

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

10024550



# FEDERAL BUREAU

ENTIRE FILE REVIEWED  
FOR HISTORICAL  
DECLASSIFICATION of

## INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number 44-38861

DO NOT DESTROY.  
PRESERVE FOR SELECT  
COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

See also Nos.

DO NOT DESTROY  
PENDING LITIGATION

DO NOT DESTROY  
HISTORICAL VALUE  
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/13/01 BY SP-1 CLK/tjt

DO NOT DESTROY  
HISTORICAL VALUE  
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

SHAW-WALKER 18-37972

CLASSIFICATION NO.

222.6

Serials

Volume Number

44-38861-4

1A 73 - thru 1A 89

Exhibit

(Title) Murkin(File No.) 44-1574-1A

1A73-Waiver of Rights form signed by Alvin Crews. (8-19-68 ES)

1A74-Interview log of Alvin Crews. (8-19-68 ES)

1A75-Negative &amp; photos of Eric Starvo Galt taken in Nov. 1967. (8-19-68 ES) See Ser. 969

1A76-Bill for services to Mr. Robert Dennino, 3340 Floyd Terrace LA law firm of Paul Caruso, (8-19-68 ES)

1A77-Auditor-Controllers General Warrant number C554,6672 payable to Elizabeth De Roun &amp; envelope. (8-19-68 ES)

1A78-One E-2 Formula one glass formula identical to that sent Ray. (8-19-68 ES)

1A79-Story of the Accused killer of Dr. King from Life Magazine 5-3-68. (8-19-68 ES)

1A80-Telephone bill of Stephen Thome, son of Harold Thome. (see Ser. 1018. (8-19-68 ES)

1A81-Five smooth photos of James Earl Ray rec'd from Bur. 5-8-68. (8-19-68 ES)

1A82-One negative &amp; 2 photos of Richard Lee Ogg. (See Ser. 1015) (8-19-68 ES)

1A83-Four photos of laundry marks placed on shirt &amp; bed linen for Ray. (8-19-68 ES)

1A84-National Airlines beboarding pass. See Ser. 1477. (8-19-68 ES)

1A85-Xerox copy of check in name of Ronnie Deninno on account of Steen S. Christensen, Powell River, BC. in amount \$540.00 dated 6-23-67. See Ser. 1420 (8-19-68 ES)

1A86-One unopened enveloped containing letter or other contents, post-marked Canoga Park, Calif. 5-27-68 addressed to Eric S. Galt. (8-19-68 ES)

1A87-Form FD-383 from Allan O. Thompson. (8-19-68 ES)

1A88-~~Two~~ <sup>Three</sup> photos of James Wilbourn Ashmore. See Ser. 1597/1598. (8-19-68 ES)

1A89-Check #42, dated 5-16-68 in Amount of \$300.00 signed Wm L. De Luca drawn on Sec. 1st Nat'l Bk, Lakewood Plaza Branch, Long Beach, Calif.

See Ser. 1583. (8-19-68 ES)

**Disposition:**

File No. 44-1574-16 <sup>73</sup>Date Received 4-29-68From \_\_\_\_\_  
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)\_\_\_\_\_  
(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)By Walter M. Brady  
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)To Be Returned ☐ Yes☒ NoReceipt given ☐ Yes☒ No

## Description:

Waiver of Rights  
form signed by  
Alvin Crews

8/19/68  
SJ

44-1574-1a73

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



PLACE Los Angeles Calif  
DATE 4-29-68  
TIME 3:15 PM

### YOUR RIGHTS

Before we ask you any questions you must understand your rights.

You have the right to remain silent.

Anything you say can be used against you in court.

You have the right to talk to a lawyer for advice before we ask you any questions and to have him with you during questioning.

If you cannot afford a lawyer, one will be appointed for you before any questioning if you wish.

If you decide to answer questions now without a lawyer present, you will still have the right to stop answering at any time. You also have the right to stop answering at any time until you talk to a lawyer.

### WAIVER OF RIGHTS

I have read this statement of my rights and I understand what my rights are. I am willing to make a statement and answer questions. I do not want a lawyer at this time. I understand and know what I am doing. No promises or threats have been made to me and no pressure or coercion of any kind has been used against me.

Signed A. D. Brewer

Witness Walter M. Brady, Special Agent, FBI

Witness Richard A. Hearn, Special Agent, FBI

Time 3:16 PM

File No. 44-1574-1a <sup>74</sup>Date Received 4-29-68From \_\_\_\_\_  
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)\_\_\_\_\_  
(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)By Walter M. Brady  
(CITY AND STATE)  
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)To Be Returned ☐ Yes☒ NoReceipt given ☐ Yes☒ No

## Description:

Interview log  
of Alvin Crews

8/19/68  
JL

44-1574-1a74

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Interminu log re Alvin Crews

4-29-68

- 3:15 Pm - Interview began in interview room  
at Central Jail, Los Angeles Police Dept.  
headquarters, Los Angeles, California <sup>unf</sup>  
3:19 Pm - Interview terminated by Crews <sup>unf</sup>  
Walter M. Brady <sup>unf</sup>  
Kenneth J. A. Hearn <sup>unf</sup>



File No. 44-1574-1a <sup>75</sup>Date Received 4/30/68From Mexico City  
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(CITY AND STATE)

By SA A. Hearn  
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)To Be Returned ☐ Yes  
☒ NoReceipt given ☐ Yes  
☐ No

## Description:

3 photos + 1 negative  
of Eric Starvo Galt  
Harker in Nov. 1967.

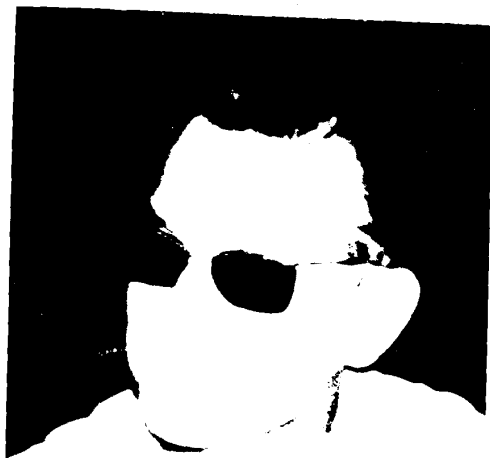
photos to Bu 12/14/77  
JTH

See Ser 969

8/19/68  
ES

44-1574-16 75-

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

File No. 44-1574-1A<sup>76</sup>Date Received 5-1-68From RAYMOND M. MURPHY  
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)3341 Floyd Terrace  
(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)Los Angeles  
(CITY AND STATE)By SAS Theodore M. Gardner and  
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)Francis N. KahlTo Be Returned ☐ Yes  
☒ NoReceipt given ☐ Yes  
☒ No

## Description:

Bill for services to Mr. Robert  
Dennis, 3340 Floyd Terrace  
LA from law firm of Paul  
Carnes

8/17/68  
ES



44-1574-1a76

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

*Stant*  
FORM 55

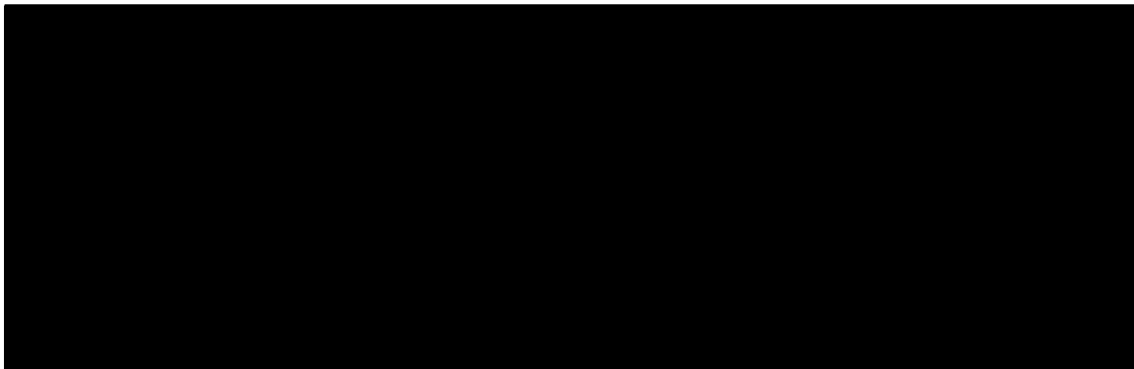
MR. ROBERT DENINNO  
3340 FLOYD TERRACE  
HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

*STATEMENT*

		FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED		
2-1-68		BALANCE DUE	\$	600.00
		TOTAL		90.00

THIS IS YOUR STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT WITH (SEE OTHER SIDE)  
KINDLY USE THIS ENVELOPE FOR YOUR REMITTANCE. YOUR CANCELLED CHECK

RECEIPT.



2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

File No. 44-1574-1A 77Date Received 5-1-68From RAYMOND M. MURPHY  
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)3341 Flax Terrace  
(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)Los Angeles  
(CITY AND STATE)By SAS Theodore M. Gardner and  
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)  
Francis H. KahlTo Be Returned ☒ Yes  
☐ NoReceipt given ☐ Yes  
☒ No

## Description:

Auditor - Controller's General  
Warrant number C 554 6672  
payable to Elizabeth De Laun  
and envelope.

Upon completion of investigation  
warrant should be returned  
to County - Auditor Controller

8/19/68  
ED

44-1574-1a77

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

If you receive Social Security benefits from the Federal Government, you will get an increase in these benefits beginning March 1, 1968. The public assistance check you receive from the Department of Public Social Services will need to be adjusted to take into account this increase in your income.

When your Social Security check for March arrives, please notify your social worker immediately of the new amount of your benefits so that the correct amount of your aid payment can be figured as quickly as possible with the least inconvenience to you.

T8-23 (1/68)



NOTICE TO  
PHYSICIAN OR  
OTHERS PROVID-  
ING MEDICAL  
CARE

ONLY THOSE LISTED  
ARE ELIGIBLE FOR  
MEDICAL CARE  
UNDER THE MEDI-  
CAL ASSISTANCE  
PROGRAM. WHEN  
BILLING FOR SER-  
VICES PLEASE USE  
THE NUMBER AND  
NAME OF PATIENT  
EXACTLY AS THEY  
APPEAR HERE.

	GP	STATE NUMBER	ELIGIBLE PERSONS	NAME
1				ELIZABETH
1				LISA
1				RAYMOND

STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE  
**IDENTIFICATION CARD**

THIS CARD IS PROVIDED FOR THE PUR-  
POSE OF ESTABLISHING ELIGIBILITY FOR  
MEDICAL CARE, UNDER THE MEDICAL  
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. THE NAMES OF  
THOSE ELIGIBLE ARE LISTED ON THE LEFT.

ISSUED BY L.A. COUNTY TO

ELIZABETH DE ROUEN  
3340 FLOYD TERRACE  
LOS ANGELES  
03-68



DIST.

11

CA

ISSUED AND VALID  
ONLY FOR PERIOD SHOWN.

CASE NO.

☐ IF CHECKED, ELIGIBLE CLIENT IS RESPON-  
SIBLE FOR A SHARE OF THE COST OF  
SUCH CARE.

DETACH AT RIGHT →



5546672  
1930-1417403 1  
11  
03-68

DO NOT MUTILATE

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER'S GENERAL WARRANT  
**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

THE TREASURER OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES WILL PAY  
TO THE ORDER OF:

ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

C 5546672

ELIZABETH DE ROUEN  
3340 FLOYD TERRACE  
LOS ANGELES

CA90028

\$\*\*86.00

NOT PAYABLE  
AFTER SIX MONTHS  
FROM DATE ISSUED

GENERAL FUND

APPROVED

AUDITOR - CONTROLLER BY

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

THIS IS YOUR IDENTIFICATION CARD FOR MEDICAL CARE. DETACH IT FROM THE WARRANT AND CARRY IT WITH YOU. IT IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE IDENTITY WHEN MEDICAL CARE IS REQUIRED.

THIS IDENTIFICATION CARD SHOULD BE CARRIED AT ALL TIMES. IT INDICATES ELIGIBILITY FOR MEDICAL CARE UNDER THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

NOTICE TO PHYSICIAN OR OTHERS PROVIDING MEDICAL CARE.

QUESTIONS ABOUT STATEMENTS FOR SERVICES SHOULD BE REFERRED TO THE APPROPRIATE FISCAL AGENT - CALIFORNIA PHYSICIANS SERVICE, BLUE CROSS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA OR BLUE CROSS OF CALIFORNIA.

SHOW THIS IDENTIFICATION CARD TO THE PHYSICIAN OR OTHERS PROVIDING MEDICAL SERVICES. IF THE CARD IS LOST, THE COUNTY WELFARE DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE NOTIFIED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE B.P.A. COUNTY WELFARE DISTRICT OFFICE, KNOWN TO THE PAYEE.

### KNOW YOUR ENDORSER - REQUIRE IDENTIFICATION

THIS WARRANT IS VOID AND SHOULD BE IMMEDIATELY RETURNED TO THE AUDITOR-CONTROLLER OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES UNLESS PERSONALLY ENDORSED BY THE PAYEE.

THIS WARRANT MUST BE ENDORSED IN INK OR INDELEBIL PENCIL ON THE LINE BELOW BY THE PERSON IN WHOSE FAVOR IT IS DRAWN AND THE NAME SHOULD BE SPELLED EXACTLY THE SAME AS IT IS ON THE FACE OF THE WARRANT.

IF THE PAYEE IS UNABLE TO WRITE, THE ENDORSEMENT MUST BE MADE BY MARK (X) AND MUST BE WITNESSED BY TWO PERSONS WHO CAN WRITE GIVING THEIR PLACE OF RESIDENCE IN FULL.

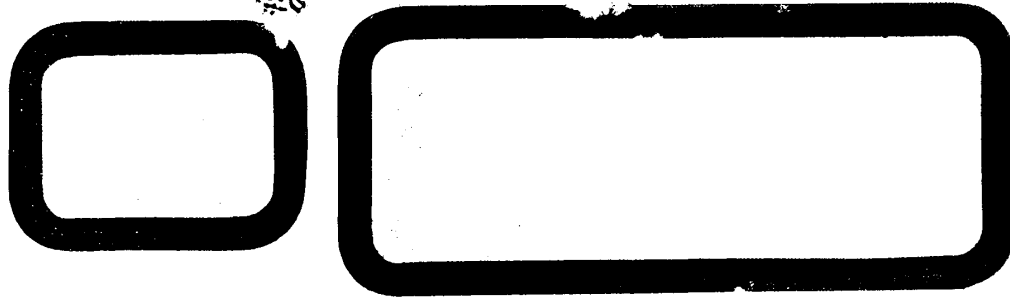
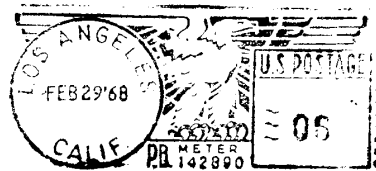
\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF PAYEE

\_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS OF PAYEE

COUNTY AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

P. O. BOX 54662, TERMINAL ANNEX

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90054



File No. 44-1574 -1A 78  
Date Received 5/3/68  
From Mildred Greene  
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)  
2551 Melrose Blvd.  
(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)  
LA, Calif  
(CITY AND STATE)  
By Dennis C. LeMaster  
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)

To Be Returned ☐ Yes☒ NoReceipt given ☐ Yes☒ No

## Description:

One E-2 Formula  
one glass formula  
identical to that sent  
Ray.

8/19/68  
ED

44-1574-1a78

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

## E-Z FORMULAS

6311 YUCCA STREET

HOLLYWOOD 28, CALIFORNIA

### 14-Y "ONE-WAY GLASS"

You can make this product successfully even if this is your first attempt at mixing a formula. This formula is E Z to follow and it works. All you need do is read the formula and follow it exactly. The ingredients are inexpensive whether you buy at wholesale or retail. You can make large or small portions so long as you maintain the formula proportions. Use this product yourself or sell it at big profits. Small one-way glass mirrors sell for \$15.00 or more.

Proceed - Use caution when handling the chemicals! They are not dangerous but they may cause stains.

Step #1: Select the sheet or piece of glass you wish to treat, and prepare it for silvering. This consists of making the surface chemically clean. Place the silvering surface face-uppermost and make a little mop by tying a bit of cotton on a stick. Pour a little concentrated Nitric Acid (CAUTION) on the surface and spread it about with the mop. Make sure that the glass is thoroughly clean; this will be indicated by the appearance of prismatic colors, to the very edges, as the surface dries. Flush thoroughly in clear water and place the glass face-downward in a basin of clean water until you are ready to plate it.

NOW: To make the plating liquid — BETTER READ THIS THROUGH ONCE OR TWICE BEFORE YOU START — and get all materials at hand. Get 4 or 5 clean glass jars or tumblers. In one of them, make what we'll call "SOLUTION A" — by dissolving one ounce of Silver Nitrate in 10 ounces of distilled water. Set aside one ounce of this SOLUTION A for later use. Then, using a medicine dropper and constant stirring with a glass rod, "ammoniate" your SOLUTION A by adding, drop by drop, some strong (10% to 28%) AQUA AMMONIA — not the weak ammonia water you buy in grocery stores. Commercial AQUA AMMONIA is 26-28%. At first, a thick brownish mass will appear; but as you add more and more AQUA AMMONIA the solution will begin to thin out. STOP adding AMMONIA when the solution becomes just BARELY CLOUDY but not entirely clear.

THEN, in a separate container, mix one ounce of Caustic Potash (Potassium Hydroxide) in 10 ounces of water. IMPORTANT: Slowly add the caustic to the water. NEVER add water to dry caustic salts. Pour this solution, when cool, into your Silver Nitrate solution and stir thoroughly. Then, again, add strong Ammonia water, drop by drop, until the solution just clears. NEXT, pour in the remainder of the non-ammoniated Silver Nitrate solution, the portion originally set aside. The full solution should once again become slightly cloudy. Now make a solution of 1/2 ounce (about a tablespoonful) of Glucose in 10 ounces of distilled water, and stir it into the main solution — which is now ready to use. (Glucose is also known as dextrose, corn sugar, grape sugar, etc.)

THE SILVERING PROCESS COMES NEXT: The work should be done on a level table or work-bench, a steady base that will not permit the liquid to spill. Remove your sheet of glass from the basin where it has been kept clean; set it on edge to drain dry (be careful not to fingerprint the surface) and then support it, sterile side up, by 4 upturned identical highball glasses or the like; one at each corner of the glass. Place a small mirror under the sheet of glass, at a slight angle toward you (this will enable you to watch the progress of the silvering process so you can stop at the right time). It is a good idea to apply melted paraffin to the edges of the glass, either with a brush or by just barely dipping each edge into a tray of hot paraffin. The purpose of the wax is to serve as a "dam" or "barrier" to prevent any solution from running off. The silvering operation is best done in a warm room — 70 to 80 degrees Fah.

Sufficient solution should be poured gently on the glass to cover it, and it should be left undisturbed until the desired film of silver has been deposited. Some flecks of silver may float about on the liquid, but this does no harm. By looking into the mirror which you placed under the glass, facing upward at a slight angle, you can observe the progress of the silvering action and stop it when the right degree of reflection and transparency has been achieved. This will usually be in 20 minutes or so.

Then tip off the solution at one corner and flush the glass with running water; then set it on edge to drain dry, without touching the delicate film. When it is thoroughly dry, put on a coat of high-grade spar varnish with a camel-hair brush or, better, a fine-mist spray gun or airbrush. When the varnish dries, you may desire to further protect the silvering by taping to your semi-transparent mirror another sheet of plain glass of the same size.

In use, the light on the mirror side should be somewhat stronger than that at the back, and you will find that you can see everything clearly through the mirror from the back, while anyone on the other side sees nothing but an ordinary mirror. Should you not be able to see clearly through the mirror, you have allowed the silvering process to progress for too long a time. In order to achieve perfection, practice with small mirrors until you have the timing just right. Your skill will rapidly improve with practice and experience.

USE THIS PRODUCT FOR YOUR OWN PURPOSES OR SELL IT FOR HIGH HIGH PROFITS. BE SURE TO READ THE ENCLOSED BROCHURE FOR DESCRIPTIONS OF THE E Z FORMULAS FOR USEFUL AND UNUSUAL ITEMS.

File No. 44-1574-1a<sup>79</sup>Date Received 5/3/68From Life Magazine  
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(CITY AND STATE)

By Sup Nalan  
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)To Be Returned ☐ Yes  
☒ NoReceipt given ☐ Yes  
☐ No

## Description:

Story of the accused  
killer of Mr. King  
from Life Magazine  
dated 5-3-68

8/19/68  
ES

44-1574-1a79

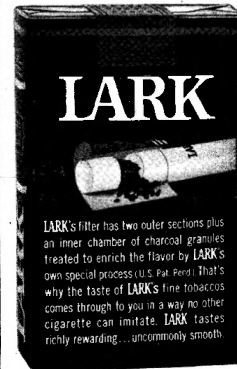
2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176





**You ought to  
turn to charcoal.**

**You ought to  
turn to Lark.**



## **In box 2021, there's a reason why no one else can do what Lark does.**

We think it's pretty important. So we keep it in our safe deposit box at  
First National City Bank.

It's U. S. Patent No. 3,251,365. And it's why Lark is unique.

In several thousand well-chosen words, the patent describes the world's only  
3-piece filter containing activated charcoal granules and how this filter works.

It tells about Lark's tiny chunks of charcoal with their fantastic filtering area...  
about how they remove substances other filters do not remove...about how  
this gives Lark a taste of its own.

If you want to know why Lark considers it worthwhile spending twice the cost  
of ordinary filters on its filter, write to us\*. We'll send you a copy of the patent.  
It's pretty heavy reading. But you wouldn't expect us to make light of it would you?  
After all, more than a million people like what Lark does.

\*Liggett & Myers, Box 21, 90 Church St., N. Y., N. Y. 10008

## The story of the accused killer of Dr. King

*This account is written by Associate Editor William A. McWhirter, from reports by LIFE Correspondents Gerald Moore, Richard Woodbury, John Pekkanen, Frank Leeming Jr. and Ron DePaolo.*

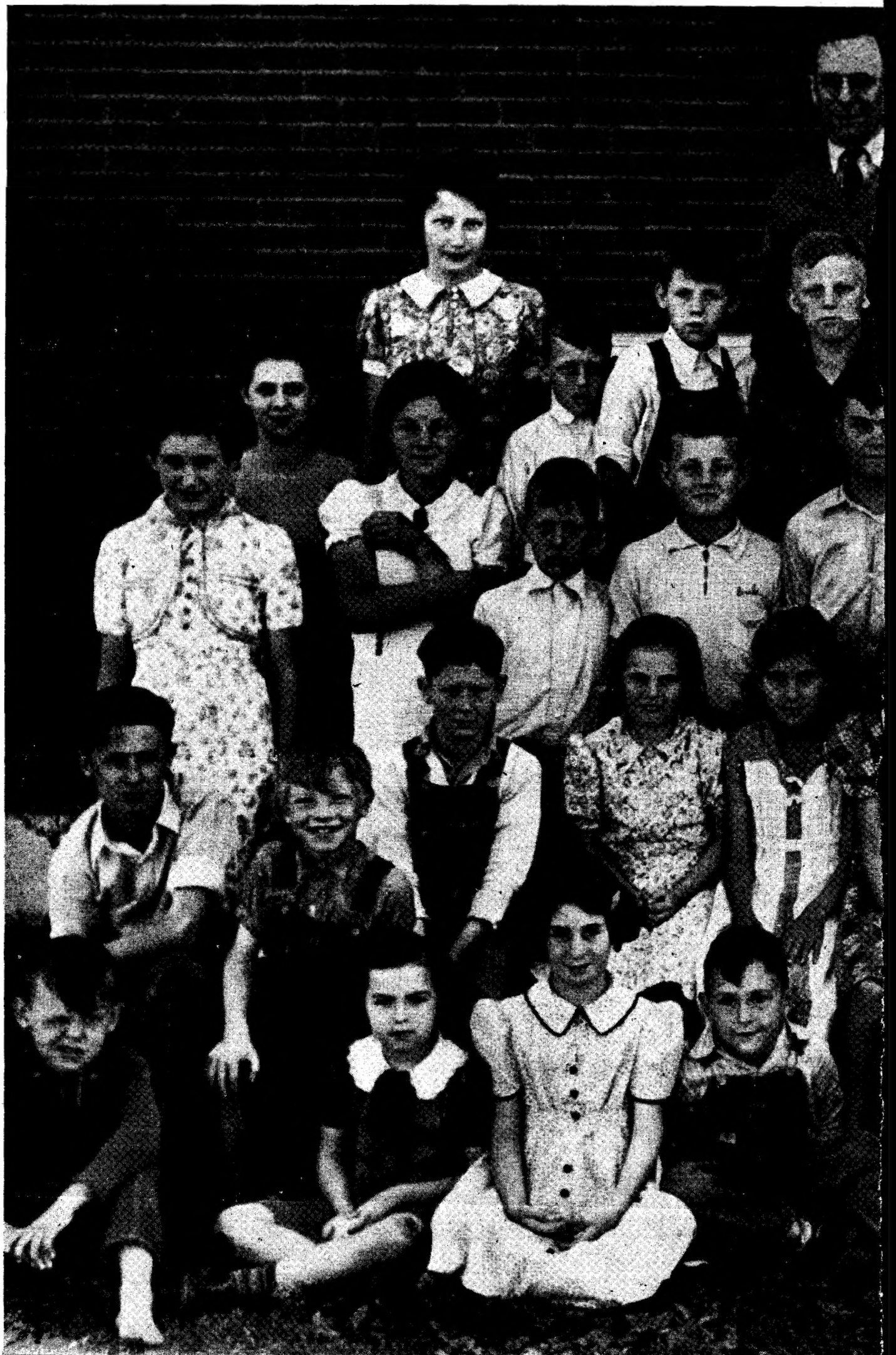
**H**is name was Galt. Eric Galt. ERIC GALT. If you did not hear the name the first time, that was all right because Eric Starvo Galt was more than likely to repeat it, again and again, as if he were still trying to memorize the thing himself. It seemed new, out of place, like his manner, nervous and friendly and quickly withdrawn, like his \$150 alligator shoes which did not go with the mismatch of blue pants, brown coats and Redi-Ty bow ties, like his puffy stomach which he rubbed worriedly as if it didn't quite belong to him. "I knew he was lying about his name," says a bar acquaintance, a songwriter who traveled with him from Los Angeles to New Orleans. "I just knew he wasn't an Eric. He was too country to be an Eric."

That is also what the Federal Bureau of Investigation concluded when it identified Eric Starvo Galt, the accused killer of Martin Luther King, as no more than a lean, battered wild-hair, a punk who was a local nuisance in half a dozen Mississippi River towns, a convict who had escaped a year ago in a bread truck from the bakery of the Missouri State Penitentiary in Jefferson City, just plain James Earl Ray.

Jimmy Ray was a child whose nose ran all winter, who missed anywhere from 25% to 30% of a school year, flinched when a teacher dared so much as to reach out an arm and sat painfully aware that to the other students in the Ewing, Mo. elementary school he was just another member of the family "out there on the side of that hill without enough to eat."

He had grown up mean in the thinnest of times and the toughest of places. Born

CONTINUED

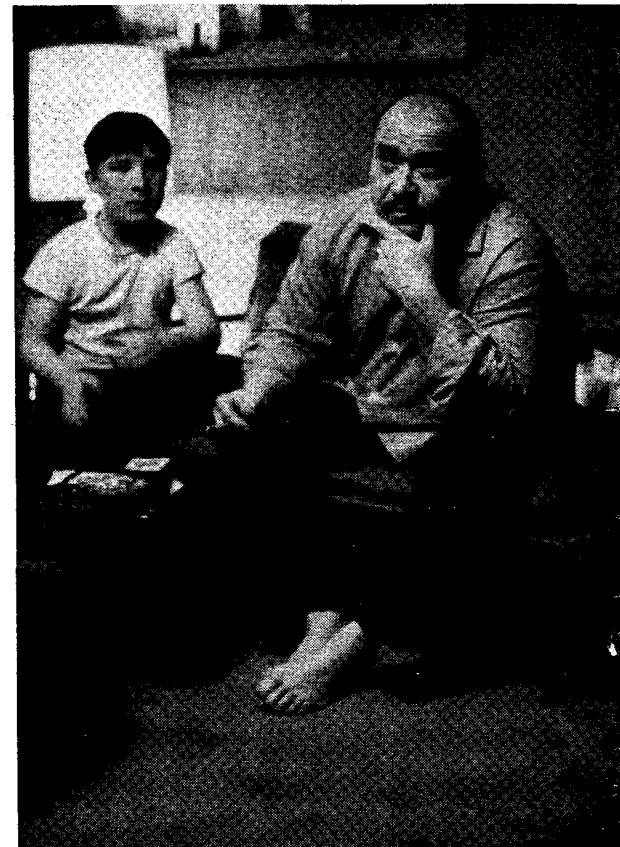


# A Character Shaped

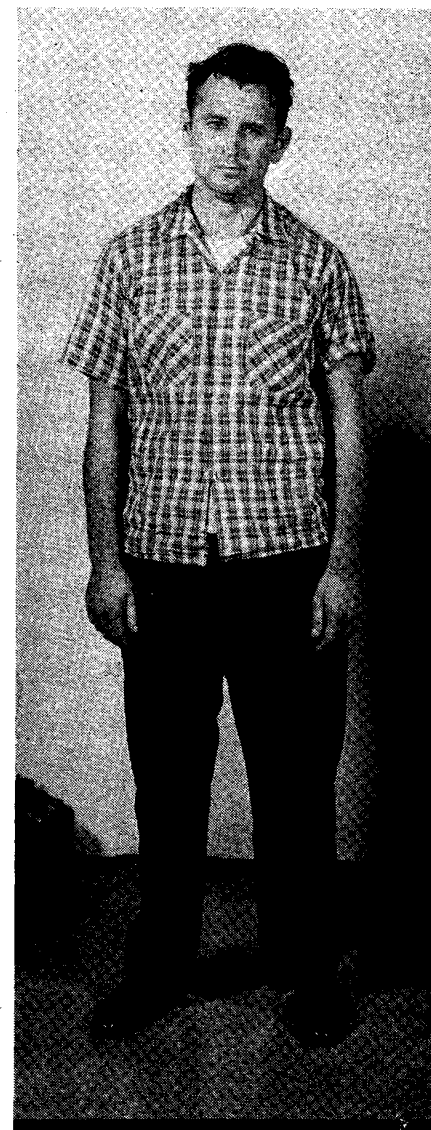


**LIFE**

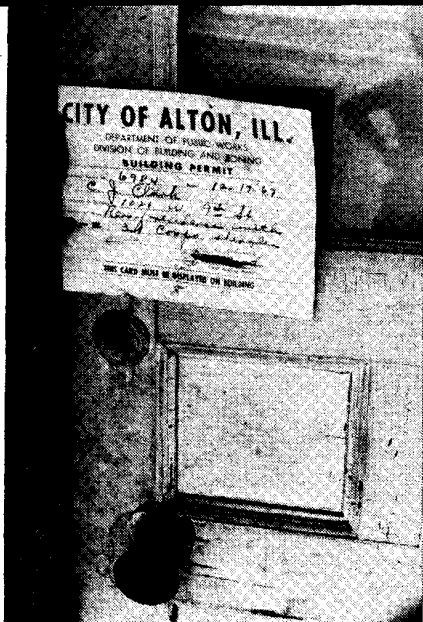
Vol. 64, No. 18 May 3, 1968



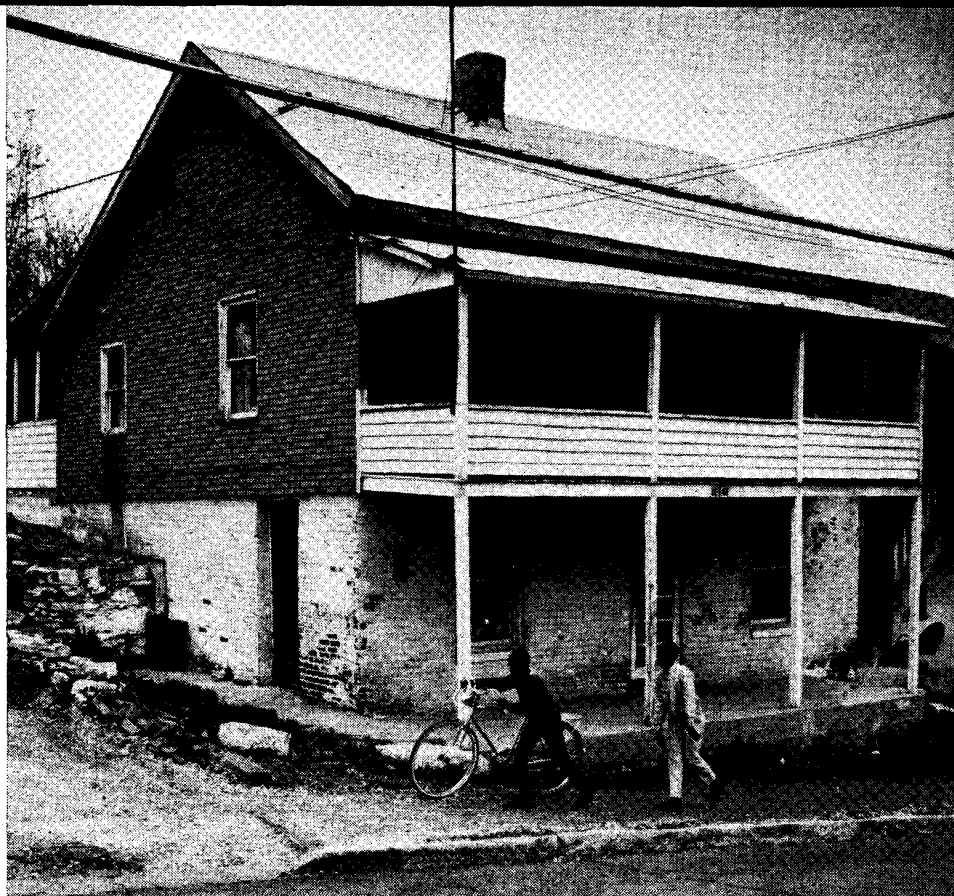
When the Ewing, Mo. grade school gathered for the picture at left in 1938, third-grader James Earl Ray (in third row at left of girl in polka dot dress) peered half-hidden over a classmate's head. Among the two dozen former schoolmates and teachers who identified Jimmy Ray was Carlisle Washburn (front row, far right), who once broke Ray's leg playing football. Today Washburn (above) is Ewing's postmaster. Ray is shown below after his 1959 arrest in St. Louis for armed robbery.



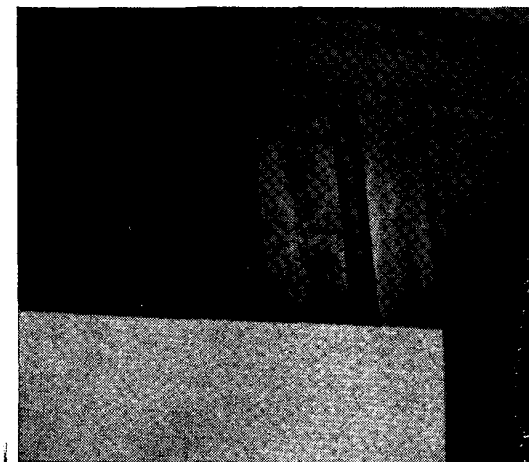
# by a Mean Life



James Earl Ray was born in 1928 in the house at right in Alton, Ill.—the first of many shabby dwellings occupied by the indigent Ray family as they drifted from one Mississippi River town to another. The present owner recently got a permit (above) to have the roof fixed.



## Growing up



Ray spent his boyhood in Ewing, Mo. (pop. 324), a somnolent village where grass now grows on the abandoned railroad (above),

and main street (below) looks pretty much as it always has. In 1944 the family moved to Quincy, Ill. and Ray, then 16, quit school.

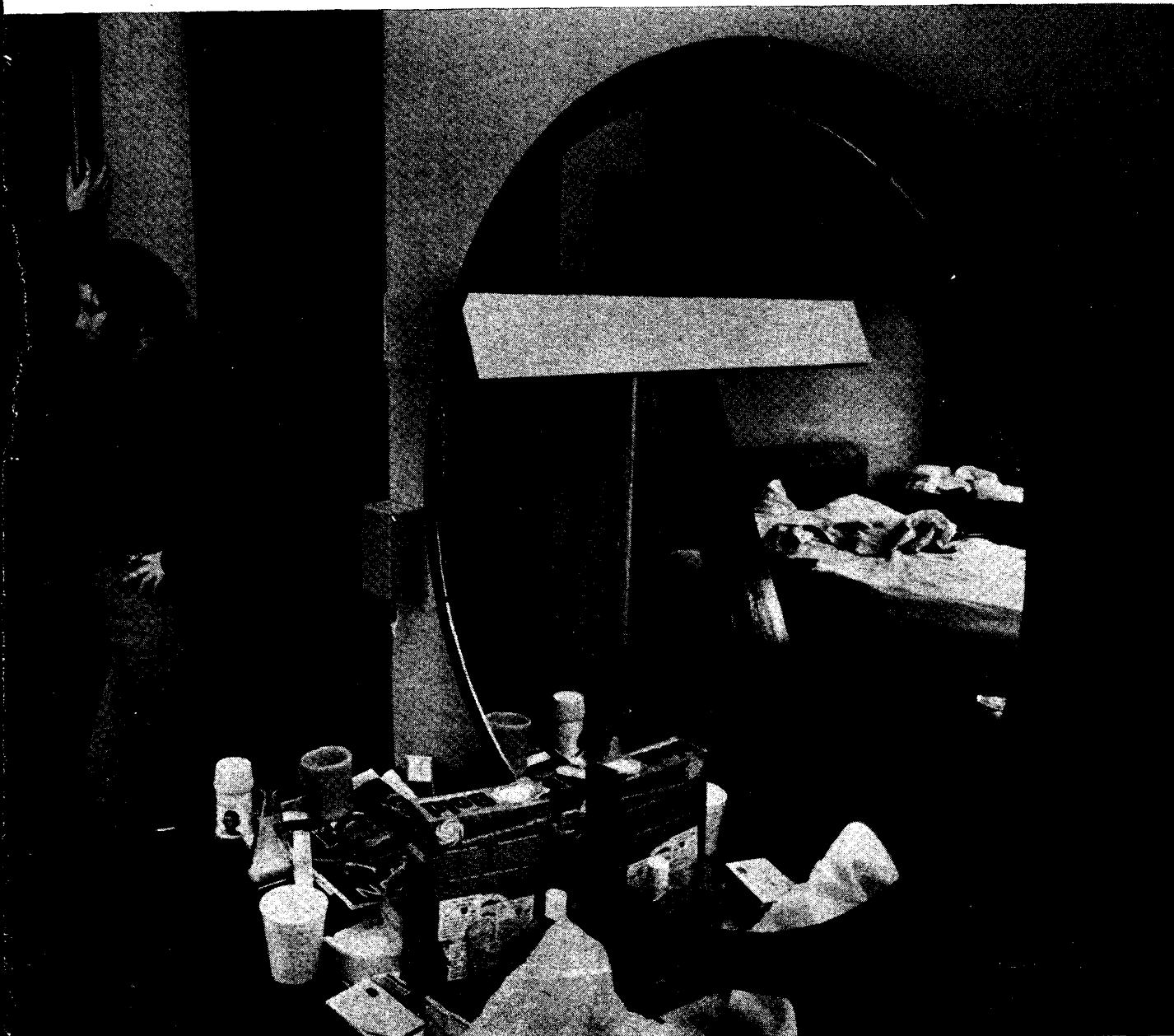


Ray's sister Susan, shown above in her high school yearbook, is now 21 and a North Chicago housewife. Another sister, Melba, 29, lives in a \$1-a-day room in Quincy, where she keeps a large wooden cross (above, right). Their mother, who took the name Ryan after her husband died, lies in a pauper's grave (right) in North Alton.





## in a series of ramshackle river towns



CONTINUED

in Alton, Ill., he was the eldest of nine children of George and Lucille Maher Ray, a Catholic family that was to drift from river town to town throughout the Depression. When he was one year old, the family moved upriver to Quincy, Ill.; when he was 6, they moved across the river to Ewing, Mo., and when he was 16 and out of the eighth grade, they moved again to Quincy. The sight of the large, shiftless family coming where work was scarce was hardly a welcome one for communities with already too little to share. The family even began to think of itself with the same carelessness as the towns themselves had: they were identified as the Rayns, the Raynes or the Raines, either because of the way Ray was drawled out or from confusions with past families. The children cared little in any case and often went to school under different names.

Jimmy was the eldest, but he already seemed to be wearing hand-me-downs; in rural poverty, no age is ever old enough; there is always someone before you. Virgil Oscar Graves, who was principal of the Ewing school, recalls Ray: "He was a rebel. He rebelled against authority and his approach to most of his teachers was very bad. He always seemed to have trouble getting his assignments in on time. But he was a sensitive boy. I remember he came up to my desk one day wearing patched overalls and asked whether I thought the other kids would pay attention to his appearance."

The school record was considerably more brusque. James Earl Ray was only in the second grade by the time he was being judged a menace to the Ewing community. The record declared:

"Attitude toward regulations—violates all of them.

"Honesty—needs watching.

"Appearance—repulsive.

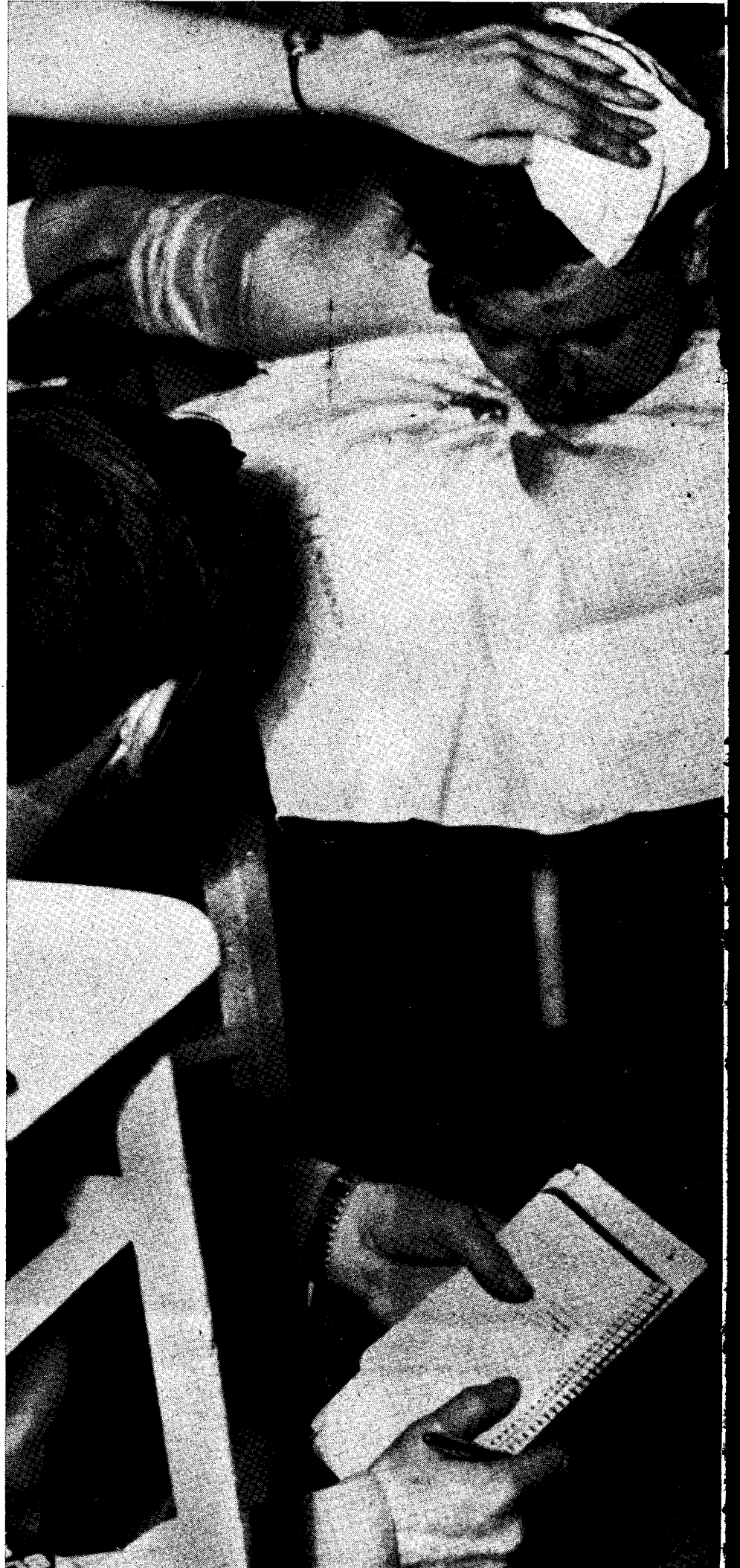
"Courtesy—seldom if ever polite."

The Ewing school system also took note that his teeth were defective. By the time he was 14, Ray was still in the seventh grade and had slipped so far behind so many classes that everyone's sorriest predictions were confirmed. Ray only tried in endless scraps to make up for what the students, as much as five years younger, were doing to him in the classroom. He was an unmanageable bully. Once, in a fight over a piece of meat in the cafeteria, he ran a knife through his brother Jack's ear. In the sixth grade, he was caught stealing the class's hot-lunch money.

"The family had it pretty poor,"

CONTINUED

## One head-on encounter



Wounded and captured minutes after he robbed a Chicago cabbie of \$11 in 1952, Ray received emergency treatment (above). Trying to escape, he had run into a dead-end alley, was shot in the arms

and fell through a basement window. After his release in 1954, Ray tried to rob a dry cleaner's in East Alton, Ill. This time he lost his shoes breaking out through the front window. Police had disabled



# with cops after another

CONTINUED

remembers a local resident. "I've seen the time when they had a sack of potatoes to eat—that's all, just a sack of potatoes."

As they grew up, the Ray children were either to drift off or to be routinely placed in foster homes, seldom again seeing another member of the family. Even today, Gerald Ray, a brother, insists their father's name was George, while Jimmy Ray's birth certificate shows it was James. An uncle, William E. Maher, of Alton, says of the Rays: "We tried to stay away from them. They always seemed to want something."

Besides Jimmy, there were Marjorie Ray (who died as a child after setting herself on fire with a box of matches), John, Melba, Carol Jean, Gerald, Franklin "Buzzy" Delano (who was killed in 1964 when he and a girl friend ran their car off a bridge into the river at Quincy; the funeral provided one of the few Ray family reunions), Susan Jane and Max. The father died in 1951, most probably of chronic alcoholism; the mother in 1961. Of the other surviving Rays of Quincy, Melba Ray was in a succession of foster homes and today spends most of her time in the lobby of the decaying Virginia Hotel on Oak Street. Occasionally, she goes to her \$30-a-month room upstairs to fondle a giant wooden cross which she has painted red, white and blue and lettered "rugged cross." She once walked it down Maine Street in Quincy. "I made it," she says, "to keep my sanity. After what happened to Kennedy and the war and all . . . I had to turn to Jesus."

**S**usan Jane, who will be 21 this week, never bothered to see Melba, although she lived only a few miles away from the Virginia Hotel until 1965. She was a hospital cafeteria worker, secretary and gogo dancer until marrying an ex-bandleader who now manages a hamburger drive-in in North Chicago. Susan failed even to recognize Jimmy's picture in the newspapers.

John, the next eldest after Jimmy Ray, has also served prison time, for burglary. So far, he hasn't been heard from. Carol is now a St. Louis housewife who called a relative to say she was horrified and too ashamed to think of even leaving her home.

parents. He has only his brother's example.

Susan Jane, John and Carol have now been joined with the rest of the scattered Ray clan in a kind of common notoriety. Behind their locked screen doors, they give their laments of pride and offense against Jimmy Ray. But it is not clear which the family members hate most: that Ray may have been responsible for such a hateful act or that their neighbors may now learn the truth of their past lives in Ewing and Quincy. Or that, perhaps, after years of obscurity and estrangement, this event may force the Rays together again.

Then there is Gerald (Jerry) Ray, who says simply, "Jimmy is my brother." Over the years, Jerry has been in trouble as often as Jimmy. But Jerry, who lives in Wheeling, Ill., today has grown accustomed to their separations and of the family is probably closest to his brother. "After we were grown," he says, "about the only times I could see him was when he was visiting me in jail or when I would visit him. One or the other of us was in jail most of the time. Jimmy wrote me a lot."

Jerry is, with his brother, a fellow professional ("A grocery

CONTINUED



his getaway car so Ray ran five miles home in badly cut stocking feet—only to be arrested anyway. East Alton Police Chief Harold Riggins (top left, standing in front of cell Ray occupied) recalls Ray's

habit of flinching when he told a lie "as though he'd been slapped around a lot and was afraid of being hit." Captain Ebert Grimes (left) remembers him as "a man who had no use for anything."



In 1959 Ray and a partner held up Mrs. Mary Wegener (above) in her Alton grocery. "I can still feel his gun in my back," she says. "He was a vicious guy." The partner was caught but Ray got away.

CONTINUED

store," he says, "is worth maybe \$200, but a supermarket is worth about \$1,500"), so he can be coolly analytical about the King case. As he told the FBI when discussing his brother's motives: "Well, look at it this way. Jimmy escaped. He had served seven years of a 20-year sentence. Because he escaped, he would be facing flat time if they caught him plus more time on him for escaping. He would have to steal while he was out to support himself so he knew he would get rapped extra for that. A deal with a lot of money would have looked pretty good to a man in that circumstance. He sure didn't have any love for colored people, but I know he wouldn't have put himself in a spot like this unless there was something in it for him."

In their last winter in Ewing, the Ray children had spent most of their time in bed for lack of heat in the home, which had only a dirt floor. They began tearing out the inside of the house to use for kindling until, in early spring,

the remainder of the building simply collapsed around them. The Rays left Ewing soon afterward and James Earl Ray, who was then 16, little more than a town nuisance and an uneducated school bully, drifted off to join the Army.

Ray's service record is erratic but blunt enough about the failure of the following two years. If there was anything more miserable for Ray than competing with boys five years younger, it came in dealing with men his own age. There were enough battles to make his Army career look like a Golden Gloves circuit instead of a tour of duty spent mostly in Germany, as an infantryman and military policeman. Finally he was handed a general discharge in December 1948 that cited Ray's "ineptness and lack of adaptability to military service."

He lost a factory job in Chicago, had a car repossessed in St. Louis and used up a bank account in Alton before heading for Los Angeles in the fall of 1949. It was there that he began to commit an almost clownish series of crimes, angry and desperate. As a hapless

and headstrong victim of a depression that seemed to be lifting everywhere but where he was, James Earl Ray would have been as effective if he had settled for kicking tires. As it was, he chose to hold up grocery stores.

Ray first tried to steal a typewriter from a cafeteria office in L.A., but was discovered by an assistant manager. He got away but only after dropping his Army discharge papers and a bank savings book. Even so, he stayed around the neighborhood until a parking lot attendant recognized him and called the cops. With no record, only 21 and an Army veteran, Ray was given a 90-day term.

"Every time he came back here, he got into trouble," says his uncle, Bill Maher, in Alton. And the Alton police chief, William Peterson, remembers the passing through of James Earl Ray with a special loathing: "He was a dirty neck, the kind of criminal who gets into all kinds of trouble, hates and has no respect for the law." But if Ray blundered, got caught and returned only to lose another day, he did so with persistence.

On May 6, 1952 he tried robbing a cab driver in Chicago of \$11 but was again discovered, chased by policemen down a one-way alley; when he refused to surrender, one of the patrolmen fired a shot, hitting him in both arms. Ray fell through a basement window, cutting his face open. He was found guilty and sentenced to two years in the state prison. On March 12, 1954 he was released.

Attempting to break into a dry cleaner's in East Alton, Ill. on Aug. 28, 1954, he lost his loafers as he kicked out the front windows. The police began arriving and Ray turned, in stocking feet, to run across the broken glass, through thickets and over the railroad tracks. The police stopped to dismantle the distributor on the engine of his parked car. Ray circled back and tried to start the motor, but he took off again as the police converged. He tried again and then a third time to return to the car, both times failing to start it; finally, with his feet slashed and bleeding, he ran some five miles to a relative's house.

## A spell of high living with a roll of 20s



Those in Los Angeles who got to know James Ray as Eric Galt last winter remember him as a loner with plenty of cash. Songwriter Charles Stein (bottom left) describes how "he kept pulling out



those fresh 20s and never counted his change." Tomas Reyes Lau (upper left), to whom Ray paid \$245 for a four-week bartending course, found him an apt pupil: "Self-confident with good hand coordina-

tion." By contrast Kathy Norton (right), one of his dancing instructors, remembers him as "clumsy" and socially inept. Bo Del Monte (above), bartender at the Rabbit's Foot Club where Ray often spent

his evenings drinking 50-cent screwdrivers, calls him "a meek kind of man"—except for the night he got into an argument with a woman about the race problem and loudly denounced all Negroes.



In March 1955, Ray was arrested with a partner for passing forged money orders and sentenced to Leavenworth Penitentiary, where he was released two years and nine months later, in early 1958.

It was not until Aug. 7, 1959 that Ray had his first success—an \$800 grocery store holdup in St. Louis. He and his partner both escaped. Encouraged, two weeks later they chose a market in Ray's old neighborhood in Alton. It was hardly a smooth operation. The wife of the market owner remembers: "At first, I thought he was fooling around and so I started telling him about God and then he pulled the gun. That was all there was. He chased people all around the store. He just ran around like a wild man." But the pair got \$2,200. Their escape, however, was so rushed that Ray forgot to shut his car door and fell out as he swerved the car sharply around a corner. The car crashed and Ray fled, leaving his partner behind.

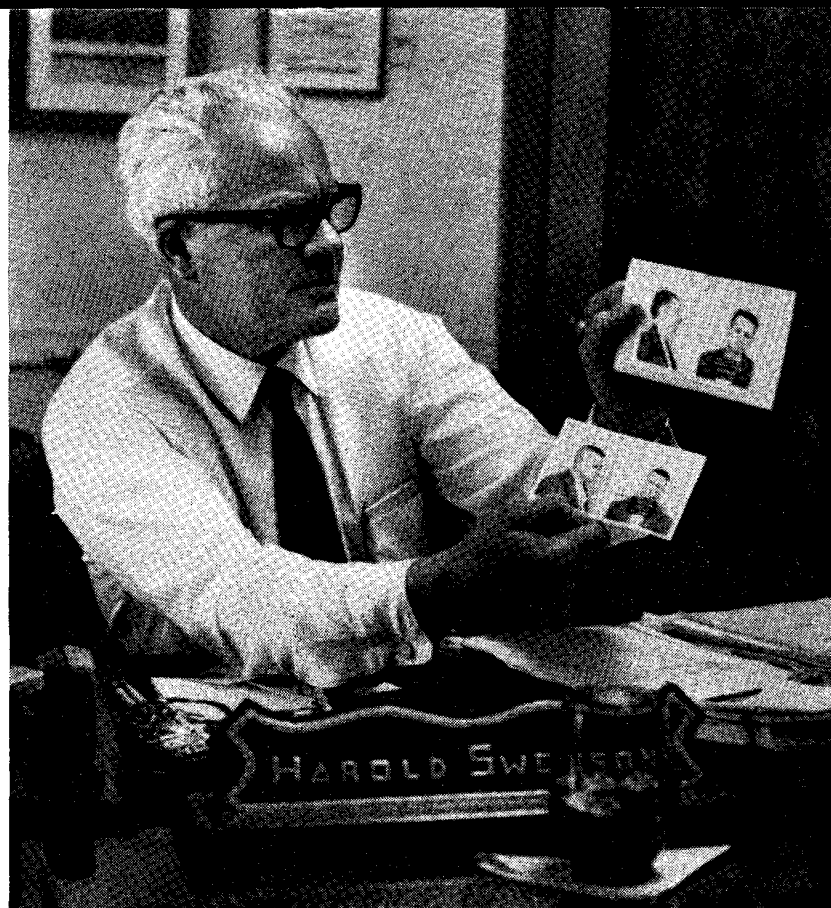
In October, Ray returned to St.

Louis with a new accomplice to hold up a second market there. But this time, they got only \$190 from a cashier and then were followed by a customer who gave police a running account as they switched cars. Their new car was later seen parked in front of Ray's rooming house. As the police entered the building, they spotted Ray and ordered him to halt. He turned and ran to his room; one of the cops followed and hit him over the head with his revolver. Another boarder happened by and, taking advantage of the distraction, Ray stood up and began to run. A patrolman fired a single shot and Ray surrendered. It took a jury only 20 minutes to sentence him to 20 years in the Missouri State Penitentiary. That was the last time James Earl Ray stood trial.

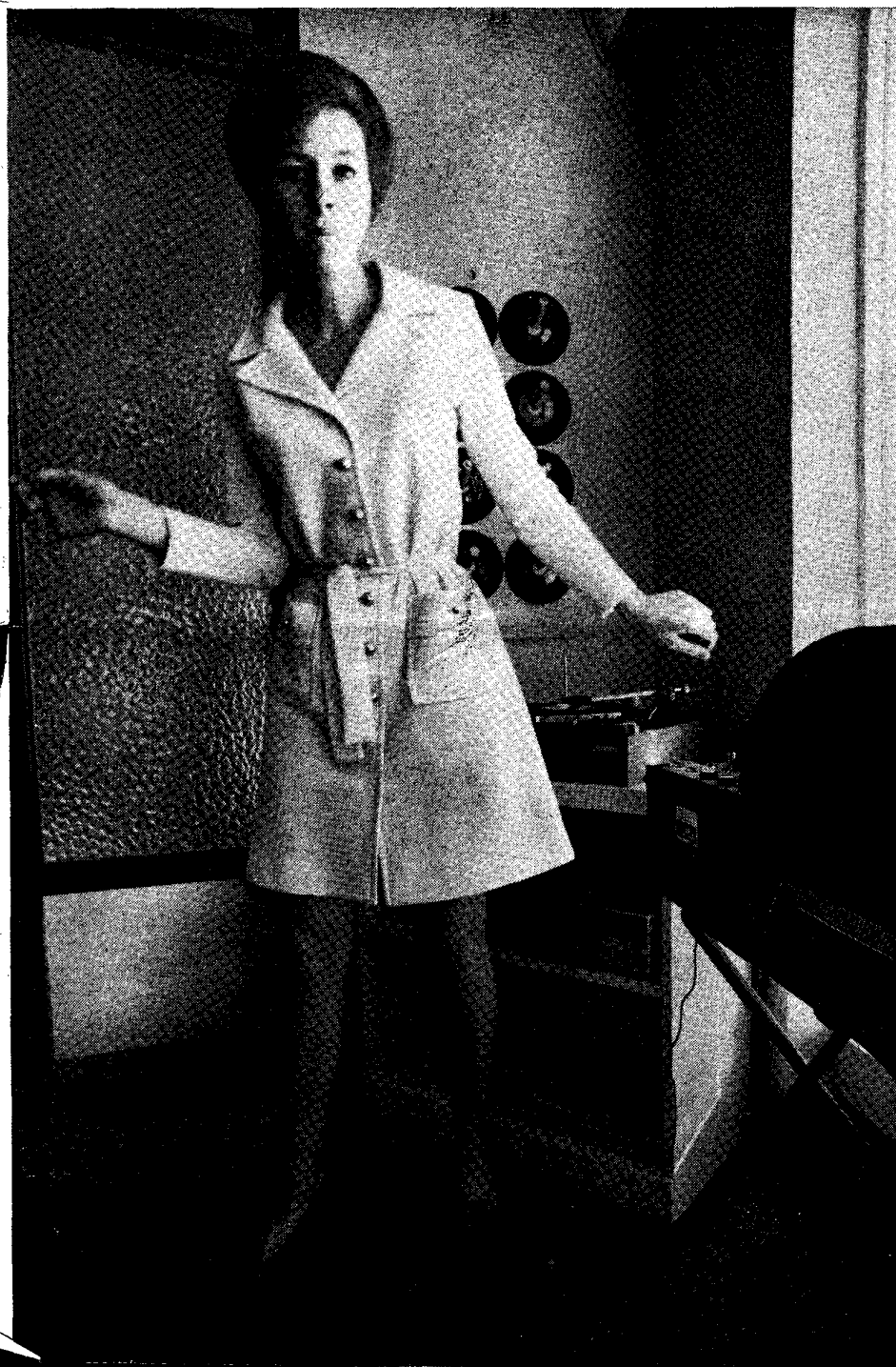
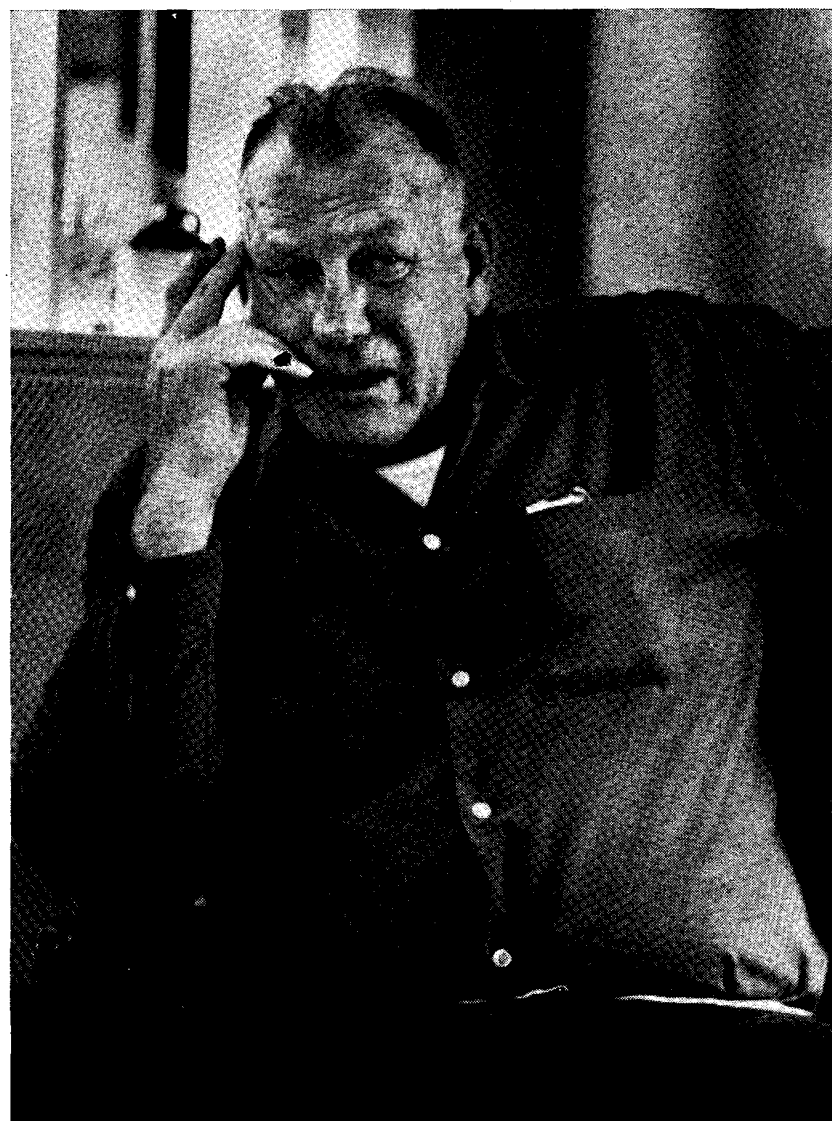
Ray, however, was not quite spent. After the verdict, Earl A. Riley, a deputy sheriff, remembers that he "had taken the handcuffs off one of his wrists when Ray suddenly grabbed my arm and swung me around against the cell bars. While I was on the floor, he tried to kick me in the head, then he

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## and an assumed name



Warden Harold Swenson (above) of the Missouri penitentiary from which Ray escaped a year ago rates him as "strictly a small-timer." But Ray's brother Jerry, 32 (left), is convinced his brother "had a deal" after he got out and was "onto a lot of money." Jerry, himself an ex-con, was also a prime FBI suspect in the King case until he established that he was at work in Wheeling, Ill. when the murder was committed. The Rays' uncle, William Maher (below), an Alton painting contractor, remembers James as "the kind of guy who only turned up when he wanted something—like bail money."





CONTINUED

broke loose and ran to an elevator," where he was caught.

For the next seven years in prison, Ray distinguished himself only by a series of solitary escape attempts which earned him the nickname "The Mole." For this quiet, angry figure the ventures were perhaps a source of amusement, per-

haps a way to do precisely what the skinny schoolboy in Ewing, Mo. had always wanted to have happen—to rebel, be recaptured and revolt again. "Hey, kids, it's THE MOLE!" Once he tried to scale a wall and was knocked unconscious when his makeshift ladder collapsed; another time, in

1966, he hid for two days in a ventilator shaft, then crawled to a rooftop only to have a guard spot his hands coming up over the top. He was trying to escape with \$4.15, razor blades, a broken mirror and a bag of assorted pills. Then, exactly a year ago, he finally did it.

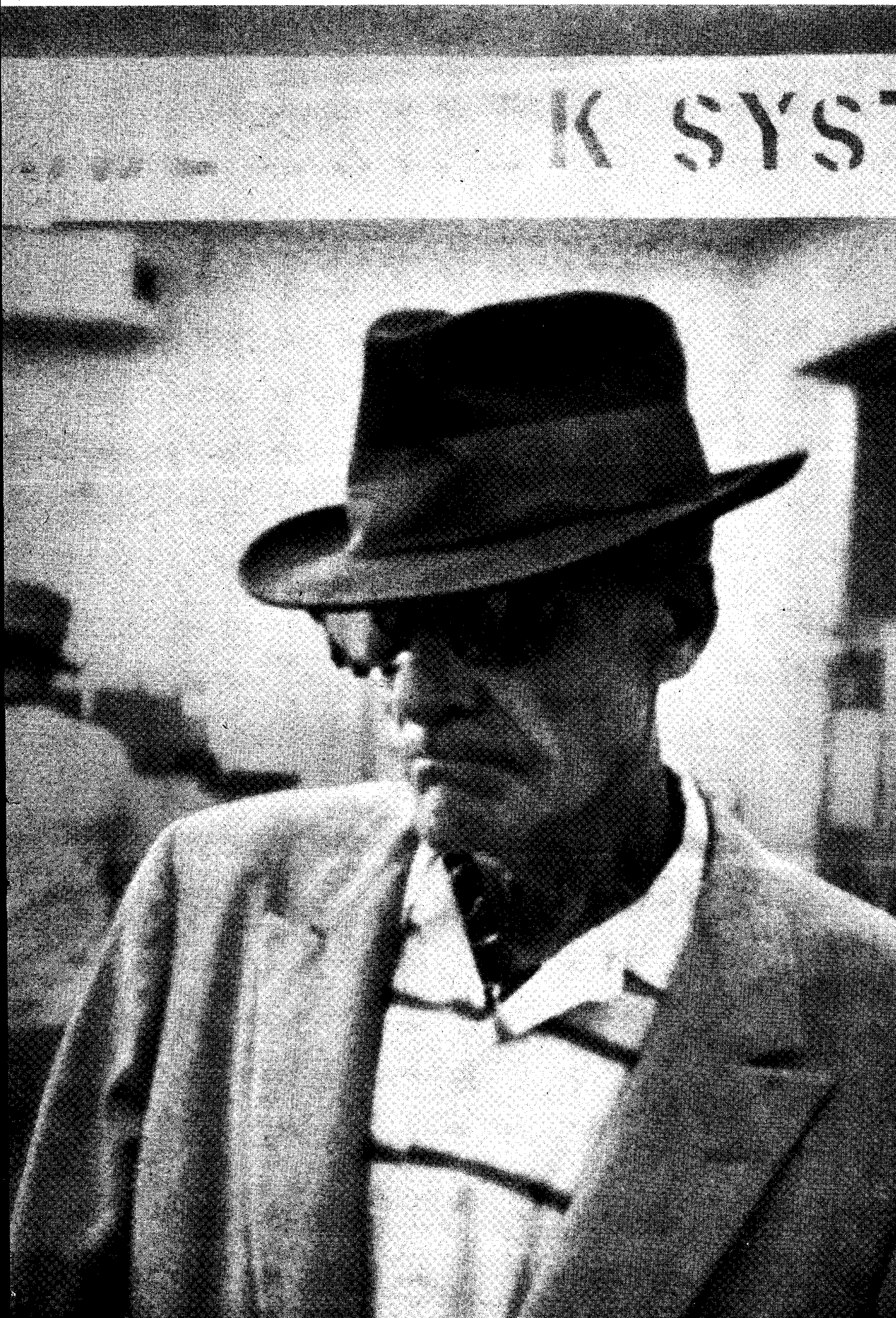
In the curiously lit world that includes a sleek, bleached strip of North Hollywood, Eric Starvo Galt might have seemed 34 or even 28 years old, depending on the shade, the time of day or how close he was sitting to the bar lamp at the Rabbit's Foot Club. Galt, who was 40, looked like a man learning to

## From a grocery store bandit caught by a hidden

*In the act of holding up a St. Louis grocery in 1959, Ray and accomplice Joseph Austin were pho-*

*tographed by a fixed-focus camera normally used to identify check cashers. Austin unknowingly*

*stood in front of the camera (left) before he and Ray rifled the cash register of \$1,200. Then he fol-*





swing; last November, he went on a marijuana-buying junket to Mexico: "Sharon," one of his ballroom dance instructors, had suggested to the girls at the National Dance Studios in Long Beach that her pupil had developed a crush; he trembled, she said, when he stood too close. But Galt fled in

his white Mustang after only an hour on Go-Go Night, and for \$245, paid in advance, enrolled in bartending school instead.

James Earl Ray had never had his picture among the "big dealers" in the warden's album in the Missouri State Penitentiary. In Prison, like any kid from Alton or

Quincy or Ewing or Shelbina, Mo., he had never mixed with the big boys from Kansas City and St. Louis. "He's innocuous," said the warden. "He's penny ante."

That is, James Earl Ray, slight and round-shouldered, who flinched, smiled a crooked, private grin and sometimes even

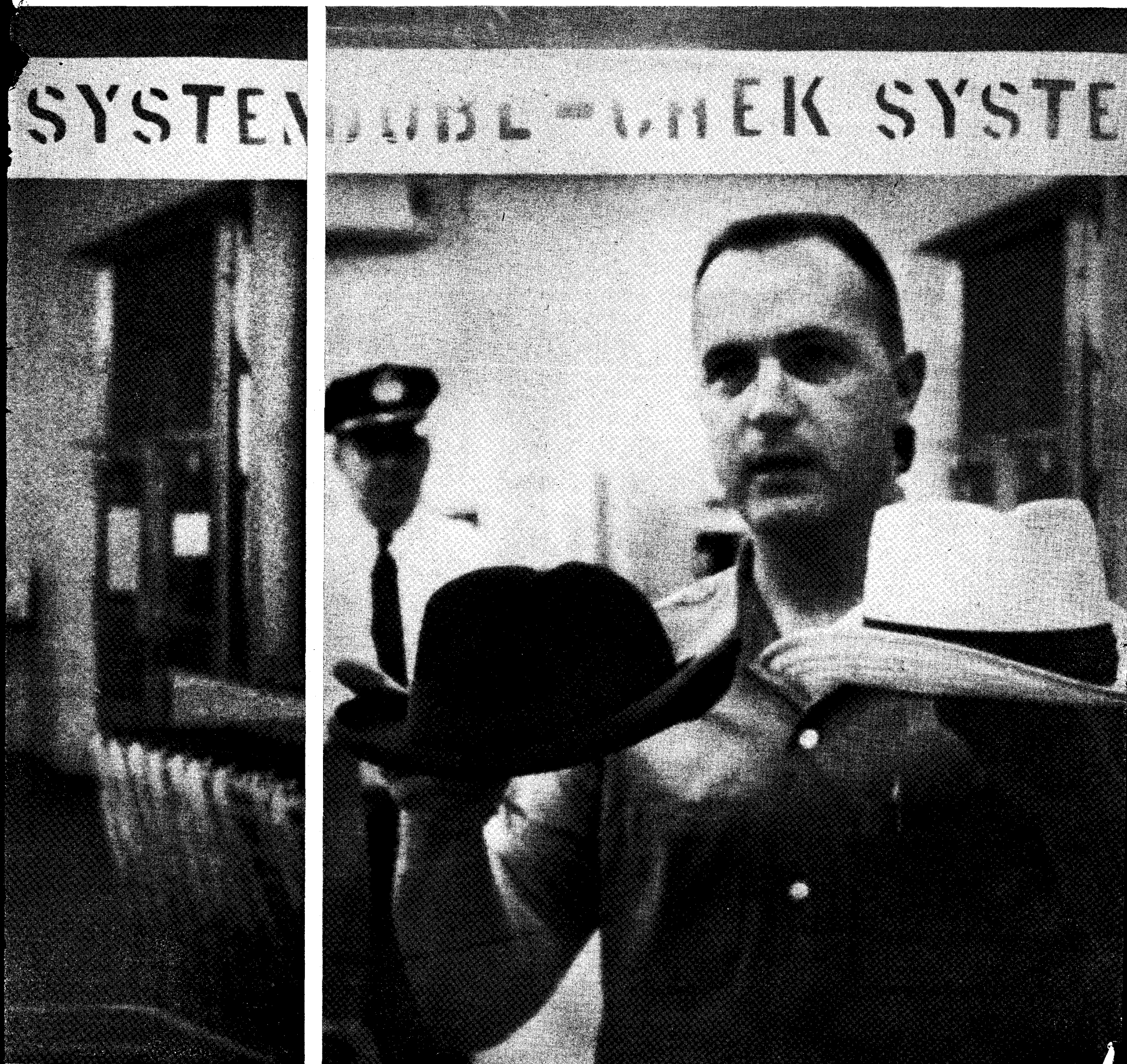
seemed to walk on a slant, was once penny ante. But, says the FBI, on April 4 in Memphis, at the moment Martin Luther King died, all the bills for the Mustang, the shoes, the dancing lessons and a \$150 30.06 Remington—and maybe the bitter childhood—came due.

## camera to the most hunted man in the country

lowed Ray out (center) as both stuffed their pockets. At right, a policeman holds their hats, lost in

the escape. Arrested two months later for another robbery, Ray was convicted and sentenced to 20

years in the Missouri penitentiary. He was serving this term when he escaped last year and vanished.







# Looking Down at Saturn

File No. 44-1574-1a <sup>80</sup>  
Date Received 5/7/68  
From CSLA 4178-S  
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)

By Earl F. Dudley  
(CITY AND STATE)  
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)

To Be Returned ☐ Yes  
☒ No

Receipt given ☐ Yes  
☐ No

Description:

Telephone bill of Stephen  
Thorne, son of Harold  
Thorne. (see serial 1018)

Dudley name & file  
y

8-19-68  
JL

44-1574-1a80

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



		DATE		TIME	PLACE CALLED	TOLL CLAIMS		CODES IN COLUMN 6	
213	246-0200	MAR	23	68	3171208P	NEWHALL	CAL	805	252
						TOTAL		40	40
						MULTI-MESSAGE UNIT CALLS		UNITS	
						RESEDA		345	4111
						LOSANGELES		747	7694
						MONTEBELLO		724	3406
						MONTEBELLO		721	9512
						VAN NUYS		989	3008
						MONTEBELLO		724	3406
						MONTEBELLO		721	9512
						SANFERNAND		896	4741
						TOTAL MESSAGE UNITS		55	
SAL				223	154P				
55 MU		2.23		227	944A				
LD		.40		3	81908P				
ADV				310	739P				
OCC				312	757P				
MO. SERV.		4.85		316	756P				
U.S. TAX		.75		316	930A				
LCL TAX				317	1004P				
TOTAL DUE		\$8.23							
STEPHEN JAMES THOME									
355 W ACACIA AV									
CLINDALE 4 CAL									

NO TOTAL IN COLUMN 6 - SEE PAGE 1 FOR TOLL PAGES



File No. 44-1574-1a 81Date Received 5-8-68From Bureau  
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(CITY AND STATE)  
By S. A. Hearn  
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)To Be Returned ☐ Yes☒ NoReceipt given ☐ Yes☐ No

Description:

Five Smith photos  
of James Earl Ray

8-19-68  
ES



JAMES EARL RAY  
FBI No. 405,942 G

JAMES EARL RAY

FBI No. 405,942 G

CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY  
INTERSTATE FLIGHT - ROBBERY

F.P.C.: 16 M 9 U 000 12

M 4 W 101

Photographs on left taken 1960, other taken 1968

**DESCRIPTION**

AGE: 40, born March 10, 1928, Alton, Illinois

HEIGHT: 5' 10"

EYES: blue

WEIGHT: 163 to 174 pounds

COMPLEXION: medium

BUILD: medium

RACE: white

HAIR: brown, possibly cut short

NATIONALITY: American

OCCUPATIONS: baker, color matcher, laborer

SCARS AND MARKS: small scar on center of forehead and small scar on  
palm of right hand

REMARKS: noticeably protruding left ear; reportedly is a lone wolf;  
allegedly attended dance instruction school; has reportedly  
completed course in bartending

44-1574-1A81



JAMES EARL RAY  
FBI No. 405,942 G

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*44-1574-1a 81*



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