

From Democrat and Chronicle
Wire Services

James Earl Ray, alleged assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King, lived quietly for four weeks in seedy boarding houses of Toronto's West Side.

One landlady said she thought she recognized him at the time from a newspaper sketch of the man wanted in the murder of King. But her husband told her she was wrong and so they forgot it.

Later, said Mrs. Adam Szpakowski, she walked into Ray's room to clean and found a newspaper folded open to the sketch. She said her suspicions were not aroused because "he was such a gentleman."

"How was I to know he was a hardit?" said Mrs. Szpakowski of the man who lived at her rooming house under the name of Paul Bridgeman.

She said the man knocked on her door April 8, four days after the assassination of King in Memphis, Tenn., asked the weekly rate and handed over the first week's rent — \$10.

He had one suit of clothes, a raincoat and a small bag, she said.

Mrs. Szpakowski said the man she knew as Bridgeman left his second-floor room about 8:30 a.m. every day, returned about noon and left again until after supper. She said he spent most evenings in his room.

"We never saw much of him," said Mrs. Szpakowski, a Polish immigrant. "He paid his rent and rarely spoke."

The man told her he was a real estate salesman, she said.

Mr. and Mrs. Loo Sun, who let out rooms in their half of a three-story brick duplex, also recalled renting a second-floor rear room to Ray for \$9 a week. He told them he worked in a hotel and that his name was Ramon George Sneyd.

He was neatly dressed. The only thing that struck the Suns as curious about the man was that he seldom used the room during the first week, disappearing for a few days at a time.



MRS. SZPAKOWSKI

... 'such a gentleman'

Ray's choice of aliases for his Toronto sojourn was quite felicitous. Paul Bridgeman is a consultant teacher for the local board of education. Ramon George Sneyd is a constable with about 14 years service on the metropolitan police.

How did Ray get these names? Police have checked out both Bridgeman and Sneyd and are convinced that neither man had ever heard of Ray. The police have a theory that Ray, plotting to obtain a Canadian passport so that he could get to Europe, went to a newspaper office and examined birth notices of 40 years ago. He wanted to assume the identity of a Canadian who was the same age as himself. That might account for his choice of Sneyd, who is 40. He might have picked Bridge-

man's name out of a telephone book.

It was also learned yesterday that Ray lived in a third-class hotel in downtown Lisbon for nine days in May and then disappeared.

"That's the man who called himself Ramon George Sneya," declared the day clerk of the Hotel Portugal pointing to one of the photographs of Ray published in a Lisbon newspaper.

Ray signed into the 45-room, busy commercial hotel on the evening of May 8 and left on the morning of May 17.

A spokesman for the Canadian embassy in Lisbon also reported seeing a man who carried a Canadian passport in the name of Sneya.

"He came into the consulate and said that his name had been misspelled on the passport and that it should have been Sneyd," a Canadian consular official said. "He produced a birth certificate in the name of Ramon George Sneyd and asked us to change Sneya to Sneyd."

The Canadian consul said he pointed out that it was against embassy regulations to alter a passport and so issued a new passport in the name of Sneyd on May 16.

"The man called Sneya did not spend much time in the hotel," Louis Gentil, the hotel clerk, said. "I was on the night desk then and saw Sneya come back generally very late at night. Sometimes he didn't come back at all."

Ray gave no profession on signing into the Hotel Portugal. He stated he was 36 years old and that he had come from Lisbon airport. He left no forwarding address when he left, according to the clerk.

He took a modest room on the second floor overlooking the noisy shopping street of Joao das Regras. He paid a little more than \$2 a day for the room without breakfast.

A chambermaid at the hotel, Maria Celeste, 31, said she remembered the man because he left without tipping her.

F B I

Date: 6/13/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (44-374)

MURKIN

RE BUFFALO TEL, JUNE ELEVEN LAST, AND MEMPHIS TEL, JUNE TWELVE LAST.

INSPECTOR RICHARD GIBSON (NA), IN CHARGE OF THE CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION BUREAU, METROPOLITAN TORONTO POLICE DEPARTMENT (MTPD), HAD CHECK MADE OF ALL UNSOLVED MAJOR OCCURRENCES AT TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA FOR THE PERIOD APRIL TWENTYFOUR, SIXTYSEVEN TO JULY EIGHTEEN, SIXTYSEVEN, BUT COULD LOCATE NONE WHEREIN SUBJECT COULD BE CONSIDERED LOGICAL SUSPECT.

~~IT IS NOTED THAT~~ SIMILAR CHECK OF MAJOR OCCURRENCES IN TORONTO FOR PERIOD APRIL EIGHT TO MAY SIX, SIXTYEIGHT HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN MADE WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE B. O. SIMMONDS (NA), MTPD, ADVISED TODAY THAT HE IS INFORMING THE LOCAL PRESS THAT THE "MYSTERIOUS FAT MAN" HAS BEEN LOCATED, INTERVIEWED AND ELIMINATED AND THAT HE HAD NO SIGNIFICANCE IN THE INVESTIGATION. HE IS NOT RELEASING ANYTHING CONCERNING THE IDENTITY OF THE "MYSTERIOUS FAT MAN."

JPMcM:smk
(1) *smk*

SAC *44-374-319*
Searched _____ Serialized _____
Indexed _____ Filed _____

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

11:23 WA
11:25 ME
6/13/68

M

Per _____

F B I

Date:

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

BU 44-374

PAGE TWO

RCMP AT TORONTO ARE PRESENTLY ENDEAVORING TO OBTAIN RECORD OF ALL LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE CALLS MADE FROM PUBLIC TELEPHONE BOOTH NEAR NINE SIX TWO DUNDAS STREET WEST, TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA, DURING PERTINENT PERIOD.

~~ARMED AND DANGEROUS.~~

P.

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

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI-BUFFALO

1125AM URGENT 6/13/68 DAT

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FROM BUFFALO (44-374)

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END

MCP

FBI MEMPHIS

JMT

FBI WASH DC

319
Searched _____ Serialized _____
Indexed _____ Filed _____

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC 44-374

DATE: 6/12/68

FROM : SA Paul A. Joensen

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Stops placed with the Identification Units of the Rochester Police Bureau and with the Monroe County SO were removed by SA JOENSEN on 6/11/68.

Individuals advised are:

Captain JAMES MC GOWAN, Rochester Police Bureau.

Dep. Sher. ED BLODGETT, Monroe County SO., Rochester.

PAJ:paj
1

44-374-330

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 13 1968	
FBI - BUFFALO	

[Handwritten signature]



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

SAC (44-374) (P)

6/14/68

SA JAMES P. MC MAHON

MURKIN

At 11:20 a.m., on this date, a man identifying himself as ROBERT JOHNSTONE, a Reporter for the "Toronto Star," telephonically contacted the writer, stating he was doing so at the instructions of his boss, THOMAS BETSEN, an Editor of the "Toronto Star."

JOHNSTONE advised the reason for his call was to obtain information regarding WALTER PEYSON and ROBERT DE PUGH, members of the "Minutemen" organization of the United States, who, according to JOHNSTONE, are fugitives from justice whose apprehension is being sought by the FBI. He further stated he had received a report that the USA, Missouri, had allegedly stated the FBI had information indicating both of these fugitives were in Canada.

The writer gave JOHNSTONE absolutely no information whatsoever concerning any leads we might have or investigation which might be underway in Canada concerning these two fugitives but did inquire of JOHNSTONE as to why he saw fit to telephone this office to make inquiry.

JOHNSTONE, thereafter, ^{preparation} advised the "Toronto Star" has just about completed the ~~publication~~ of a story which they expect to break within the next 24 hours definitely tying JAMES EARL RAY with the "Minutemen" organization.

JOHNSTONE was quite reluctant to answer questions concerning this story but did state their investigation has established that during the past summer, RAY resided in a city in Canada where a member of the "Minutemen"

1 - 91-2993

JPMcM:bmp
(3)

44-374-321

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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[Signature]

BU 44-374

organization from the United States also resided, that they have now established that they lived within one block of one another, and that all indications are that RAY had contact with this "Minuteman" for at least a two-week period and maybe for as much as one month. Initially, JOHNSTONE would not even identify the city in Canada where this association of RAY with an unknown "Minuteman" allegedly took place but he finally did state it was in the City of Montreal during Expo 67.

JOHNSTONE also said that the "Minuteman," whom he refused to identify, has since returned to the United States where he is being interviewed by a Reporter from the "Toronto Star" for the purpose of substantiating his association with RAY. He indicated the interview has been in progress for some time now, that the unknown member of the "Minutemen" organization is represented by a lawyer who is present during interview, and that the lawyer's advice to the unknown "Minuteman" changes periodically. In some instances, he advises his client to answer questions fully as posed to him by the reporter and other times, he requests that his client not answer the questions immediately until he, the lawyer, has had an opportunity to think them over.

As indicated above, JOHNSTONE stated he expects this story to break within the next 24 hours. (It is noted the "Toronto Star," which is one of the two Toronto afternoon newspapers, does not publish on Sunday and, therefore, if such a story is actually going to be broken, it more than likely will be in Saturday afternoon's edition.)

JOHNSTONE also expressed the belief that much unfounded speculation has been engaged in by the news media in Toronto since the arrest of RAY but that he, personally, felt that if this "Minutemen" angle was anything but accurate, he would be greatly surprised.

Incidental to the call, JOHNSTONE stated that his father was a former member of the Metropolitan Toronto Police Department (MTPD) and he expressed great admiration for and confidence in the MTPD.

BU 44-374

While the writer does not know JOHNSTONE and is, therefore, in no position to evaluate his reliability, it is suggested that consideration be given to the possibility that whether this story has any basis in fact or not it may have the corollary purpose of ascertaining whether the FBI is, in fact, working closely with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) on Canadian leads in the MURKIN case and for that reason, it is believed that this information, as received, should be furnished promptly to the RCMP, Toronto.

~~ARMED AND DANGEROUS.~~

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JPMcM: bmp
(3)

1 - 91-2993

155 P. 6/14/68
Phoned to Supv Joseph Kelly,
CR Sect, Bureau who
requested T/T be sent.
WDR
REMA

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUN 13 1968	
FBI - BUFFALO	

Eddy



6/14/68 1:40 PM Supt
CARL DOEY ADVISED

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

BU 44-374

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ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-374) (P)

FROM : SA SYLVESTER B. SMITH

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 6/14/68

On 6/14/68, EDWARD WHITNEY, Senior Excise Tax Examiner (who requested his name be kept confidential), of the New York State Tax Division, Miscellaneous Tax Bureau, 65 Court Street, Buffalo, New York, advised that he thought that the FBI would be interested in checking out all the movements of JAMES RAY. Therefore, he thought he should furnish the following information:

He stated that in April 1968, he had relatives coming to visit him and knowing that he did not have sufficient room in his home to house them, he made arrangements to have them stay at the Holiday Inn, which is managed by JERRY KASTIGLIA, located at Exit 57 near Camp Road and Route 75. He said on 4/9/68, he was waiting in the lobby for his relatives who were getting settled in their room at the Holiday Inn. He fixed the time at approximately 5:30 PM.

While watching the KING funeral on 4/9/68 at this time, a male individual came in and said to him "Is this damn thing still on?" and passed some other unrecalled remarks. This male individual sat down and started reading a newspaper. He sat there for approximately five or ten minutes and then left.

WHITNEY said that he had read several articles in the local newspapers on the KING murder and had seen earlier pictures of RAY, but these earlier pictures were not the same as had appeared in the "Buffalo Evening News" reporting the arrest of RAY. Additionally, the photograph of RAY which appears in the commemorative issue of the "Buffalo Evening News" for ROBERT F. KENNEDY has a photograph of RAY.

SBS:bab
(2)



44-374-322

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JUN 14 1968	
FBI - BUFFALO	

Conrad

H. H. King

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

W/ P/P + other rate photos

BU 44-374

He stated that these recent photographs in the "Buffalo Evening News" he is almost sure are identical with the individual that he saw in the lobby of the Holiday Inn on 4/9/68 at approximately 5:30 PM. He said the individual did not wear glasses at the time.

He thought that since movements of RAY no doubt would like to be checked by law enforcement agencies, he felt this should be reported to the FBI. He did not know whether the individual was rooming at the Holiday Inn at the time.

RECOMMENDATION

It is requested that a lead be set out to conduct appropriate investigation at the Holiday Inn to determine possibly whether the individual seen by Mr. WHITNEY was JAMES RAY.

Comfort

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6/14/68

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44-374-322

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Eddy

BU 44-374

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Confort

6/11/68

ROUTING SLIP TO ALL FIELD OFFICES

FROM: *rw* SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

RE: JAMES EARL RAY, aka -
FUGITIVE
CR - CONSPIRACY; UFAC - ROBBERY

OO: MEMPHIS

Re report of SA JOE C. HESTER 6/5/68 at Memphis.

Page 17, paragraph 4, line 6 - 12/17/67, should
be 12/7/67.

Please correct your copies.

SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN

TOR:tjm

44-374-323

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUN 14 1968	
FBI - BUFFALO	

[Handwritten signature]

F B I

Date: 6/14/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, MEMPHIS

FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (44-374)

MURKIN

RE BUFFALO TELEPHONE CALL TO BUREAU THIS DATE.

ROBERT JOHNSTONE, REPORTER, "TORONTO STAR," TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA AFTERNOON NEWSPAPER, TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED BUFFALO OFFICE THIS DATE INQUIRING AS TO ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE CONCERNING FUGITIVES WALTER PATRICK PEYSON AND ROBERT BOLIVAR DE PUGH BEING IN CANADA. HE STATED INQUIRY MADE ON BASIS OF STATEMENT ALLEGEDLY MADE BY U. S. ATTORNEY IN MISSOURI CLAIMING INDICATIONS WERE THAT FUGITIVES WERE IN CANADA.

NO INFORMATION IN THIS CONNECTION WAS GIVEN TO JOHNSTONE. DURING THIS TELEPHONE CALL, JOHNSTONE ADVISED THAT "TORONTO STAR" EXPECTS TO RELEASE WITHIN THE NEXT TWENTY FOUR HOURS DETAILED STORY ESTABLISHING ASSOCIATION BETWEEN JAMES EARL RAY AND MINUTEMAN ORGANIZATION. ACCORDING TO JOHNSTONE THEY HAVE ESTABLISHED THAT FOR PERIOD OF TWO WEEKS TO A MONTH

1 - Seattle (AM)

JPMCM:sap

(2) *int*

44-374-324

Approved: *[Signature]*
Special Agent in ChargeSent *6/14/68* M Per *[Signature]**3:10 WA*
3:15 ME

F B I

Date:

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

BU 44-374

PAGE TWO

DURING EXPO SIXTY SEVEN RAY LIVED WITHIN ONE BLOCK OF ONE
KNOWN MEMBER OF MINUTEMAN ORGANIZATION IN MONTREAL, CANADA.

THIS MINUTEMAN, WHOSE IDENTITY JOHNSTONE ^{WOULD} ~~BE~~ NOT DISCLOSE
PRESENTLY BEING INTERVIEWED BY "TORONTO STAR" REPORTER IN UN-
DISCLOSED CITY IN THE U. S. TO WHICH HE RETURNED AFTER HIS
STAY IN MONTREAL.

THIS INTERVIEW BEING CONDUCTED FOR PURPOSE OF SUBSTANTIATING
RAY'S ASSOCIATION WITH THIS UNKNOWN MINUTEMAN AND IS BEING
CONDUCTED IN PRESENCE OF MINUTEMAN'S ATTORNEY, WHO IS ALLOWING
CLIENT TO ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS IMMEDIATELY AND INSTRUCTING
HIM NOT TO ANSWER OTHER QUESTIONS UNTIL ATTORNEY HAS HAD
OPPORTUNITY TO CONSIDER THEM. *IDENTITY OF ATTORNEY NOT
DISCLOSED.*

BUFFALO IN NO POSITION TO EVALUATE RELIABILITY OF
JOHNSTONE BUT ABOVE INFORMATION AS FURNISHED BY HIM HAS BEEN
GIVEN BY BUFFALO TO RCMP, TORONTO. *AM COPY SEATTLE.*

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

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI-BUFFALO

315PM URGENT 6/14/68 DAT

TO DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS

FROM BUFFALO (44-374)

MURKIN

RE BUFFALO TELEPHONE CALL TO BUREAU THIS DATE.

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THIS MINUTEMAN, WHOSE IDENTITY JOHNSTONE WOULD NOT DISCLOSE PRESENTLY BEING INTERVIEWED BY "TORONTO STAR" REPORTER IN UNDISCLOSED CITY IN THE U.S. TO WHICH HE RETURNED AFTER HIS STAY IN MONTREAL.

END PAGE ONE

44-374-324

Searched	Serialized
Indexed	Filed

PAGE TWO

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BUFFALO IN NO POSITION TO EVALUATE RELIABILITY OF JOHNSTONE BUT ABOVE INFORMATION AS FURNISHED BY HIM HAS BEEN GIVEN BY BUFFALO TO RCMP, TORONTO.

AMCC SEATTLE.

END

MEN

FBI MEMPHIS

JMT

FBI WASH DC

6/14/68

AIR-TEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (44-374) (P)

MURKIN

Re Buffalo tel, dated 6/13/68.

Superintendent CARL DOEY advised on 6/14/68 that inquiry at Toronto Telephone Company disclosed that records of long distance telephone calls made from the public telephone booth near 962 Dundas Street West, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, were destroyed after 30 days and, therefore, no check could be made of such calls during the pertinent period.

3 - Bureau (AM)
1 - Memphis (Info.) (AM)
① - Buffalo
JPMcM:sap
(4) *sap*

Wor

SAC *Am*
Eddy *E*

44-374-325

Searched _____ Serialized _____
Indexed _____ Filed *[initials]*

FBI

Date: 6-12-68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AM
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: SAC, ALBANY
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P
MURKIN

In view of subject's apprehension, any office having outstanding leads or requests for circularization in any publication of any kind should cancel outstanding request now.

A & D.

2 Albany
1 All Continental Offices
1 Memphis

RGJ:BN
(56)

44-374-326

not not

Eddy E

(2) Sam. D. Sted. w/

Re Eastern Kodak

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

RCMP worked at night

200,000 passport applications searched

By MICHAEL GILLAN
Globe and Mail Reporter

OTTAWA — An exhaustive search of passport applications by a dozen Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers working at night over several weeks led to Saturday's arrest in Britain of James Earl Ray.

The RCMP went through 200,000 to 250,000 applications over a two-or three-week period before discovering a week ago

Saturday that a man passing himself as Ramon George Sneyd looked like the man wanted for the assassination of Rev. Martin Luther King. His passport had been issued April 25.

Once we knew the name Ray was travelling under, it was simple for us and the FBI to trace his travels through the airlines and immigration offices," one RCMP officer said yesterday.

External Affairs Department sources termed the RCMP's job a "colossal investigation" and "magnificent work." RCMP spokesmen were proud but described the investigation process as routine and unexciting.

The RCMP became involved in the case shortly after the April 4 killing of Dr. King when the Federal Bureau of Investigation asked for co-operation in the investigation in case Ray had skipped into Canada.

During the first or second week of May the RCMP received

an exhaustive permission from External Affairs to search passport applications received during the past year. They wanted to look at those for the past 12 months in case Ray had visited Canada prior to the killing to arrange for a passport. It was learned later that he was in Canada last year, but did not obtain a passport.

Once External Affairs gave permission to search the application files, RCMP from Eastern Ontario's A division began working at night in the passport office in an office building one block from Parliament.

External Affairs says the search was done at night to prevent the large staff from knowing an investigation was going on. That kept the search from interfering with the regular work of the office.

External Affairs would not release the picture Ray submitted with his application, but officials were ecstatic that the RCMP was able to match the one in the Sneyd file with the picture of Ray distributed by the FBI.

Ray, according to persons who have met him, does not have distinctive features and the picture in his file here was not clear.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

GLOBE & MAIL
TORONTO, ONTARIO,
CANADA

Date: 6/10/68

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Author:

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☐ Being Investigated

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Superintendent Charles Sweeney, head of the RCMP's A Division, credited investigation by officers in A Division, at headquarters in Ottawa and in O Division in Toronto for a successful result.

He said that once the identification was made, police knew that Ray was headed overseas.

Superintendent Sweeney said there was no possibility of any member of the force accepting the \$100,000 reward offered in the United States for the arrest of Ray. The RCMP never accepts rewards, he said. "This was routine police work and they are paid for it at the end of the month."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

By BRUCE WEST

The fugitive

Brrrrr! It shakes you a bit, doesn't it, to think that the man being sought for the shooting of Dr. Martin Luther King was living right here in Toronto with us for several weeks? It would be interesting to know just why James Earl Ray chose Toronto the Good, the City of Churches, in which to settle down for a while. Of course, there are a lot of things some of us would like to know about this case and perhaps in due course we will. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police seem to suspect that Ray's arrival and subsequent departure from Toronto was a little too well-organized and smoothly handled to have been carried out unaided by one forlorn stranger travelling in a foreign land. It does appear that he knew more about how to obtain a phony passport than a lot of native Canadians do. I always had the impression there was a fair amount of red tape connected with obtaining a passport. Certainly it never seemed all that easy when I acquired one. It makes you wonder how many persons there may be in the world who are travelling around as Canadian nationals without being entitled to do so. At any rate, a long and patient RCMP search through the passport photo files seems to have provided the clue that led to the arrest of the man now being held in London's Cannon Row police station. That looks like excellent police work, to me. (It's a good thing the officer wasn't discovered going through these files by some ardent defender of the public rights, or there would have been some indignant letters to the editor, I'll bet you . . .)



James Earl Ray

Another curious thing that strikes you about this case is the startling resemblance between the photographs of the man now being held in London and the sketches made from eye-witness descriptions of the man who disappeared from the rooming house in Memphis, Tenn., after the shooting of Dr. King. The sketches were made by Federal Bureau of Investigation artists, using a technique which has proved successful on more than one occasion.

It seems to me there is an interesting connection between the alleged fraudulent birth certificate and passport in the Ray case and the present clamor for stiffer gun control laws which has followed the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. There are those who would now make it extremely difficult—some would make it impossible—for a hunter or member of a shooting club to obtain a firearm.

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But it has always appeared to me that if such rigid laws were introduced, the law-abiding sportsman would end up bound hand and foot by red tape while the criminal who wanted to obtain a gun for illegal purposes would just go right on obtaining one by illegal means. If some thug wants something badly enough, there's usually some underworld method of obtaining it.

This, however, does not suggest that there shouldn't be some kind of tightening up in gun control, to at least the extent that any kook who can buy a money order would be prevented from ordering a gun from the hand-
test mail order house.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Soft touch

Declarations of this kind are normally made out before a commissioner for oaths, a notary public or a justice of the peace.

The man believed to be James Earl Ray, a prime suspect in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, was apprehended in London because the Canadian system of dealing with passport applications apparently made it easy for him to obtain one under the name of Ramon George Sneyd.

One may take satisfaction in that police investigation of a vile crime may be considerably advanced by the arrest and certainly there is justification for pride in the tedious but determined work of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police which yielded the vital clue. Yet there is disquiet—as there should be—over the thought that Canada may become known as a soft touch in the field of international credentials.

It springs to mind that at one point in the career of Russian spy Gordon Lonsdale, he found it convenient to come to Canada to pick up a passport and birth certificate in that name. The RCMP has described the passport as a forgery. The past two months in the life of the man said to be James Earl Ray suggest that procedures have not become a great deal tighter since Lonsdale's day.

External Affairs Minister Mitchell Sharp has announced that there will be an appraisal of the procedures now in force for passport applications, presumably to determine whether they achieve a standard of reasonable strictness without inflicting undue inconvenience or hardship on bona fide applicants.

The inquiry should prove useful, if not reassuring. As pieced together from the testimony of various individuals, the passage of the suspect through Canada was bizarre enough to warrant some study. Entry from the United States is simple enough as a rule . . . "Where were you born? How long will you stay? Do you have anything to declare?" And that is about all.

Beyond this point there are problems for a fugitive who wants to keep on the move. A Canadian passport will help him on his way, but to get it he is supposed to present some kind of evidence that he is who he says he is. In the case of the man who called himself Ramon George Sneyd, officials say he obtained his passport by making out a statutory declaration of identity and citizenship.

We would not wish to see wire fences along every border. Indeed, the world should be struggling for the eradication of international barriers, toward the idea of complete freedom of movement from country to country.

Still, we are obliged to live in the world as it is and as long as there are procedures connected with the acquisition of a Canadian passport, there is an obligation on the authorities concerned to try to make them work. It may be, as one RCMP officer said, impossible for any country to devise an airtight system, yet a study may offer some lessons on the evidence by which applicants seek to establish identity.

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CANADA

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Metro police question 'fat man,' doubt Ray had city accomplices

Police are beginning to doubt that James Earl Ray had accomplices in Toronto to assist him in fleeing the continent.

Yesterday, Superintendent A. J. Payne of the Metro Police criminal investigation bureau disclosed that the "fat man" who visited Ray in a west-end rooming house had been identified and cleared by the bureau.

He said police were left with no evidence indicating there might have been an accomplice. "If there were accomplices it's more likely they'll be turned up in the United States," he said.

The fat man, whose name police refused to disclose, found an open envelope in a telephone booth near the Dundas Street West rooming house where Ray was living under the name Ramon George Sneyd.

He checked the enclosed letter, noted that it had been written by a man living a few doors away and returned it. Police said he could not recall to whom the letter was addressed or the contents, except that it appeared to be an application for a job.

He walked into police headquarters on Tuesday and volunteered the information that he might be the man they were looking for.

Police and reporters had been searching for a fat man ever since Ray's landlady, Mrs. Sun Loo, reported that such a man had passed Ray an envelope at the door four days before he left for London on May 6.

The man was described by police as being heavy but not fat, and ascribed the difference in descriptions to Mrs. Loo's limited knowledge of English.

"We've gone about as far as we can go except to find out how he got his information on these men (whose names Ray used as aliases)," Superintendent Payne said.

Ray apparently has used the names of three men living in the same general area of Scarborough. All three are dark-haired, are in the same weight and height range as Ray and bear superficial resemblances to him. One, Eric St. Vincent Galt, even has similar scars on the palm of his right hand and in the middle of his forehead.

Mr. Galt is a warehousing foreman in Toronto. Mr.

Sneyd is a Metro Police constable and the third man, Paul Bridgman, is a teaching consultant. Mr. Sneyd and Mr. Bridgman are 35, Mr. Galt is 54 and Ray is 40.

Superintendent Payne said it would be quite easy for Ray to choose men of similar appearance by going to a shopping centre, spotting them, taking their car license numbers and then obtaining details concerning them from the licence bureau.

Ray also had a caller at the first place he stayed after coming to Toronto on May 8, according to his landlady, Fela Szpakowsky of 102 Ossington Ave.

He lived there as Paul Bridgman, and Mrs. Szpakowsky said three or four days after he moved out a man who identified himself as a police officer asked to see him. He was short and slight with dark blond hair and wore a suit and tie, she said.

When she said Bridgman had moved out, the man left. Both RCMP and Metro Police officials deny the man was a member of their force and noted that according to Mrs. Szpakowsky's description he was too short to be hired as an officer.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Mail-Order Passports**Lax Canada Laws
Aided Ray Escape**

By MICHAEL GORE
Special to The Courier-Express
TORONTO — Just how did James Earl Ray, the suspected assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who was captured in London the other day, manage to have two perfectly genuine Canadian passports?

Certainly, one of the passports was canceled, but only after he had used it to slip through an intensive security net spread across North America to catch him.

Ray was the latest of scores of criminals and spies who for years have been outwitting law enforcement agencies around the world with mail-order passports from Ottawa.

ROYAL CANADIAN Mounted Police who have been piecing together Ray's month-long stay in Toronto after the Memphis, Tenn. assassination, have determined that he filled out a passport application in a local travel agent's office and mailed it to Ottawa, together with the \$5 fee, three full face unsmiling passport photographs and a copy of a birth certificate of a Toronto resident, Raymon Sneyd, whose name he had borrowed.

Two weeks later, the Canadian External Affairs Department obligingly mailed back a valid passport to the most wanted man in the world and four days later, Ray boarded a trans-Atlantic jet for London.

He surfaced two weeks later in Lisbon, Portugal, where he went to the Canadian embassy and persuaded them to issue another passport on the grounds his borrowed name had been misspelled in the Ottawa-issued original as Sneya. His original passport was canceled and handed back to him. The Mounties now suspect he wanted a new passport merely to get rid of the various entry and exit stamps.

THE ONLY PROBLEM the suspected assassin had getting his first Canadian passport was in securing a birth certificate, the only document necessary to support the passport application. And the Mounties have established that Ray spent at least three days pouring over old newspaper files in the reference section of the Toronto Central Library. His interest was in the births announcement columns of the two afternoon newspapers. In the Daily Star, on Oct. 8, 1932, and a birth notice in respect of Raymon George Sneyd.

Wallet-sized, plastic-coated copies of any birth certificate can be mail-ordered from the Ontario Government's Registrar's Office for \$2. The only information needed is the place and year of birth and the names of both parents.

ALL THIS INFORMATION is usually included in a birth announcement as it was in the 35-year-old Sneyd announcement. The real Raymon Sneyd is a 14-year veteran of the Toronto Police Department and he was astounded when the Mounties turned up to question him about the passport he had never applied for.

Ray also used the alias of another Canadian living in Toronto, Paul Bridgman, an educational consultant whose birth notice appeared in the Toronto Evening Telegram on Nov. 10, 1932. A pencil mark had been made against the Bridgman birth announcement when police checked the library's copy of the old newspaper.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

19

Buffalo Courier Express
Date 6/16/68
Edition 4 Star
City Buffalo, N.Y.
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Bureau Office

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FBI - BUFFALO

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What really astonished the American and Canadian investigators working on the case in Toronto was that both the real Sneyd and the real Bridgman have dark hair like Ray and are of similar height and weight. Photographs of the three men look remarkably alike.

THE THIRD ALIAS Ray used, Eric Starvo Galt, was even more remarkable. The real Eric Galt, a warehouse foreman in suburban Toronto, even has a 1½-inch long scar on his forehead as Ray does.

It was only when the FBI discovered Ray had spent two months in Canada last year, after escaping from the Missouri State Penitentiary where he was serving a 20-year sentence for robbery, that it was suspected he might have fled to Canada again.

A sharp-eyed Mountie checking through thousands of passport photographs at the Records Office in Ottawa spotted a similarity between the fake Sneyd and the FBI's Most Wanted Man poster.

CANADA'S LAX PASSPORT laws are well known in jails and prisons around the world. In one American penitentiary, it has been reported, the inmates run a night class for convicts planning escapes, coaching them how to get a passport in Canada.

The underworld is also involved in the passports racket. In both Toronto and Montreal, lists of names, data and places of birth and a physical description, are for sale to crooks on the run, usually for \$100 to \$150. Perhaps Ray bought his aliases and was merely checking them out in the library?

Canadian passports also have long been favorites with spies. Gordon Lonsdale, the biggest Soviet agent ever trapped in Britain in 1961, traveled on a Canadian passport. His two assistants captured at the same time, New York-born Helen and Peter Kroger, were equipped with Canadian passports. Another Russian spy ring broken up by the Australians in 1960 was using Canadian passports for its agents.

EVEN THE RUSSIANS' hatchet man who murdered Leon Trotsky in Mexico as long ago as 1940 traveled on a genuine Canadian passport identifying him as Frank Jackson.

When Igor Gouzenko, a top secret cypher clerk in the Soviet Embassy in Ottawa, defected to the West in 1945, he told the Canadians that Communist agents even had access to the maximum security Passport Records Office in Ottawa. On at least one occasion, he said, Soviet agents had broken in and substituted genuine applications with fakes.

All this, and the disclosure that James Earl Ray as the world's most hunted man, was able to get a mail-order passport with such ease, has become something of a national scandal in Canada.

The new prime minister, Pierre Trudeau, is both worried and determined to halt this trafficking in his country's passports. One of the first pieces of legislation he intends to put before the governing Parliament after the June 25 general election here is a bill setting out much stiffer penalties—up to 14 years in prison—for any person caught fraudulently applying for a passport.

6/18/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (44-374) (P)
MURKIN
(OO: Memphis)

ReBuairtel to all SACs and Legats, dated 5/7/68, instructing that 15 copies of all inserts be prepared for Memphis in this case.

Transmitted herewith for Memphis are 15 copies of an investigative insert, and to Detroit one copy of an investigative insert, captioned "ANONYMOUS LETTER TO MRS. MARY GROOMS, ROCHESTER, NEW YORK."

2 - Memphis (Encs. 15) (AM)
2 - Detroit (Enc. 1) (AM)
① - Buffalo

RGE:mfm

(5) *mfm*

44-374-332
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BU 44-374

-1-

RE: ANONYMOUS LETTER TO MRS. MARY
GROOMS, ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

On April 22, 1968, Mrs. MARY GROOMS, 159 Burkedale Crescent, Rochester, New York, furnished a letter which she received on April 19, 1968. The letter was contained in an envelope postmarked "Rochester, NY, PM, 17 April 1968." The letter reads as follows:

"Mrs. Grooms -

"I read your column regularly they are good and factual, with lots of common sense. The King plot was hatched recently in Detroit by Black Nationalists, Muslims, and Commies (I was there). The job was done by a hired professional killer. The Commies paid for the job. The authorities will eventually find out.

"An anonymous black man"

Mrs. GROOMS, who writes a weekly column for the Rochester "Times Union," a daily Rochester newspaper, was unable to furnish any additional information.

The original envelope and letter were obtained and transmitted to the FBI Laboratory for latent fingerprint examination and document examination. By letter dated May 6, 1968, the Laboratory furnished the following report:

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BU 44-374
-2-



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535**

To: **FBI, Buffalo (44-374)**

Date: **May 6, 1968**

Re: **MURKIN
CR**

FBI File No. **44-38861**

Lab. No. **D-562101 JK**

Specimens received **5/2/68**

Q304 White envelope postmarked "ROCHESTER, N.Y. 1A PM 17
APR 1968" bearing typewritten address "MRS. GROOMS
ROCHESTER TIMES-UNION ROCHESTER, N. Y."

Q305 Accompanying piece of paper bearing typewritten message
beginning "MRS. GROOMS - I READ...."

Result of examination:

It was concluded that the typewriting on Q304 and
Q305 is not identical to typewriting appearing on material
attributable to Eric S. Galt, previously submitted in this case.

Q304 and Q305 were searched in the Anonymous Letter
File without effecting an identification. Copies have been
added to this file for future reference.

Except for the printing "FREE PARKING" on the reverse
side of Q305, no watermarks, indented writing or other
identifying characteristics were noted on the submitted material
by which the source of these specimens could be definitely deter-
mined.

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By communication dated May 9, 1968, the Identification Division of the FBI furnished the following report:

One latent fingerprint of value was developed on the envelope. No latent prints of value on Q305. The latent fingerprint on the envelope is not identical with the fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #405942G, or with the latent fingerprints previously reported in this case.

6/18/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (44-374) (P)
MURKIN
(OO: Memphis)

ReBuairtel to all SACs and Legats, dated 5/7/68, instructing that 15 copies of all inserts be prepared for Memphis in this case.

Transmitted herewith for Memphis are 15 copies each of inserts bearing the following captions:

"TELEPHONE CALLS BY SUBJECT
JAMES EARL RAY ENROUTE FROM
LOS ANGELES TO NEW ORLEANS"

"GUESTS OF THE PROVINCIAL MOTEL,
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA,
DECEMBER 17-19, 1967"

"CHARLES DUNHAM
INFORMATION CONCERNING"

"PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT
ORDERED BY JAMES EARL RAY
FROM SUPERIOR BULK FILM
COMPANY, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS,
UNDER NAME ERIC S. GALT"

"DARK BLUE MUSTANG
GEORGIA LICENSE
2D 112-56"

2 - Memphis (Encs. 165) (AM)

(1) - Buffalo

RGE:mfm

(3) mfm

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BU 44-374

"DRIVER OF 1964 OR 1965 FORD,
FLORIDA LICENSE 4W 69100"

"INVESTIGATION CONCERNING EARL EVERETT RAY,
DECEASED UNCLE OF JAMES EARL RAY"

"EASTERN AIRLINES
CHECK AT BUFFALO"

"INFORMATION FROM
MRS. GLADYS MEEHAN"

"THREATS TO MARTIN LUTHER
KING, JR.; INFORMATION
FROM MRS. JESSIE KILGRAS,
PENFIELD, NEW YORK
NOVEMBER 13, 1967"

"MRS. VIOLA V. BORYS"

BU 44-374

-1-

RE: TELEPHONE CALLS BY SUBJECT
JAMES EARL RAY ENROUTE FROM
LOS ANGELES TO NEW ORLEANS

Phoenix advised that JAMES EARL RAY took an automobile trip from Los Angeles, California, to New Orleans, Louisiana, between December 15 and 17, 1967.

A check of telephone toll booths along the route traveled indicated a number of out-of-state telephone calls.

El Paso had informed Phoenix that one was made December 15, 1967, to Tucson, Arizona, telephone number 299-6532, listed to GILBERT J. PEDERSON of Tucson.

Investigation there determined that Mr. PEDERSON was enroute to Buffalo, New York, where he is a member of a law firm in Buffalo and lives in the Buffalo suburb of Orchard Park, New York.

On May 10, 1968, Mr. GILBERT J. PEDERSON, 99 Forest Drive, Orchard Park, New York, advised SA LEE MASON EIDSON that he departed Buffalo, New York, via commercial airlines on December 23, 1967, enroute to Tucson, Arizona. Mr. PEDERSON advised he is a senior partner in the Buffalo, New York, law firm of Smith, Kendall and Pederson, located in the Genesee Building, Buffalo, New York. He said he practices law, both in Buffalo, and Tucson on an equal time basis. Mr. PEDERSON said he was not in Tucson, Arizona, on December 15, 1967.

Mrs. GILBERT J. PEDERSON, 99 Forest Drive, Orchard Park, New York, advised SA LEE MASON EIDSON that she was in Tucson, Arizona, during the period of December 15, 1967. She said she recalled having received a telephone call from close friends of hers who were motoring from Orchard Park, New York, to visit them in Tucson, Arizona. She said she recalled that the friends made the call from Van Horn, Texas, which is located some 100 miles Southeast of El Paso, Texas.

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-2-

She said that these friends called her to advise that they were being delayed in their journey due to a wide-spread snow storm in West Texas, which made driving conditions extremely hazardous. Mrs. PEDERSON said to the best of her recollection, this severe snow storm occurred on December 14, 1967, and that driving conditions were reported to be hazardous over December 14, 1967, and December 15, 1967.

Both Mr. and Mrs. PEDERSON viewed photographs of the subject and advised that the subject is unknown to them.

BU 44-374

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RE: GUESTS OF THE PROVINCIAL MOTEL,
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA,
DECEMBER 17-19, 1967

New Orleans advised by communicated dated May 7, 1968, that the subject, as ERIC GALT, had registered at the Provincial Motel, New Orleans, Louisiana, on December 16, 1967, as ERIC S. GALT and was assigned Room 126. He checked out December 19, 1967.

The following investigation was conducted by SA LEE MASON EIDSON at Buffalo, New York:

Information was received from the New Orleans Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that Mr. and Mrs. VINTON P. OSTRANCHER, 126 Meadow Lane, Buffalo, had registered on December 19, 1967, at the Provincial Motel, 1024 Chartres Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. They were reported to have been driving a Cadillac automobile, bearing New York License TP 3035 and stayed in Room 207 of that motel.

On May 10, 1968, Mrs. VINTON P. OSTRANDER, 126 Meadow Lane, Kenmore, New York, advised SA LEE MASON EIDSON that she and her husband, Mr. OSTRANDER, stayed in Room 207 of the Provincial Motel, New Orleans, Louisiana, on December 19, 1967. She said Room 207 is located on the second floor of the motel. She said they parked their car, a Cadillac bearing New York License TP 3035, in the courtyard parking area. She said that she did not recall having seen a white Mustang automobile while staying at that motel. Mrs. OSTRANDER observed photographs of the subject, and she stated she could not recall ever having seen any individual resembling the subject.

Mr. VINTON P. OSTRANDER, Administrative Assistant Scout Executive, Greater Niagara Frontier Council, Boy Scouts of America, 344 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, New York, residence 126 Meadow Lane, Kenmore, New York, advised that he and his wife checked into the Provincial Motel in New Orleans, Louisiana on December 19, 1967, exact time unrecalled, but sometime after dark. He said he and his wife went out

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that evening and returned rather late to the motel. He said the next morning he and his wife had breakfast in the motel dining room and then went shopping; and, therefore, spent very little time in the vicinity of the motel. Mr. OSTRANDER reviewed photographs of the subject and stated he could recall having seen no one resembling the subject. Mr. OSTRANDER said he could recall having seen no white Mustang automobile while at the Provincial Motel in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The following investigation was conducted by SA EUGENE A. HEVERON at Penfield, New York:

On May 10, 1968, Mrs. CUTLER J. COULSON, 200 Collingsworth Drive, advised that she and her husband left Rochester, New York, on or about Sunday, December 17, 1967, by airplane and flew to New Orleans, Louisiana, arriving there the same date.

They checked into the Provincial Motel, Chartres Street, New Orleans, where they remained until Thursday, December 21, 1967 or Friday, December 22, 1967.

Mrs. COULSON said the purpose of their trip was to take a freighter from New Orleans to South Africa. Her husband was formerly assigned to the United States Foreign Service for seven years and during part of this time she was employed at the United States Embassy, New Delhi, India. Her husband is semi-retired, doing education photography throughout the world.

Mrs. COULSON advised that the Provincial Motel did not have a lobby as such nor a barroom; and, therefore, they would not necessarily see everyone at the motel. They spent a great deal of time touring New Orleans and eating in various restaurants in New Orleans.

Mrs. COULSON advised that in view of the fact they did not have a car at the motel, they did not go into the small parking area at the motel. Mrs. COULSON and her husband have observed numerous photographs of subject in newspapers and magazines; and, after viewing photographs of subject, she advised she does not recall seeing anyone resembling the subject.

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Mrs. COULSON advised that Mr. COULSON was not presently available; but when he returned, she would ask him if he recalled ever seeing a white Mustang or anyone resembling the subject at the motel. If he does recall any information whatsoever, she said she would immediately contact the Rochester, New York, Resident Agency of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

BU 44-374

-1-

RE: CHARLES DUNHAM
INFORMATION CONCERNING

On May 8, 1968, Sergeant C. A. FLYNN, New York State Police, Waterloo, New York, furnished the following information to SAA DON FRITZ HEIM:

OTIS DUNHAM, Border City Road, Geneva, New York, told Sergeant FLYNN that he had received telephone calls from his son, CHARLES DUNHAM, on May 6 and 7, 1968.

Mr. DUNHAM said his son, CHARLES, indicated that he had information concerning the assassination of Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and that the identification of JAMES EARL RAY as KING's murderer was wrong. He said that the murderer was named either WESLEY, WELSTON or WESTON or a similar sounding name.

CHARLES DUNHAM indicated he had worked in an Atlanta, Georgia, coffee house, but his father believed that he was presently unemployed and living in "hippie" circumstances.

DUNHAM's employer at the coffee house allegedly had been arrested on a narcotics charge subsequent to the KING murder; and, as of the date CHARLES DUNHAM contacted his father, he was supposed to be confined in a mental hospital or penal institution in Atlanta.

OTIS DUNHAM did not know the name of the coffee house or the name of the owner, but the owner allegedly has knowledge of KING's murder.

OTIS DUNHAM told Sergeant FLYNN that his son seemed to be scared in the telephone conversations. He felt that his son might have some information concerning this matter.

CHARLES DUNHAM called from Atlanta telephone number 875-5437, which OTIS DUNHAM said is a rooming house at 416 7th Street, Atlanta, Georgia.

:hld

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OTIS DUNHAM described his son as follows:

Name	CHARLES DUNHAM
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of Birth	[REDACTED]
Place of Birth	Rome, New York
Height	6 feet
Weight	200 pounds
Eyes	Brown
Characteristics	Wears thick glasses; Was in the United States Navy, received undesirable discharge in 1964 because of homosexual tendencies.

BU 44-374

-1-

RE: PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT
ORDERED BY JAMES EARL RAY
FROM SUPERIOR BULK FILM
COMPANY, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS,
UNDER NAME ERIC S. GALT

By communication dated April 30, 1968, Chicago advised that JAMES EARL RAY ordered photographic equipment from Superior Bulk Film Company in late September, 1967.

Ordered was one Kodak Dual Projector, M-95-Z. He also ordered Kodak Super 8 D-38 plus an HP 1 combination 8 MM Super Splicer.

The Super 8 camera was not in stock and Superior shipped a Crestline camera as a replacement. The subject returned the Crestline and insisted on the Kodak Super 8, Model M 8.

Chicago desired to know if serial numbers were available on this equipment, and they also desired a search of warranty slips under RAY's true name and aliases.

On May 2, 1968, BERT S. LONNGREN, Coordinator, Outbound Traffic, Eastman Kodak Company (EKCO), Rochester, New York, advised SA WALTER J. SAMELSTAD that no warranty is given for any Kodak camera and serial numbers are not recorded when shipped by EKCO.

RAYMOND PORTER, Director of Security, EKCO Office, Rochester, advised that warranty is furnished for Kodak projector M-94-Z, and approximately 50 per cent are returned by purchasers.

Approximately 6,000 projectors have been sold with warranties returned since October, 1967. Mr. PORTER said these would be examined to determine if subject had returned a warranty which should contain a serial number.

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RICHARD TOWNSEND, General Manager, Repair Center, EKCO, Rochester, advised cameras received for repairs are recorded by name and by state in which the owner lives. There are also repair shops for EKCO at New York City, Atlanta, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago and Dallas, plus 34 camera shops recognized by EKCO to do repairs on EKCO equipment.

On May 7, 1968, RAYMOND PORTER, advised SA SAMELSTAD that a review of the 6,000 warranties for the Kodak Dual Projector M-95-Z, failed to locate any information for RAY under his true name or known aliases.

Mr. PORTER said that a review of repair records could be made at each of the seven regional centers, but he estimated it would take approximately 40 Agent hours at each center. The time needed for review of records at the 34 authorized shops in the United States was not known to Mr. PORTER because he did not know the volume or nature of the records maintained at these shops.

By letter dated May 23, 1968, F. H. WAKELEY, Manager, Equipment Services, EKCO, advised that the following letter was mailed to all EKCO repair shops in the United States, Hawaii and Bermuda, where a person might seek service on a piece of Kodak equipment. This letter was accompanied by an identification sheet of JAMES EARL RAY.

The letter reads as follows:

"May 23, 1968

"The FBI recently asked us to send the enclosed identification sheet to you with the information that the party wanted -- James Earl Ray -- purchased a Kodak Instamatic M8 Movie Camera and a Kodak Instamatic M95 Movie Projector around October or November, 1967. The serial numbers of the equipment are not known.

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"There is the chance that Ray may appear sometime, at some place, to request service for his equipment. Should this happen in your place of business, please notify your local FBI Office at once. You will find the address and phone number on the back of the identification sheet.

"Yours very truly,

"/s/ F. H. Wakeley

"Manager,
"Equipment Services

"FHWakeley:smb

"Enclosure"

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RE: DARK BLUE MUSTANG
GEORGIA LICENSE
2D 112-56

On April 30, 1968, RICHARD J. KOHLMEIER, 65 Stoneleigh Avenue, Town of Tonawanda, New York, telephonically advised SE RICHARD R. WALSH that at about 4:15 PM on that date he had pulled up behind a dark blue Mustang, estimated 1966 model, on Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, New York.

Subsequently, he pulled alongside this car and noticed that the driver closely resembled the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY which appeared in the "Buffalo Evening News."

The driver, when he observed KOHLMEIER looking at him, sped off; but KOHLMEIER got his license plate number as Georgia License 2d 112-56.

This information was furnished to Atlanta.

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RE: DRIVER OF 1964 OR 1965 FORD,
FLORIDA LICENSE 4W 69100

On April 22, 1968, EUGENE R. ROSZYK, 90 Cleveland Avenue, Salamanca, New York, advised the Buffalo Office that about 10:30 AM on that date, he was in Langworthy's Restaurant, Killbuck, New York, when a man entered the restaurant and sat on a stool away from him. He was wearing a white shirt, no tie, checked blue sports coat, light gray pants and sunglasses. He was driving a 1964 or 1965 two-door, either white or light tan Ford with Florida license 4W 69100.

ROSZYK had seen photographs of RAY on television the preceding night and felt that this individual bore a close resemblance. The driver proceeded west on Route 17 towards Jamestown, New York. Lookouts placed with the New York State Police, Chautauqua County Sheriff's Office and Jamestown Police Department, failed to locate the car.

This information was furnished the Jacksonville Office.

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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.