

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATION SECTION

JUN 11 1968

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

BI WASH DC

BI MINNAPLS

24 PM 6-14-68 URGENT BLE

TO DIRECTOR

KANSAS CITY

MEMPHIS

OMAHA

FROM MINNEAPOLIS (157-450) 4P

MURKIN

RE MINNEAPOLIS TEL JUNE SEVEN, LAST, AND MEMPHIS TEL
JUNE THIRTEEN LAST.

PAUL BRIDGEMAN, FORMER INMATE, MSP, JEFFERSON CITY,
MISSOURI, REINTERVIEWED AND ADVISED HE SAW JAMES EARL RAY AT
FORTRESS PAR, KANSAS CITY, APPROXIMATELY THREE WEEKS AFTER
HIS DISCHARGE FROM MSP, JANUARY SIXTEEN, 1968. HE ADVISED

AT TIME HE WAS LIVING AT FIVE FOUR THREE EIGHT SKYLINE DRIVE,
MISSION, KANSAS, (ROE VILLAGE). HE ADVISED A **44-38861-4113**
DESCRIBED AS MALE, WHITE, FIVE FEET NINE INCHES, ONE SIX ZERO

POUNDS, SANDY BUSHY HAIR, WHO WORKS FOR HIS FATHER IN SMALL
CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, WAS IN BAR AT TIME AND SAW [REDACTED] 15 JUN 17 1968
AND WANTED TO KNOW WHO SHE WAS.

BRIDGEMAN STATES EMPHATICALLY HE DOES NOT KNOW [REDACTED]
79 JUN 19 1968
END PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO

[REDACTED] BUT HAS SEEN HER AROUND KANSAS CITY AND BELIEVES HER TO BE A PROSTITUTE. HE STATED SHE MAY BE SISTER TO [REDACTED] WHO WAS IN MSP AND WAS RELEASED ABOUT SAME TIME RAY ESCAPED. BRIDGEMAN ADVISED HE WAS RELEASED FROM PRISON ON TUESDAY AND RATHBERG VISITED HIM IN KANSAS CITY WITH BRIDGEMAN'S SON THE NINETEENTH, TWENTIETH, AND TWENTY-FIRST OF JANUARY. HE NEXT SAW RATHBERG IN OKLAHOMA CITY WHERE THEY STAYED AT DOWN TOWNER MOTEL. HE RECALLS FIRST TIME HE SAW RATHBERG IN OKLAHOMA CITY WAS APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK AFTER HE SAW RAY IN KANSAS CITY. BRIDGEMAN ADVISED PRIOR TO [REDACTED] ARRIVING AT FORTRESS, BARMAID, KNOWN TO HIM ONLY AS JOYCE, RECEIVED CALL FROM UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE ASKING IF BRIDGEMAN WAS AT BAR. JOYCE TOLD CALLER THAT BRIDGEMAN WAS THERE AND THEN ASKED BRIDGEMAN IF IT WAS ALL RIGHT. BRIDGEMAN ADVISED HE TOLD HER IT WAS OK AND APPROXIMATELY TEN MINUTES LATER, BEVERLY HILL SHOWED UP.

AS POINTED OUT IN REFERENCED MINNEAPOLIS TEL, BRIDGEMAN INSISTS THIS WAS LAST AND ONLY TIME HE SAW RAY SINCE RAY'S ESCAPE MSP.

BRIDGEMAN CERTAIN VEHICLE RAY WAS IN WAS LIGHT BLUE BIRD AND BELIEVES IT TO BE ABOUT NINETEEN SIXTY-THREE T BIRD.
END PAGE TWO

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PAGE THREE

HE IS ALSO CERTAIN LICENSE PLATES WERE WHITE WITH RED LETTERS AND BELIEVES CAR TO BE LICENSED IN IOWA.

BRIDGEMAN ADVISED IN BRIEF CONVERSATION WITH RAY, RAY MENTIONED HE WAS "HOT" AND ASKED FOR MONEY. BRIDGEMAN ADVISED HE KNEW RAY HAD ESCAPED AND, THEREFORE, GAVE HIM THIRTY OR THIRTY-FIVE DOLLARS.

BRIDGEMAN EMPHATICALLY DENIED SEEING RAY IN OKLAHOMA WHEN HE HAD PLENTY OF MONEY AND EMPHATICALLY DENIED TELLING ANYONE HE HAD SEEN RAY IN ANY PLACE OTHER THAN KANSAS CITY AS STATED ABOVE.

AS TO [REDACTED] HE BELIEVES AT ONE TIME SHE DID WORK AT COLONY INN, KANSAS CITY, BUT IS NOT CERTAIN. AS TO [REDACTED] HE DOES KNOW HE WORKED AS BARTENDER IN JEWEL BOX, KANSAS CITY, AT ONE TIME.

JOYCE DESCRIBED AS A "LITTLE RED-HEADED GIRL".

BRIDGEMAN SUGGESTED POSSIBLE OTHER CONTACTS OF RAY IN KANSAS CITY WOULD BE ONE JIMMY DEWESSE WHO CALLED WITH RAY IN C FALL WHILE RAY AT MSP, AND CARL SPERO WHO KNEW RAY AT MSP. BRIDGEMAN BELIEVES BOTH OF ABOVE RELEASED FROM MSP PRIOR TO RAY'S VISIT TO KANSAS CITY IN FEBRUARY.

END PAGE THREE

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PAGE FOUR

KANSAS CITY, CONDUCT INDICATED INVESTIGATION TO VERIFY
OR REFUTE BRIDGEMAN'S STORY.

MEMPHIS, CONSIDER ADVISING OTHER OFFICE TO COVER LEADS
SET OUT IN MINNEAPOLIS TEL JUNE SEVEN, LAST.

END

JTM

FBI WASH DC