

RE: INVESTIGATION CONCERNING EARL EVERETT RAY,
DECEASED UNCLE OF JAMES EARL RAY

By communication dated April 23, 1968, Albany advised that EARL EVERETT RAY, uncle of the subject, died May 2, 1959, in Buffalo. His body was found under a railroad bridge at the foot of Commercial Street, Buffalo, New York. EARL RAY came to Albany in 1957 from 476 Franklin Street, Buffalo, New York, where he was employed at Buffalo Hospital.

On April 24, 1968, SA ELMER F. MOULIN, JR., contacted WILLIAM J. COLLINS in charge of the micro section of the Buffalo Police Department. His records show that EARL E. RAY's body was found under the D. L. & W. railroad bridge at the foot of Commercial Street. Dr. LEE of Emergency Hospital pronounced RAY dead on arrival.

On April 24, 1968, NICHOLAS SALINARDO, Erie County Morgue, made available records which disclosed the body was brought to the morgue by the Roberts Funeral Home and after laying in the morgue for two days, was claimed by Mrs. FRANK FULLER, sister, 2601 Chestnut, Quincy, Ill., the claim being made by telegram.

GEORGE ROBERTS, Roberts Funeral Home, 2400 Main Street, Buffalo, on April 24, 1968, advised he took the body to the Erie County Morgue on May 2, 1959. His copy of the death certificate disclosed RAY's last place of residence as Western Road, Albany; occupation, steward; but unemployed at time of death; marital status, divorced; father, JAMES RAY and mother, LILLIAN MATTHEWS. The death certificate was signed by Dr. ROCCO DE DOMINICIS.

Mr. ROBERTS said the body was shipped to the Duke's Brothers Funeral Home, 823 Broadway, Quincy, Illinois, on May 4, 1959, as ordered by Mrs. FRANK FULLER.

The records of Buffalo General Hospital were checked by personnel director, TOM MICHEL, on August 24, 1968, but he could locate no employment record for RAY.

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On this same date, Miss ELLEN JONES, Personnel Office, Buffalo State Hospital, advised she could locate no employment record for RAY.

No neighborhood could be conducted at 476 Franklin Street, Buffalo, as residences in this downtown area were torn down in 1960 and have been replaced by business establishments

The records of the Buffalo Retail Merchants Credit Bureau contain data on one EARL RAY, 476 Franklin Street, Buffalo, in 1956. His previous residence was shown as 439 Cherry Street, Quincy, Illinois. His employment was shown as Buffalo General Hospital in 1956 with a previous employment shown as St. Mary's Hospital, Quincy, Illinois. His credit bureau file has been inactive since 1956.

The file contains a report from the Quincy Credit Bureau which showed that in July, 1955, EARL RAY paid a \$15 fine on a charge of assaulting YVONNE MC GINLEY. It also showed that RAY was in Menard Prison as of May 19, 1951, arising out of an assault charge for which he was sentenced three to ten years in September, 1948.