

U. S. Department of Justice

Field Office File
FOIPA ProcessedFEDERAL BUREAU
of
INVESTIGATIONBureau File Number 44-38861

CLASSIFICATION NO.

44-1987 Sub GJames Earl RayENTIRE FILE REVIEWED
FOR HISTORICAL
DECLASSIFICATIONALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/30/01 BY SP-1 CLK/RjtDO NOT DESTROY
PENDING LITIGATION"DO NOT DESTROY:
HISTORICAL VALUE,
NATIONAL ARCHIVES"

See also Nos.

See Vol 1 For
Litigations**X** DO NOT DESTROY
HISTORICAL VALUE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Series

847 -

Volume Number

17Hester

CG 44-1114

GHB:prk

1

On August 6, 1968, Mr. LOUIS O'SHEA, Record Office, Illinois State Penitentiary (ISP), Stateville Branch, Joliet, Illinois, made available to Special Agent (SA) GEORGE H. BENIGNI the inmate jacket number 61027, for JAMES ROBERT WILLETT. This inmate was received at ISP on May 12, 1967, from Kane County, Illinois, on a charge of burglary-violation mail bond being sentenced on May 9, 1967, to a term of 2-5 years.

The inmate's short term will expire on December 28, 1970, and he is due to appear before the parole board in December, 1968. His file jacket disclosed that no detainers have been placed against him.

The following background and descriptive information was obtained from the inmate's jacket:

Name	JAMES ROBERT WILLETT
Number	61027
Sex	Male
Race	White
Date of Birth	
Place of Birth	Huntsville, Alabama
Height	5'9"
Weight	131 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Scars and Marks	Numerous tattoos on both arms
Federal Bureau of Investigation Number	277341 B
Nationality	English
Marital Status	Married, 1958, Kennett, Missouri Divorced 1964
Children	One
Social Security Number	
Occupation	Construction
Brothers	Two
Half-brothers	One
Sisters	Three
Religion	Baptist
Education	Six years
Correspondence	Mrs. BERTHA WILLETT, mother 322 Highland, Elgin Illinois

SEARCHED	INDEXED <i>lee</i>
SERIALIZED <i>lee</i>	FILED <i>lee</i>
AUG 15 1968	
FBI-MEMPHIS	

qst

Mrs. GENE (MARTHA) SHELTON, sister
Carpentersville, Illinois

Mrs. LOUIS BOYD, sister
322 Highland, Elgin, Illinois

44-1987-Sub-B. 847

Mrs. JOHN (MARGARET) RATLISS, sister
322 Highland, Elgin, Illinois

Mrs. BUEULA ACRES, mother-in-law
912 Anthony, Kennett, Missouri

Mr. O'SHEA made available a copy of a Classification Report dated July 28, 1967, pertinent portions of which are set out below:

"Social Factors"

This inmate was born [redacted] in Huntsville, Alabama, the fifth of six full siblings. The inmate's father, who owned his own farm, reportedly died of cancer about 1938. At the present time the inmate's mother is living in Elgin, Illinois, and the rest of the family is scattered, with some of the siblings living in Mississippi, and Missouri, while three of them reside in Illinois. Apparently both of the parents had prior marriages; there is at least one half-brother who is reported to be a policeman in Toledo, Ohio. The inmate denies that other members of his immediate family have been involved in criminality. Following his father's death, the inmate was raised alternately by his mother and by the older brother in Deering, Missouri. According to the inmate, he gets along well with all the other family members. The family economic status was considered to be below average. The inmate grew up mostly around Gunison, Mississippi, where he attended public school to about the sixth grade. About this time he was in a serious car accident and because his grades were poor and he was a disciplinary problem, he dropped out of school. He admits that he is unable to read very well at this time. The inmate did considerable farm work in the South before beginning his several periods of incarceration. He married in 1958, in Kennett, Missouri, only about a month and a half after his discharge from the Mississippi State Prison. One child has been born to this union, a son who is eight years old. The inmate says his wife was only fifteen years old when they married and he was twenty-three years of age. There has been considerable marital dissension due to difficulty with him getting along with her family. Also, the inmate describes some problems relating to his desire to be away from home a great deal and "chasing around". Although we do not have verification, the inmate said he got along well while he was at the State Penitentiary in Parchman, Mississippi, where he was sent when he was nineteen years old. He says that he and three associates had broken into a store. He says all of his work was on the farm and despite having a few fights, he considered his adjustment record satisfactory. This inmate also served at the State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri, for forgery, but while assigned to an Honor Farm at that Institution, he escaped and received an additional sentence period. Inside the walls he worked in the Soap Factory, Cannery and Block Factory. Between incarcerations the inmate has worked as a construction laborer and has travelled around the country a great deal. He was in Texas in 1965, then to Missouri, and back to Illinois. He was again in Elgin, Illinois, for only three months when he was arrested on the instant charges. In respect to his drinking activities, the inmate says he occasionally drinks to excess,

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GHB:prk

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but does not feel that this has particularly interfered with his work. He does admit that there may be some relationship between his drinking and his arrest. He denies any use of narcotics and says his gambling has not been heavy. Leisure time activities include participating in sports, fishing and hunting.

Personality

This is a slender, wiry 31 year old recidivist, who has had major sentences previously for forgery, burglary, and escape. He is a quite unstable individual with very loose family ties and a background of heavy drinking. He impresses us as being a poorly motivated, irresponsible individual who is pleasant enough in the interview situation but usually does pretty much as he pleases and drifts along in life without much ambition or long range goals. He has a number of rather grotesque tattoos on his person which generally detracts from his appearance. He is of dull normal intelligence, according to the psychological screening report. Based upon his background in other institutions, it is quite possible he might have a difficult time serving this sentence.

Classification

Group III. Without need for mental treatment and not mentally retarded. Inadequate and unstable personality with periodic alcoholism. Doubtfully improvable offender. Doubtful prognosis. Dull normal intelligence."

Interview of JAMES ROBERT WILLETT, also known as "Crazy WILLIE", "Mississippi".

JAMES ROBERT WILLETT inmate number 61027, ISP, Joliet Branch, Joliet, Illinois, advised that he is sometimes referred to as "Crazy WILLIE" and "Mississippi". He advised as follows:

He was an inmate at the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP) at Jefferson City, Missouri, from approximately December 1, 1960, to March 13, 1965. While at MSP he never had any personal contact with JAMES EARL RAY, although he believes he knew who RAY was by sight. The prison population at MSP approximated 2400. He had no opportunity to meet RAY prior to MSP or after he left because he was arrested at Blazeville, Arkansas, on or about January 11, 1967, before RAY escaped from MSP.

WILLETT said that while at MSP he celled in "C" house and worked in the Soap Factory, Block Plant and Farm. He formed a close relationship with another inmate, RAY CURTIS, whom he would see for extended periods on weekends in the yard. He never was assigned to the same cell house or work assignment with CURTIS or for that matter with RAY.

CURTIS, to his knowledge, always occupied a one-man cell. CURTIS was in "J" cell house before going to the farm and in "G" or "F" cell house after he returned from the farm. CURTIS was assigned to the "Tag Plant" and farm.

WILLETT stated that some time before his release from MSP he had a falling out with CURTIS, when CURTIS "stooled" on him over an incident that had taken place.

WILLETT said that he can recall no conversation transpiring in his presence while at MSP to the effect that President JOHN F. KENNEDY had a "bounty" on his head or that Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. had "bounty" on his head. He knew of no conversation to the effect that the "KKK of the South" had raised money to assassinate KING and never was privy to any conversation in this matter.

WILLETT denied knowing a CHARLES WILLIE or a A. D. CARTWRIGHT, owners of a houseboat. WILLETT stated that when he was released from MSP he went to his sisters, Mrs. LLOYD BOYD, Clarksdale, and stayed with her for approximately seven weeks. He was employed at "Billups" Service Station, Route 61, as a night man from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. He spent his leisure time in the taverns in the Clarksdale area. He said that he had never had occasion to go to the Mississippi River.

After leaving Clarksdale, he went to Longview, Texas, for approximately three months, where he was employed by "Miles High Line" Construction Company. He resided at 413 Green Street,

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GHB:prk

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Longview Texas. After leaving Texas, he drifted from Missouri, Michigan, and Illinois.

WILLETT advised that he was not aware of any association between CURTIS and RAY. He said he could not say that if there was some arrangements between CURTIS and RAY that CURTIS would have told him.

WILLETT said subsequent to his release from MSP in March, 1965, he was never in a Vicksburg, Mississippi, except to pass through it on his way to Clarksdale, Mississippi.

August 12, 1968

AIRTEL

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM : CHICAGO (44-1114)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Jackson airtel to Bureau dated August 1, 1968.

Enclosed herewith to Bureau (3 copies) and Memphis (13 copies) is an insert disclosing results of an interview with JAMES ROBERT WILLETT at Joliet, Illinois.

Enclosed for the Atlanta Division is 2 copies of above insert and one photograph of JAMES ROBERT WILLETT for possible future reference.

3-Bureau (RM) (Encl. 3)
2-Memphis (44-1987) (RM) (Encl. 13) *U*
2-Atlanta (44-2386) (INFO) (RM) (Encl. 3)
2-Chicago
GMB:prk
(8)

44-1987-Sub-A-848

SEARCHED	INDEXED <i>ll</i>
SERIALIZED <i>ll</i>	FILED <i>ll</i>
AUG 15 1968	
FBI-MEMPHIS	

CH



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

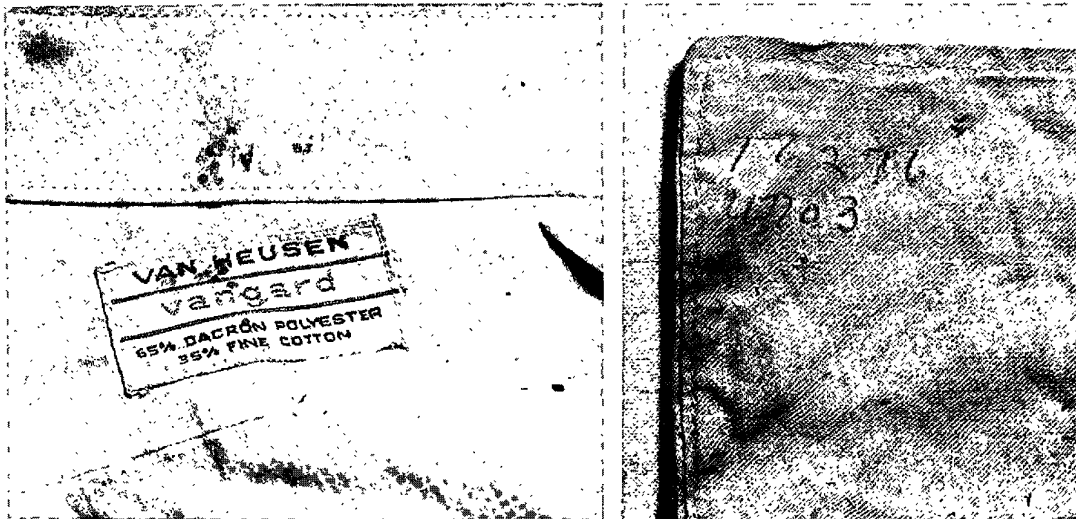
August 12, 1968

Circular Letter

TO ALL LAUNDRIES AND DRY CLEANING ESTABLISHMENTS:

On July 13, 1967, two unknown males, wearing stocking masks, robbed The Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois, at gunpoint and obtained over \$27,000. Investigation of this crime led to the recovery of a white Van Heusen Vanguard shirt and a pair of tan trousers among other items.

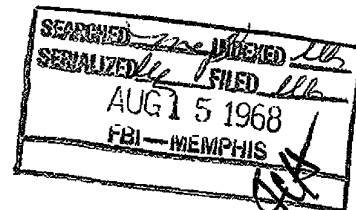
The shirt bears laundry marks and the trousers dry cleaning symbols, facsimiles of which appear below. The laundry marks appear on the shirt collar, and dry cleaning symbols appear on the front and rear pockets on the right side of the trousers.



If, after review of the above facsimiles, you feel you have information which would be of assistance to the FBI, please call the nearest office of the FBI, the telephone number of which is in the front page of your telephone directory.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Official Business

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FIRST CLASS MAIL

F B I

Date: 8/14/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via A I R T E L REGISTERED MAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, BALTIMORE (44-669) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

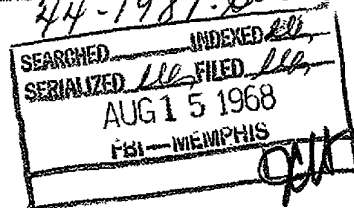
Re Bureau airtel 7/29/68; Chicago airtel to
Director, 7/24/68.

Enclosed for Springfield are two separate lists
of cleaning establishments, one of members of the National
Institute of Dry Cleaners and the second non-members of that
organization. (Both lists are in the form of labels on a
tape).

On 8/12/68, MRS. CECIL BONIS, National Institute
of Dry Cleaning, 909 Burlington Avenue, Silver Spring,
Maryland, made available the above described enclosures.

As per prior correspondence, Springfield will
utilize the enclosed labels.

- 3 - Bureau (REGISTERED MAIL)
2 - Memphis (REGISTERED MAIL) (AIRMAIL)
2 - Springfield (Encl-2) (REGISTERED AIRMAIL)
1 - Indianapolis (info) (REGISTERED AIRMAIL)
1 - St. Louis (info) (REGISTERED AIRMAIL)
1 - Chicago (info) (REGISTERED AIRMAIL)
1 - Baltimore
PMV:bem
(11)



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

F B I

Date: 8/14/68

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

Via TELETYPE

URGENT
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (PP.)

MURKIN

RE SITEL TO BUREAU AUGUST THIRTEEN, LAST.

DON SANDIDGO, DETECTIVE, ALTON, ILL., PD, ADVISED THAT JUDY MILLER, WOODRIVER, ILL., HAD BEEN CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH JOHN MC CLINTOCK AND HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON DURING NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN AND JANUARY AND FEBRUARY, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT. HE ADVISED SHE MIGHT POSSIBLY BE ABLE TO FURNISH INFORMATION CONCERNING THEIR ACTIVITIES DURING THAT TIME.

SPRINGFIELD, AT ALTON, WILL ATTEMPT TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW JUDY MILLER CONCERNING HER KNOWLEDGE OF HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON AND JOHN MC CLINTOCK.

WILL KEEP BUREAU ADVISED.

AM COPIES SENT MEMPHIS, ST. LOUIS AND CHICAGO.

- 1 - Springfield (44-561)
 - 1 - St. Louis (44-775)
 - ① - Memphis (44-1987)
 - 1 - Chicago (44-1114)
- FEC:mpb
(4)

44-1987-Sub-G-851

SEARCHED	INDEXED <i>llb</i>
SERIALIZED <i>llb</i>	FILED <i>llb</i>
AUG 16 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

gk

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

F B I

Date: 8/15/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (1 PG)
MURKIN

RE SPRINGFIELD AIRTEL TO BUREAU DATED AUGUST
FIFTEEN LAST.

PUBLIC DEFENDER ROBERT TRONE ADVISED HE WOULD HAVE
NO OBJECTION TO INTERVIEW OF WILLIE LEE AND WILL ARRANGE
INTERVIEW AT EARLY DATE.

ILLINOIS STATE PATROL OFFICERS HOWARD SHELTON
AND MARION VAN FOSSEN ADVISED THEY HAVE COMPLETED
CONTACT WITH PAROLEES AND PROBATIONERS; HAVE DEVELOPED
NO INFORMATION RE BR AT THE BANK OF ALTON OR PRESENCE
OF JAMES EARL RAY IN ALTON DURING JULY, NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN.

MAIL COPIES SENT CHICAGO, MEMPHIS, AND ST. LOUIS.

2 - Springfield (1: 44-561)
(1: 91-3699) (Bank of Alton)
1 - Chicago (44-1114) (AM)
1 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
1 - St. Louis (44-775) (AM)
RCH:jah
(5)

44-1987-Sub-A-153

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 19 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester

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

8/16/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

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

MURKIN.

RE SI TEL TO BUREAU, EIGHT FIFTEEN LAST.

PUBLIC DEFENDER ROBERT TRONE, EDWARDSVILLE, ILLINOIS,
ADVISED WILLIE LEE HAD NOT REPORTED TO HIM AS OF THREE P.M.
TODAY.

EFFORTS TO CONTACT SI SIXTEEN FOURTEEN - C UNPRODUCTIVE.

COPIES MAILED CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS. P.

1 - SI (44-561)
1 - Chicago (44-1114) (AM)
① - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
1 - St. Louis (44-775) (AM)
RCH:sjs
(4)

44-1987-Sub. H-853

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 19 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]

8/19/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760)
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

OO MEMPHIS

If not already done, Kansas City should advise Missouri State Penitentiary officials to lodge their warrant with Shelby County SO, Memphis, Tenn., and Kansas City should thereafter request dismissal of the UFAP process now outstanding. Kansas City is requested to advise Memphis when this has been done.

UFAP Process
~~UFAP Process~~

44-1987-Sub-A-854

Airtel _____
Teletype 2 - Kansas City
2 - Memphis
A.M. JCH/ngm
(4) ngm
A.M.S.D. _____
Spec. Del. _____
Reg. Mail _____
Registered _____

TW

SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED llh
INDEXED llh
FILED llh

F B I

Date: 8/19/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN

RE SI TEL TO BUREAU AUGUST SIXTEEN LAST.

SI ONE SIX ONE FOUR DASH C ADVISED TODAY HE HAS BEEN UNABLE TO DATE TO CONTACT SOURCES BELIEVED ABLE TO PLACE JOHN MC CLINTOCK, HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON AND BELMAR GRINDSTAFF IN ALTON ON JULY THIRTEEN NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN AND TO ATTEST TO CLOTHING WORN BY COVINGTON AND GRINDSTAFF ON THAT DATE.

PUBLIC DEFENDER ROBERT TRONE STATES WILLIE LEE HAS NOT CONTACTED HIM AND HE COULD NOT REACH LEE WHEN HE ATTEMPTED TO CONTACT HIM AT KNOWN TELEPHONE NUMBERS.

MAIL COPIES TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS.

1 - Springfield (44-561)
1 - Chicago (44-1114) (AM)
① - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
1 - St. Louis (44-775) (AM)
RCH/ssj
(4)

44-1987-Sub-H-255

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 21 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester

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

F B I

Date: 8/20/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE DEFERRED
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN

RE SI TEL TO BUREAU AUGUST NINETEEN LAST.

SI ONE SIX ONE FOUR DASH C ADVISES HE HAS MADE NO
PROGRESS IN EFFORTS TO CONTACT SOURCES MENTIONED IN RETEL.
EFFORTS TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW WILLIE LEE UNPRODUCTIVE.

MAIL COPIES TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS.

1 - Springfield (44-561)
1 - Chicago (44-1114) (AM)
① - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
1 - St. Louis (44-775) (AM)
RCH/ssj
(4)

44-1987-Sub-G-156

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>llh</i>	FILED <i>llh</i>
AUG 22 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester *AK*

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

120438

of the State of California
and for the County of Los Angeles

PEOPLE (155931)

JAMES EARL RAY

Defendant

Defendant

Defendant

Defendant

Charge _____ **1000**

Date of Crime: 02/2/1949

Funco

Name of Defendant **JAMES EARL RAY**

Date _____

Date _____

Bail fixed by Committing Magistrate at \$ 1,000.

500

Bond filed

Ball fixed in Department No. _____ at \$ _____

Dépt.

Date:

(For Bond Information on other Defendants see back cover)

Arreignment date set by Committing Magistrate for Nov 13, 1949

APR 11 1964

information filed

NOV 1 1949

41 NOV 3 1949

Avoid Pha cont. Nov. 12, 9A/17

4.1804 10.1540

SEARCHED - INDEXED - SERIALIZED - FILED - DEC 7 1964 - FBI - NEW YORK

141 DEC - 7 1945

Inq waived. Submitted 12/1/78. Inq. for further hearing -
Def. for Remanded

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Hearing Normal - The Cause of the Defect Quality
 Offense found Aug 2nd day
 P.S. Dec 20 at 9 am - Remanded -

77 DEC 30 1949

Wheat - to Co. Jail & more - 1 bushel
Boat 3 yds. on road 70 days Co. Jail
good time of road - 100
Antennas 1 Bush 79, 100 days

34 JAN 24 1950

Minutes Dec 30 Councilman Pro/Con to show
"Part granted 3 years" (instead of 2 years)

44-1987-Sub. G-257

SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED *lee*.....FILED *lee*.....

AUG 22 1968

FBI — MEMPHIS

Heiter am

Atty's Name _____
Prob. Officer _____

Class _____

Prob. No. _____

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

MAR 9 - 1950

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, ^{HASSELL, County Clerk Dept. 41}
Plaintiff *W. L. Fox* vs. ^{Prob. Case No. 129438}

JAMES EARL RAY,

Defendant.

Expiration date 12-29-51

PROBATION OFFICER'S REPORT
RECOMMENDING MODIFICATION
TO ALLOW GOOD TIME.

Whereabouts: Los Angeles County Jail.

James Earl Ray convicted of Burglary, Second Degree
was on 12-30-49 by the Honorable W. L. Fox
sentenced eight months County Jail, suspended. Probation was granted for a period
of two years on the following conditions:

1. Spend the next ninety days in the County Jail.
2. Seek and maintain employment to be approved by the Probation Officer.
3. May leave the state with the permission of the Probation Officer.

Further orders have been made by the court as follows: None.

REASON FOR HEARING:

Defendant has submitted an application for modification to allow good time. This good time allowance was not included in the minute order, although the memorandum of Herbert W. Audet, who was in court at the time probation was granted, shows that good time was allowed.

Sergeant Ray Bowen stated that defendant has responded satisfactorily to disciplinary treatment and his work as trusty in the laundry was satisfactory.

Under these circumstances, Probation Officer feels that defendant should be allowed the benefit of good time.

COURT OF LOS ANGELES
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

The State of California,

Plaintiff,

JAMES EARL RAY

COMPLAINT - CRIMINAL

Defendant.

Personally appeared before me, this 13th day of October, 1969

R. A. Lomen

of the County of Los Angeles, who being first duly sworn, on oath deplores and says:

That on or about the 7th day of October, 1969

County of Los Angeles, State of California, the crime of BURGLARY, felony, was committed by

JAMES EARL RAY

who, at the time and place last aforesaid, did unlawfully enter the office

and building occupied by the Forum Restaurant,

in the City of Los Angeles

County and State aforesaid, with the intent then to

and there and therein unlawfully and feloniously to commit theft.

Said complainant therefore prays that a warrant may be issued for the arrest of the said

JAMES EARL RAY

and that he may be dealt with according to law.

COMPLAINT

JAMES EARL RAY

Defendant

EDWARD F. KELME
Clerk of the Municipal Court of
Los Angeles City, County of Los Angeles
State of California
By *Edmund F. Kelme*
Deputy Clerk

Issued by

S.C. No.

129438

W. E. SIMPSON, District Attorney

Bail Recommended

1,000.00

EDWARD J. McLEARY

Deputy

FILED

OCT 18 1949
MARRIOTT, County Clerk
E. E. HUBBARD
Clerk

WITNESSES

R. A. Loran and J. A. Billingsley, Cant. Burg. LLP
Mr. E. J. Iren, 520 S. Broadway, in 5561, c/o Forum Cafe
Lee Strayhorn, same
Bobby Hamilton, same
George Russell, 160 W. 55th St., CR 21207

A copy of this complaint filed the 17th day of October, 1949 at 10:52 a.m. in the office of

W. E. SIMPSON, District Attorney

155921

D.A. No.

By

Clerk

MUNICIPAL COURT, CITY OF LOS ANGELES, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

The People of the State of California

vs.

James Earl Ray

Defendant

Date of arraignment in the Superior Court

will be 3 day of Nov 1949
9:00

at 2:00 a.m. in Department 41

Witnesses are not required to attend at the time of arraignment. When their presence is required they will be subpoenaed or otherwise notified.

It appearing to me that the offense in the within disposition mentioned, to wit:

Burglary, a felony

has been committed, and that there is sufficient cause to believe the within named

James Earl Ray

guilty thereof, I order that he be held to answer to the same, and that he be admitted to bail in the sum of 1,000 Dollars

and that he be committed to the custody of the Sheriff of Los Angeles County until he give such bail.

Dated this 17th day of OCT 17 1949

Edmund F. Kelme
Deputy Clerk

IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT, CITY OF LOS ANGELES
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

No. 94440 Div. 4

1207
10

The People of the State of California, to any Sheriff, Constable, Marshal or Policeman of said State,
of the County of Los Angeles:

Information, on oath, having been this day laid before me by A. R. Lomen
that the crime of Burglary, a Felony, 1 count

has been committed, and accusing

James Earl Ray

thereof; you are therefore commanded forthwith to
arrest the above named Defendant, James Earl Ray

and bring him before the Judge in Division 4
in said Municipal Court, City of Los Angeles, in said County of Los Angeles; or in case of his absence
or inability to act, before the nearest and most accessible magistrate in Los Angeles County. The
Defendant is to be admitted to Bail in the sum of \$1000 Dollars.

Dated in said Los Angeles City, in said County of Los Angeles, at the hour of 10:55 AM, this
13 day of October, 1949

JOSEPH F. CHAMBERS

Joe F. Chambers
Judge of Municipal Court, City of Los Angeles,
County of Los Angeles, State of California

I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I received the within warrant on the _____
day of _____, 19____, and served the said warrant by arresting the within
named defendant on the _____ day of _____, 19____,
and bringing _____
into Court, this _____ day of _____, 19____.

Sheriff, County of Los Angeles
Policeman, City of Los Angeles

Deputy.

The above named Defendant, James Earl Ray having
been brought before me under this warrant, is hereby committed for Examination.

181949 to the Sheriff of the County of Los Angeles.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 19____.

James Earl Ray
Judge of Municipal Court, City of Los Angeles,
County of Los Angeles, State of California

Ba. 11000

12-1-68
No 74440 Div. 4

MUNICIPAL COURT
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
County of Los Angeles, California

The People of the State of California,

vs.

James Earl Ray

Defendant.

FILED
WARRANT OF ARREST

This Warrant is served in the
County of Los Angeles, State of California

Judge of Municipal Court, City of Los Angeles,
County of Los Angeles, State of California

Filed

OCT 18 1968
CLERK OF MUNICIPAL COURT

E. G. MONTE

ENCLOSURE

In the Municipal Court, City of Los Angeles
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

To *Mr. J. J. Green, 6244 Broadway,*
Ap. 9361, 1/2 Forum Cafe
Lee Strayhorn, same
Beth Alquist, same
George Russell 350 W. 53rd St.,
1/2 Forum Cafe - Ce 21207

OCT 14 1949

Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to appear in the Municipal Court, City of Los Angeles, in Division
4 thereof, at ROOM 708 HALL OF JUSTICE

in said City, in the County of Los Angeles, on the 11 day of OCT, 1949

at 1:30 o'clock P.M., as a witness in a Criminal Action prosecuted by the People of the
State of California, against James Earl Ray
on the part of the People, and disobedience will be punished as Contempt of Court.

Witness the Honorable Presiding Judge of the Municipal Court, City of Los Angeles,
County of Los Angeles, State of California, attested by my hand and the seal of said Court this

day of OCT, 1949

URBAN F. ESCOBAR
Clerk of said Court.

By [Signature] Deputy.

I HEREBY CERTIFY I served the within Subpoena, by showing the within original to the within named:

Mr. E. J. [unclear] on 13 day of Oct. 1949
Mr. [unclear] on 13 day of Oct. 1949
Betty [unclear] on 13 day of Oct. 1949
George [unclear] on 13 day of Oct. 1949

personally, and by showing the original and informing the contents thereof at the City of Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, State of California.

[Signature]
Police Officer of Los Angeles City.

129430
No. 25440 Div. 4
MUNICIPAL COURT
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
County of Los Angeles, California
The People of the State of California,
Plaintiff,
vs.
[Signature]
Defendant.
SUBPOENA
Filed *[Signature]* 1949
URBAN F. [unclear] MP. Clerk.
By *[Signature]* County Clerk, Deputy.
I HEREBY CERTIFY that after diligent search and due inquiry, I am unable to find the wit [unclear]
FILED
COURT
or either
of them within the City of Los Angeles
Dated *[Signature]* 1949
Police Officer of Los Angeles City.

INFERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

The State of California,

Plaintiff,

v

JAMES EARL RAY,

Defendant.

S. C. NO. 129438

INFORMATION

BURGLARY

The case

JAMES EARL RAY

is accused by the District Attorney of and for the County of Los Angeles, State of California, by
this information, of the crime of **BURGLARY**, a felony, committed as follows:
That the said **JAMES EARL RAY**

on or about the 7th day of October, 1949, at and in the
County of Los Angeles, State of California, did willfully enter the office
and building occupied by the Forum Restaurant,

in the City of Los Angeles, County and State aforesaid, with the intent then and
there and therein unlawfully and feloniously to commit theft.

W. J. SIMPSON, District Attorney

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

INFORMATION

SURGLARY

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Plaintiff

S. C. No. 129438

D. A. No. 155921

JAMES EARL RAY,

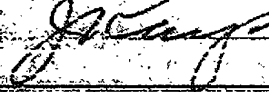
Defendant.

Filed in open Superior Court of the County of Los Angeles, State of California, on motion of the
District Attorney of said Los Angeles County.

DATED:

HAROLD J. OSTLY, County Clerk

By



Deputy

W. E. SIMPSON

District Attorney

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

The People of the State of California

To

Edward J. Tread	Forum's Cafeteria, 620 S. Broadway, TR 9631 3556 Burton, Lynwood
James Lee Streyhorn	Forum, 620 S. Broadway TR 9631 412 1/2 S. Ramona Ave., Monterey Park
Betty Hamilton	(Bus.) Forum Cafeteria, 620 S. Broadway, TR 9631 System Auto Park 525 S. Spring
George Russell	352 W 55th St. CH 21807
✓ R. A. Lomon	Cent. Burg. IAPD
✓ J. A. Billingsley	" " "
✓ P. H. Boyle 2597	Cent. Radio "
V. R. W. Hoffman 5826	" " "

YOU ARE COMMANDED to appear before the Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the County of Los Angeles, Department 46 thereof, in the Hall of Records, City of Los Angeles, State and County aforesaid, on the 7th day of December, 1949 at 9:00 a.m., as witness on the part of the People in a criminal action prosecuted by the People of the State of California, against James Earl Ray (Fug.)

Given under my hand this 16th day of November, 1949

HAROLD J. COSTLY, COUNTY CLERK

W. R. SIMPSON, District Attorney
for the County of Los Angeles, State of California

By _____ Deputy

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

S. C. No. 129438

SUBPOENA

James Earl Ray

D. A. No. 155921

Defendant.

Returnable December 7, 1949

Department 46

W. E. SIMPSON
District Attorney of Los Angeles County
Los Angeles 12, California

RECEIVED
LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CLERK
J. KARP
DEPUTY

949 NOV 25 PM 2 15

FILED

SHERIFF'S OFFICE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

I hereby certify that I served the within Subpoena on the following named persons, at the time and place herein stated, in the County of Los Angeles, they being the witnesses therein named, by showing the original to said witness personally, and informing of the contents thereof to wit:

Edward J. Pines on the 17 day of Nov 1949
on the day of 19
on the day of 19
on the day of 19
on the day of 19
on the day of 19
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on the day of 19
on the day of 19
on the day of 19
on the day of 19

And further, that after due and diligent search I have been unable to find or make service of said subpoena to said County of Los Angeles on the following persons therein named as witnesses, to wit:

Refused to be subpoenaed and with permission left subject Mrs. Pines on 11/17/49
Subpoena for George Russell accepted by [illegible] on 11/17/49

E. W. BISCHLUX Sheriff of L.A.

By

Dated

Nov. 17

19

49

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Court No. 129438

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Plaintiff

PROBATION OFFICER'S REPORT

vs.

Dept. 45 Hr. 4. M. Judge FOX

JAMES EARL RAY

Defendant

True Name Same Address Living in hotel & can't remember name

Charged with the crime of Burglary and who was convicted by

FOXY

Court of the crime of Burglary, 2nd Degree Time in jail this case 31 days

FOXY

Age 21 Birthdate [redacted] Came to State 1949 to County 1949

Married No No. of dependants 0 Occupation -

Where employed Unemployed Salary per mo. -

PERSONAL HISTORY: (As supplied by defendant and substantiated in part by documents in defendant's property.)

Defendant is a twenty-one year old single white American male, born [redacted] in Alton, Illinois. He is the oldest of three boys born to his parents. He was reared by his parents in Alton and Quincy, Illinois. His father died in 1946. For several months preceding his ^{OFFENSE} death, defendant was living in Chicago. He then decided to come to Los Angeles and states he had been ^{only} about two days when he committed the present offense. He was living in a hotel, the name and address of which he cannot remember.

Defendant completed the ninth grade at Union High School, Ewing, Missouri, across the river from his Illinois home, quitting at the age of sixteen because he did not wish to attend school further. Defendant worked for the International Shoe Co., Bartford, Illinois until December, 1945 when he was laid off. He had been employed as a laborer and was earning seventy-seven cents per hour.

On 8-19-46 he entered the United States Army, where he remained until 12-23-48, when he was given a general discharge. His rating was that of a Private. He spent two years and four months in Germany, assigned to the M. P. and Infantry. From December 1948 until May 1949 he was unemployed and drew Service Man's Readjustment pay checks. In May he went to Chicago, where he worked full time operating a rubber mold for the Dryden Rubber Company. He received \$45 a week but was laid off in September. During the same time he was also attending a television school five nights a week.

At the time of defendant's arrest he was unemployed. Probation Officer has seen defendant's savings account book in which he made regular deposits during 1944, 1945, 1946 and reached total savings of \$1,160. Defendant started to draw from his savings account January 28, 1949 and by June 1, 1949 the account was closed. He used part of this money for living expenses while he was unemployed and he also purchased a Mercury in St. Louis. He states he has been forced to return the car to the seller because of his inability to continue payments. At the present time defendant has no income and no material assets other than his personal effects.

Defendant has never married.

Defendant appears to be of normal intelligence. He states that his health is good. He admits only an occasional excessive use of intoxicants. He is Catholic but does not attend religious services. He belongs to no organized groups. He goes to the movies two or three times a week. He likes to read magazines and "common ordinary books." He used to play baseball quite a bit. He spends much time on dates with girls.

ARREST

ARREST RECORD:

A name-check of the Los Angeles Police Department and Los Angeles County Sheriff's identification bureau, plus an FBI report of 12-15-49 reveal no previous arrest. Defendant also denies any previous arrests, though he admits receiving three or four traffic citations for such minor offenses as over-parking.

PRESENT OFFENSE:

Defendant was arrested 10-11-49 at Seventh and Broadway by Officers of the Central Division of the Los Angeles Police Department and booked on suspicion of 459 PC, Burglary. On 12-9-49, in Department 46, the Court found the defendant guilty and the offense was fixed at Burglary, 2nd Degree.

At the preliminary examination in Los Angeles Municipal Court, Division 4, on 10-18-49, Mr. Edward J. Iron testified that he is manager of Forum's Cafeteria, 620 South Broadway. The cafeteria is located on the first floor and the office of the cafeteria is on the second floor, off the mezzanine. There is a fire escape at the rear of the office, from which it is possible to have access to the office. He denies giving the defendant or anyone else permission to enter the office or remove anything from it on 10-7-49.

Also, James Lee Strayhorn, assistant manager of Forum's Cafeteria, testified that on the evening of October 7, 1949 he entered the cafeteria office and discovered the defendant crouching behind the safe. A struggle ensued, in which each hit the other, the defendant finally breaking loose and running down the fire escape. Mr. Strayhorn went to the fire escape to call for help and at that

time noticed the typewriter sitting out on the fire escape. He also testified that during the scuffle ^{THERE WAS} a tearing of defendant's right hand rear pocket. After hollering for help he saw a parking lot attendant grab the defendant, but the latter broke away after his shirt pocket was torn off and several articles dropped to the ground. He identified a photostatic copy of the defendant's discharge from the Army and an Alton Bank & Trust Co. bank book as two of the papers that had dropped to the ground. He watched for the defendant and on the following Tuesday, October 11, he saw him emerging from the bank and recognized him.

Also, Mr. George Russell, System Auto Park, 525 South Spring Street, testified that on the night of October 7, 1949 he heard witness Strayhorn holler for help, saw the defendant running down the alley and grabbed him. They struggled and the defendant escaped. During the scuffle defendant's clothing was torn and identification papers were dropped. He was unable to identify the papers as he had not examined them as such. He positively identified the defendant.

DEFENDANT'S STATEMENT:

Defendant submits the following short statement:

"On the night of October 7-49, the night I was later charged with the burglary of the Forum Restaurant, I had left a wheeler on Broadway approximately thirty minutes before I entered the restaurant. I did not enter the building to commit a theft. I was stopped a few seconds after I entered the building, by an employee, I guess, as some people came out as I went in. He grabbed ahold of me and told me to leave the building, which I

did. After I got down the street about half a block he started hollering for the police. About a week later I was arrested. I don't know anything about a typewriter or whether there was one in the building."

In an interview with the Probation Officer the defendant several times reiterated, "He claims that he did not enter the building to commit a theft. He claims that he did not see the typewriter and did not take it out through the fire-escape. He stated that he walked in the back door, climbed the stairs and went into the room and did not use the fire escape to gain access. He was in the office only a brief period when he was discovered. He was unable to give any motivation for his entering the building except that, "I guess maybe I had some beers, or something". He disputed the claim that there had been much scuffling, and in particular the statement that he had hit the victim with a chair. He pointed out that if as much fighting occurred as had been presented to the Court, it would have been very easy to get fingerprints to substantiate it. He claims he had about \$20 on his person when he entered the building.

Defendant indicated that he had been involved in a somewhat similar circumstance in Illinois. He drank several beers and then one night attempted to get into a house next door to his own. After failing to gain admittance, he was directed to his own home peacefully. He denies that he is anything more than a social drinker and indicates that a few beers have a rather strong affect upon him.

He stated that he had come to Los Angeles because he had

lost his job in Chicago and was unable to find another one. He has an uncle who had been doing overseas construction work in China and was scheduled to meet him here in Los Angeles. Defendant hoped to obtain an overseas job. This, plus meeting his uncle here, was the reason for coming to Los Angeles. He has not told his mother about his arrest. He states he has no relatives other than the uncle, who is now in Illinois, address unknown. He has no local friends who can give him any recommendation whatsoever. He knows no one in the community.

INTERESTED PARTIES:

Defendant has submitted no references and there are no people in the community to contact regarding him. Probation Officer has sent a letter to defendant's mother, Mrs. Lucille Ray, 528 East Broadway, Alton, Illinois. He has requested information from her regarding the defendant's life and any plans that she might suggest for him, including whether she believes it is desirable for him to return to that community. ~~as he should.~~

Probation Officer ~~received~~ several time slips which verify defendant's employment at Dryden Rubber Company in Chicago during the summer of 1945.

EVALUATION:

Defendant is a twenty-one year old Illinois resident who was in the community only a few days before his apprehension on the present offense. He does not appear to be completely truthful in discussing his ^{CR. 4E} ~~plans~~.

It is apparently defendant's first offense. He made a

reasonably adequate adjustment while in the Army, though he had some difficulty in the Infantry. Little is known of his occupational adjustment. Because of the lack of data regarding the defendant, it is felt the disposition of the case should be deferred for two weeks, pending information from his family.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is respectfully recommended that the case be continued two weeks for further investigation.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN M. ZUCK
Probation Officer

By Robert V. Sialoff
Robert V. Sialoff, Deputy

RVS:am

I have read and considered the foregoing report of the Probation Officer.

W. J. Sullivan
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

On the night of ~~the 7.11.68~~ 7.11.68
I was later charged with the theft
of the fur coat. I had left a
letter on the door app. 30 min.
before I entered the Restaurant. I
did not enter the Restaurant to commit a
theft. I was stopped a few min after
I entered the Restaurant. By a telephone
I guess as some people come out and
went in. The girl who called on me
and told me to leave the Restaurant
which I did after I got drunk.
The next day I was arrested and
taken to the police station. I was
held in a cell for a few days.
I don't know anything about
a telephone conversation
one in the Restaurant.

James C. [unclear]
[unclear]

The Application for Probation duly signed by the applicant should be filed with the Court on the SAME DAY THAT PERMISSION IS GRANTED. The TRANSCRIPT of the Probation Officer should accompany the application, and may be filed with JOHN M. EUGEN, Probation Officer, at one of the following addresses:

Highway, Los Angeles 12, Room 602
320 S. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach 2, Room 703
320 S. Walnut St., Pasadena 5, Room 119

Agency _____
Address _____
Phone No. _____



APPLICATION FOR PROBATION

Please fill ALL blanks as completely as possible
(TYPE or PRINT — DO NOT WRITE)

Signature

NAME JAMES EARL RAY

(For Court — Legal Counsel)

ORIGINAL CHARGE MURDER

CONVICTED OF SAME SECOND DEG.

COURT CASE NO. 129432

DATE PROB. HEARING 12-30-69

By Plea _____ Court X Jury _____

Deft. in Jail X On Bond _____ O.R. _____

DATE OF ARREST 45

JUDGE _____

WHERE ARRESTED ON BEACON (ABOUT 100 BLK), LA. DATE ARRESTED DEC. 11, 1969

WHERE DETAINED LA. COUNTY JAIL

(Police Station or Sheriff's Office)

INVESTIGATING OFFICERS _____

COMPLAINING WITNESSES _____

PREVIOUS ARRESTS and CONVICTIONS NONE

(Give dates, places, etc.)

CO-DEFENDANTS NONE

(List all "co-defendant" or participants in offense)

PERSONAL DATA

TRUE NAME AS GERRARD

Race WHITE

OTHER NAMES NONE

(Other names used—maiden name—previous married name)

SEX M AGE 21 BIRTHDATE _____ WHERE BORN ALTON, ILL.

ADDRESS 818 LARKIN ST., ALTON, ILL. Phone _____

CAME to CALIF. 1962 L.A. C. 1962 PREVIOUS ADDRESS _____

EMPLOYER UNEMPLOYED POSITION _____

EMPLOYER'S ADDRESS _____

MARITAL DATA

PRESENT STATUS SINGLE

IF MARRIED _____

IF SEPARATED _____

IF MARRIED _____

(Date of Marriage)

IF RE-MARRIED _____

(Date)

IF SPOUSE IS DEAD _____

(Date)

NAME PRESENT SPOUSE _____

ADDRESS _____

PARENTAL DATA

FATHER'S NAME GEORGE RAY

MOTHER'S NAME LOUISE MAIZE

ADDRESS _____

ADDRESS 224 N. BROADWAY, ALTON, ILL.

OCCUPATION _____

DIED 1946

OCCUPATION BOOKSHELF DIED _____

STEP OR ADOPTIVE PARENTS

FATHER NONE

MOTHER NONE

ADDRESS _____

ADDRESS _____

OCCUPATION _____

OCCUPATION _____

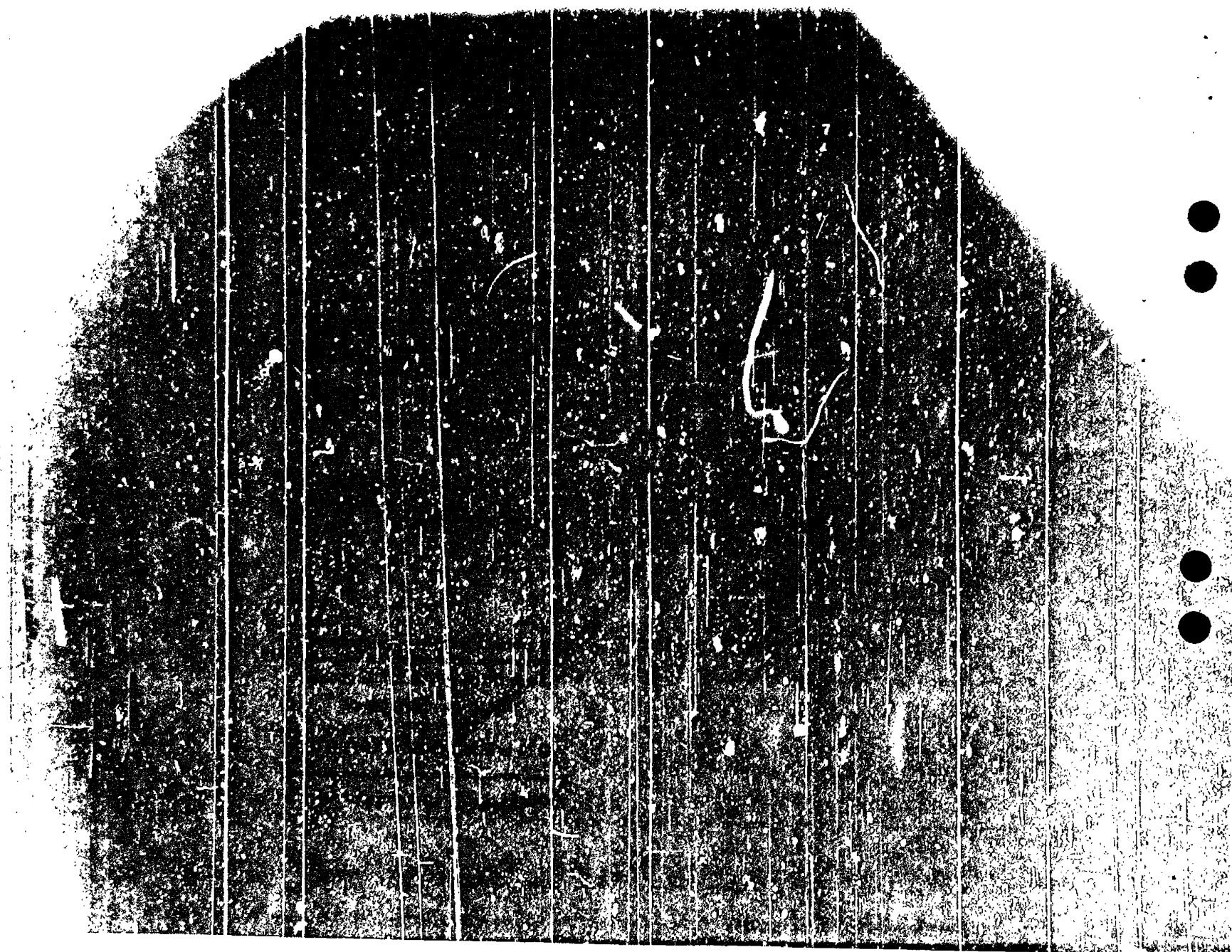
THE ABOVE STATEMENTS ARE TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE

Date 12-9-69

Signature James Earl Ray

(PLEASE GIVE REFERENCES ON REVERSE SIDE)





2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

November 10, 1968

The People of the State of California,

JAMES EARL RAY

Defendant.

100438

Deputy District Attorney Harry Johnstone and the Defendant, with his
counsel, Deputy Public Defender F. J. Hansen, present. The Defendant
regularly enters his plea of "Not Guilty" as charged in the Information
and the trial of the action is continued until further order of the Court.
9:00 A.M. and transferred to Department 45.

I certify the foregoing to be a full, true and correct copy of an order entered on the minutes of
said Superior Court, in the above entitled cause.

Attest my hand and the seal of the said Superior Court, this 10th day

November, 1968

HAROLD J. OSTLY, County Clerk

Heidi P. Evans

680473

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

December 9

The People of the State of California

JAMES EARL RAY

Defendant

Trial is resumed. Deputy District Attorney Joseph I. Carr and the Defendant with his counsel, Deputy Public Defender Elliot Forall, present. People's Exhibit A offered at the preliminary hearing is received in evidence. Defendant James Earl Ray is sworn and testifies. The Court finds the defendant guilty as charged in the information, and finds the crime to be Burglary of the second degree. The request of the defendant for leave to file an application for probation is granted. The hearing on said application for probation and the pronouncing of judgment and sentence are set for December 30, 1969 at 9:30 A.M. Defendant is remanded. People's Exhibit A is ordered withdrawn and returned to the Defendant James Earl Ray.

I certify the foregoing to be a full, true and correct copy of an order entered on the minutes of said Superior Court, in the above entitled cause.

Attest my hand and the seal of the said Superior Court, this 12th day of December, 1969

EAROLD J. OSTLY, County Clerk

(SEAL)

Printed 4-4 10-69

Helen E. Burns
Deputy

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

December 30, 1968

The People of the State of California

JAMES EARL RAY

Deputy District Attorney E. Myers and the Defendant, James Earl Ray, appeared before me, the undersigned, and requested that I enter a judgment and sentence as follows: Defendant is sentenced to the County of Los Angeles House of Detention. Sentence is entered in Judgment Book No. 75, Page 107. Sentence is suspended and defendant is granted probation for a term of two years under the following conditions: Defendant must refrain from the use of alcohol; Defendant must not associate with known criminals; Defendant must not use any weapons; Defendant must not leave the state without the permission of the Officer, and must leave the state on or before the first day of January, 1969.

I certify the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the judgment and sentence entered in the above captioned case.

Attest my hand and the seal of the said County of Los Angeles, California, on the 30th day of December, 1968.

(SEAL)

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Present: Hon. W. WHEAT FOX

The People of the State of California
vs.

JAMES EARL RAY

JUDGMENT

Whereas the said defendant having been found
guilty in this Court of the crime of MURDER, a felony, as charged in the
information, which the Court found to be true and correct;

It is Therefore Ordered, Adjudged and Decreed that the said defendant be
imprisoned in the County Jail of the County of Los Angeles for a
term of eight months.

It is also ORDERED that execution of sentence be suspended and the
defendant placed on probation, one condition being that defendant
serve ninety days of said probationary period in the County Jail.

It is further Ordered that the defendant be remanded to the custody of the Sheriff of
County of Los Angeles.

Done in open Court this 11th day of December

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK
of the said County of Los Angeles

I, H J Ostly, County Clerk of the said County of Los Angeles, do hereby
certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of the judgment
entered in the Superior Court in the above entitled action, and that I have compared
with the original, and that the same is a correct transcript thereof and of the whole.

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

State of California, Plaintiff
v. **JAMES EARL RAY,** Defendant
S. C. NO. **15500**
INFORMATION
BURGLARY

The said **JAMES EARL RAY**

is accused by the District Attorney of and for the County of Los Angeles, State of California, by
this information of the crime of **BURGLARY**, a felony, committed as follows:

That the said **JAMES EARL RAY**

on or about the **7th** day of **October, 1967**, at and in the

County of Los Angeles, State of California, did unlawfully enter the **Garage**

and building **occupied by the Forum Restaurant,**

in the City of **Los Angeles** County and State aforesaid, with the intent then and
there and therein unlawfully and feloniously to commit theft.

H. E. SIMPSON, District Attorney

INFORMATION

SURGLARY

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
Plaintiff

S. C. No. 159921

D. A. No. 159921

JAMES EARL RAY,

Defendant

Filed in open Superior Court of the County of Los Angeles, State of California, on motion of the
District Attorney of said Los Angeles County.

DATED:

HAROLD J. OSTLY County Clerk

By J. KAPP
Deputy

W. E. SIMPSON

District Attorney

1 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
2 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
3 DEPARTMENT NO. 46 H.H. W. TURNER, JR., JUDGE
4
5 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
6 Plaintiff,
7 vs. No. 129,438
8 JAMES EARL RAY, PROBATION
9 Defendant.
10 ---000---

11 Los Angeles, California, Friday, December 22, 1967, 10:40 A.M.
12 On the above date the defendant appeared in court with his
13 counsel, R. S. Buckley, Deputy Public Defender; the People being
14 represented by Edwin Myers, Deputy District Attorney of Los Angeles
15 County; and also present, Herbert W. Audet, Deputy Probation
16 Officer; the following proceedings were had, to wit:

17 (August J. Siebel, Reporter.)

18 THE COURT: People vs. Ray.

19 You might as well sit down, because I am going to have to take
20 some time here.

21 Well, what do you think about this suggestion for additional
22 time here?

23 MR. BUCKLEY: Well, if it please the Court, I again disagree
24 with the Probation Department. I don't think I have done that too
25 frequently, but I don't see any particular advantage in continuing
26 this matter. The man apparently hasn't been in any difficulty
27 before other than a somewhat nebulous statement of the Probation
28 Department that there was a similar circumstance in Chicago. There
29 apparently is no record of that. In view of that fact, I feel that
30 he is not only eligible for probation, but that he is a fit subject
31 for probation.

32 Now, his father lives in the East and may or may not be able to

1 help him. Even without his help, I feel that this man is in a
2 position to stand on his own feet, and apparently has done so for
3 some period of time, for a comparatively young man. He is
4 apparently thrifty, acquired some savings, and also did fairly well
5 in the Army. In view of those circumstances, I feel that he is a
6 good risk on probation, whether we hear from his father or not.

7 THE COURT: Well, I think you have some point there. I think
8 we might as well dispose of it, and I think I can decide it, and I
9 am not like the one I was with the man earlier on this morning's
10 calendar. No further legal cause?

11 MR. BUCKLEY: No legal cause, your Honor.

12 THE COURT: That was second degree?

13 MR. BUCKLEY: Yes, your Honor.

14 THE COURT: You are sentenced to the county jail for a period
15 of eight months.

16 The execution of that sentence, however, is stayed, and you
17 are placed on probation for a period of two years on condition you
18 spend the next 90 days in the county jail, good time to be allowed
19 if earned;

20 Upon the further condition that upon your release you seek and
21 maintain satisfactory employment, and by that I mean such employment
22 as will be approved by the Probation Department. In the event you
23 make any connection with your father or family in the East by which
24 you think it is desirable to go and live with them or any of them,
25 or in their vicinity, that you may have permission to leave the
26 State, but, subject, however, to the approval of the Probation
27 Department before you go. In other words, I do not want you running
28 out and then writing them a letter from Timbuctoo and telling them,
29 "Here I am." I want you to stay out of drinking places and not
30 indulge in the use of alcoholic liquor or frequent or go to places
31 where it is the principal item of sale, and to obey such further

1 Probation Department.

2 I believe that covers it, Mr. Buckley.

3 MR. BIRNEY: Thank you, Your Honor.

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