentiary, but he could never prove it. He said DOWDA had a detainer from Florida which was dropped. He said he knew RAY wanted to escape and he "killed" a request by RAY for a transfer to a farm because of this. He said RAY was "strictly a loner" and very quiet. He knew of no personal feelings on the part of RAY in connection with Negroes. He knew of no other close friends RAY may have had.

On 4/21/68 at Jefferson City, Missouri File # KC 44-760 Sub A-28
 by SA ROWEN B. AYERS : pe Date dictated 4/23/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/24/68

ORLAN EUGENE ROSE, Inmate No. 73723, Missouri State Penitentiary, said he first came to the Missouri State Penitentiary in 1958. He said he first met RAY in jail at Kansas City, Missouri in 1955, and celled with him and WALTER RIFE prior to the time that all three went to Leavenworth, Kansas. He said RIFE may have been a homosexual as he liked to fool around with young boys, but he said at the Jackson County Jail, Leavenworth, and Jefferson City, Missouri, RAY gave no indication of abnormal sexual behavior.

He described RAY as quiet, a loner, and "not a loud mouth". He could not picture RAY, he said, as being vicious. He said RAY liked to follow baseball. He said they both lived in K Hall and associated together. He said they talked every day. He said RAY "did not fool" with as many as five men in the penitentiary. He said RAY used amphetamines when he could get them. He paid from \$2.00 to \$5.00 a shot. He did not get into debt and did not gamble.

He said he was in maximum security when RAY escaped and knew nothing of the details. He said the rumor inside is that RAY did not escape in a bread truck, but he had no information as to how he did escape.

He said RAY has a half-sister in St. Louis, Missouri with his mother. He said RAY did not like his mother as she left him and started living with an ex-convict out of Illinois. He said RAY has a brother and some half brothers. He believed his mother is living and re-married after the ex-convict died. She may have had some property "which she lived up".

ROSE said the inmates call him "The Jew" in the penitentiary, but he said RAY was "tighter" with his money than ROSE. He said he could not imagine RAY spending any money for dancing lessons or leaving a gun behind him someplace because of this characteristic.

ROSE said he did not know any RAYMOND LEWIS CURTIS, nor did he know of this person as an associate of RAY's.

On 4/22/68 at Jefferson City, Missouri File# KC 44-760 *Sub A-29*
 by SA ROWEN B. AYERS - lw Date dictated 4/23/68

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KC 44-760

On April 22, 1968, Warden HAROLD SWENSON, in addition to furnishing a copy of the entire files of the Missouri State Penitentiary, furnished an article handed to him on April 22, 1968 by ORLAN ROSE which is:

KC 44-760

Warden Swenson:

Would you look the attached article over and consider turning it over to a reporter of the Kansas City Star newspaper. I have a feeling that Jimmy Ray might give himself up if he happens to read what I have written. If you do release the article I give you full permission to reword it as you see fit as long as it contains the same line of thought.

There is a possibility that he might get killed before it is ever learned whether or not he is actually guilty of ~~shooting~~ shooting Doctor King. If this would happen, it would be another Oswald case in the eyes of the world.

If you do not think it appropriate to release this article to the news media, just tear it up, however, knowing Jimmy as I do there is a very faint possibility that he would give himself up if he were to read what I have written. I am sure that he will be reading either the K.C. Star or the St. Louis papers wherever he is.

The above & the attached ⁴¹⁻²²⁻⁶⁴ 4-page statement handed to Capt. Wyzick by Orlean Rose-73723, then to me - JRS

"IF JAMES EARL RAY IS GUILTY, WHO IS REALLY TO BLAME?"

"For quite a number of years I have been one of the very few close friends of James Earl Ray. Because of this I would like to say a few things about him since everyone else who discusses him reveals that he is either anti-social, a loner, an escape artist, seeks recognition, etc. If this sort of unfavorable publicity continues to be brought out against him there is a very good chance that he might end up like Lee Harvey Oswald without ever having been given a chance to prove his innocence or guilt before a trial court. If this happens it will be a disgrace in the eyes of the world and bring about the same amount of doubt and criticism that arose after Oswald was killed in cold blood by a fanatic who decided to take the law into his own hands.

I first met Jimmy in the Kansas City jail during 1955 where he was being held on a forgery charge. His accomplice on the forgery charge was another man named Walter Rife and we all three lived in the same cell together and passed many hours shooting the breeze while playing three-handed card games for candy bars. Jimmy loved candy bars and always managed to win his share.

On one of our several trips to the federal courthouse, prior to our sentencing, we were taken in the same group. Jimmy's fall partner, Rife, was facing a parole violation or detainer of some sort from the state of Illinois and planned to escape if the proper situation arose. On our trip to the courthouse, a chance did come up by means of a unlocked door in the holdover room which led to a hallway or stairs. Rife begged Jimmy to leave with him through the unlocked door, but Jimmy quashed the deal by saying that all he wanted to do was to plead guilty to the forgery and get his sentence served. I mention this reluctance to escape on Jimmy's part because everyone always brings up that he was continually trying to escape custody. This is not so. I will explain what I think to be the real reason behind his later escape attempts while he was serving the twenty year sentence, but first I would like to point out a few things about Jimmy Ray's personality that have never been mentioned by anyone up to the present time.

Eventually, we all three ended up in the federal prison at Leavenworth, Kansas where our friendship continued. Rife went to work in the

prison hospital and lifted weights during his off duty hours while Jimmy and I either walked the yard or watched the ball games together. It is true that Jimmy is sort of a loner, but this is not unusual in a penitentiary. Being a loner doesn't mean that he didn't have many friends. Jimmy always wore a smile and laughed softly at the various occurrences during our time together in jail and while we were at Leavenworth. His friendly smile alone made him many friends and got him many greetings, but he just wasn't one to mix or join a group bull session as is most usually the case in jail or prison. He would rather stroll around the yard with one or two persons and discuss clothes, travel, baseball, or the enjoyment he got while working as a painter just prior to his arrest. It must have been one of the best paying jobs he ever had because he was always talking about it. If I remember correctly, I believe him and Rife lived in the Pickwick Hotel during the time they both worked for the painting contractor. He liked nice clothes and was always very neatly dressed during his court appearances. He would sometimes mention his brother, but I never heard him ever mention his mother or father in any of our conversations. I took it for granted that he had not been blessed with many luxuries while growing up. He was very saving with the few dollars he was able to obtain while serving time, in fact, I often accused him of being a miser. Somehow he was able to smuggle a wristwatch into the jail at Kansas City and he was so proud of it that I actually believe it was the first wristwatch he ever owned. He did not want to part with it for anything, however, he finally did so because he learned that he could not possibly take it into the prison at Leavenworth with him. I ended up with the watch and passed it on to my brother, but only after having paid Jimmy a much higher price than is usual in jail. Up until I left him at Leavenworth, he was one of my best friends and he was always a very enjoyable person to be around.

When I again met him in 1960 at the Missouri State Penitentiary, he had aged a great deal, he lacked his usual smile, and his whole demeanor seemed to be changed. He was very withdrawn and it took quite a number of conversations before he finally opened up to me and told me why he felt so bad. We were both assigned jobs in the Food Service Department. He worked upstairs in the Bakery and I worked on the bottom

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floor where he would deliver bread each weekday for outside delivery. We both lived on the same tier in K Cellhouse and would often talk with each other after our jobs were over. It was during these conversations that I finally learned what I think to be the main reason behind his personality change. He told me that two police officers had framed him on the robbery charge he was serving the twenty years on. He swore up and down that he was innocent of the crime, but that he did not have the money to hire lawyers to prove his innocence or carry his case into the United States Supreme Court. I later learned that the two police officers were not above planting evidence in order to convict an exconvict, and that their conscience must have bothered them because they both resigned from the police force shortly after Jimmy was convicted. Anyway, Jimmy made several attempts to get his case reopened without making any headway. Escape was continually on his mind and after four different attempts, he finally made it.

As far as him being prejudice toward any person or race, I have never heard him ever mention one thing against anyone in all our time spent together. If he couldn't say something good about someone, he just wouldn't say anything. In fact, there was no outward showing of animosity ever revealed by him toward the two police officers who he accused of framing him. If there was he just kept such things to himself.

As far as him being the person who shot Martin Luther King, I just can't believe it is possible. However, if he is guilty of it I am wondering whether or not it all leads back to the fact that he was actually sent to prison on a trumped up charge which in turn caused him to do so as a means of retaliation against society for the twenty year sentence he swears he didn't deserve.

I hope Jimmy is innocent of killing Doctor King. I also hope that he doesn't become a scapegoat simply because he drove a white mustang and happened to favor the alleged assassinator of Doctor King

For the benefit of you persons with hate in your heart toward Jimmy before he has been proven guilty or given the benefit of a fair trial I ask you to withhold your opinions. Instead I would ask you to think of him as being innocent until proven guilty. In the meantime, put