

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

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

I-1 Los Angeles Times  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/11/68  
Edition: Preview  
Author: Robert C. Toth  
Editor: Nick B. Williams  
Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: LA 44-

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-B-100

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 11 1968	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

cc to B  
6/11/68

# First Step Toward Return to U.S.

## Extradition May Take Some Time

### Held for June 18 Hearing

Quick movement was already delayed Monday when Ray, 40, was ordered held without bail by Chief Magistrate Frank Milton, for a hearing June 18. The issuance of the warrant followed.

Asst. U.S. Atty. Gen. Fred M. Vinson Jr. is expected to make formal application to Britain's home secretary for extradition as soon as he receives the necessary documentation from the United States.

The home secretary, James Callaghan, will forward the application to the Bow Street Court's chief magistrate, who will consider whether the documentary evidence submitted by Vinson is substantial enough for extradition. The application is expected to reach the court today.

Ray will then have 15 days to apply for a writ of habeas corpus. Under British law and the 1935 treaty of extradition between Britain and the United States, the home secretary cannot surrender Ray to U.S. authorities before 15 days have passed.

LONDON (AP) — The U.S. government Monday night obtained a provisional British warrant charging James Earl Ray with the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, clearing ground for a formal application in the next day or two for Ray's return to the United States.

The move followed a calm and impassive appearance by Ray at a perfunctory, two-minute British court session during which he was assigned a British lawyer in what legal experts said could be his first move to fight extradition for trial.

It was the first bit of legal sparring in a case capable of spiraling into months of argument if the suspect contests the U.S. Justice Department request to extradite him "very soon." Legal sources said the earliest possible date for Ray's return is June 28, but arguments could run into August if there is a battle.

AFTER HEARING FOR RAY—A police van leaves Bow St. court in London, apparently carrying James Earl Ray, accused in slaying of Dr.

Martin Luther King. Police also used decoy vans. Ray faced the court on charges of possessing a forged passport and a loaded gun.

AP Wirephoto

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**Captured In London****Suspect In Slaying  
Of Dr. King Seized**

From Evening Outlook News Services

LONDON—Scotland Yard working hand in hand with the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation, today arrested James Earl Ray, who is accused of the murder of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., it was announced.

An announcement by Scotland Yard said Ray, 40, was charged at the Cannon Row Police Station in London with possessing a forged passport and possessing a firearm without a certificate.

Ray will appear at the Bow Street Magistrates Court on Monday, it was announced.

**Seized At Airport**

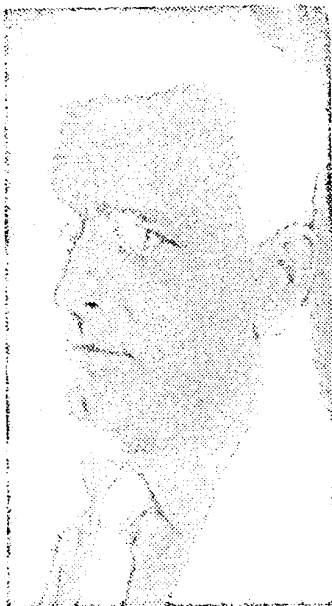
Ray's apprehension at London Airport, after a 65-day search, was announced first in Washington by U.S. Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark.

He was carrying a fully loaded pistol and two Canadian passports when taken into custody.

Ray has been the subject of a worldwide search shortly after King was shot down in Memphis, Tenn., on April 4. Unofficial sources said he had been in London for about 14 days and left the country a few days ago.

The Scotland Yard announcement said Ray was arrested at London Airport at 11:15 a.m. (3:16 A.M. PDT) while passing through customs after arriving from Lisbon, Portugal. He was carrying a pistol and two forged Canadian passports in the name of Raymond George Sneyd, 35.

"The arrest was made as a result of liaison between the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and New Scotland Yard," the announcement said.

**JAMES EARL RAY**

According to Scotland Yard, the two men handling the case are Detective Chief Superintendent Thomas Butler and Detective Chief Inspector Noel Thompson.

**Near Parliament**

In Washington, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said Ray was being held under maximum security conditions at the Cannon Row Police Station, a gray stone building off Whitehall just a stone's throw from the Houses of Parliament.

(In New York, Mrs. King attended funeral services for Sen. Robert F. Kennedy and was told of Ray's arrest as she left the church and prepared to board the funeral train to Washington. She made no comment.)

Within minutes of the official announcement made in Washington and the confirmation by Scotland Yard, a crowd of nearly 100 had gathered out-

side the eight-foot-high black-painted iron fence surrounding the police station.

But in the station itself, there was no sign of undue activity or excitement and all questioners were referred to Scotland Yard.

The 40-year-old fugitive was identified by fingerprints as the man who had posed as Eric Starvo Galt on the West Coast and in Memphis prior to the murder.

**Flees Prison**

He had previously been hunted by the FBI for escaping from Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City on April 23, 1967. He was serving a 20-year sentence for armed robbery when he escaped by concealing himself in a truck.

A native of Illinois, Ray had served previous jail sentences in Los Angeles, Illinois state prisons in Joliet and Pontiac and the federal penitentiary in Leavenworth, Kan.

He was discharged from the Army in December 1948, after serving three months at hard labor for being drunk and resisting arrest.

The accused assassin claimed to have worked aboard Mississippi River boats and as a baker, laborer and color matcher. While on the West Coast early this year, he took a course as a bartender at a Los Angeles school.

Hoover said Ray was detained by British authorities as a result of his use of fraudulent passport and on the fact that he was carrying the concealed weapon.

**Money Source**

It was not explained how Ray, previously described as poor, obtained the money to travel to Europe. There has been speculation King's murderer obtained aid from conspirators and even might have been a paid assassin.

King's killing sparked racial riots in more than 100 cities and came as he was organizing the Poor People's Campaign—an attempt to push the federal government to greater efforts on behalf of the nation's poor.

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

1 Evening Outlook  
—Santa Monica, Calif

Date: 6/8/68  
Edition:  
Author:  
Editor: Robert McClure  
Title: MURKIN  
Character:  
or  
Classification: LA 44-1574  
Submitting Office: Los Angeles  
☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-B-157

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 11 1968	
FBI—LOS ANGELES	

At the State Department, officials said they expect a formal request to be made of Britain for return of Ray through the U.S.-British extradition treaty. They said murder is one of the crimes included in the treaty.

The officials expect Tennessee, the state where a murder indictment was returned against Ray, to initiate the proceedings. This in turn would probably be the basis for the U.S. government's request, they said.

In Memphis, Police Director Frank Holloman indicated the extradition proceedings would be initiated at an early date.

"We are hopeful James Earl Ray will be brought to Memphis at the earliest possible date to stand trial for murder. He will receive a fair and impartial trial," Holloman said.

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# RAY'S CASH PIPELINE Deposit in Swiss Bank Reported

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

A-1 Herald-Examiner  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/11/68  
Edition: Night Final  
Author:  
Editor: Donald Goodenow  
Title: MURKIN

Character:  
or  
Classification: LA 44-1574  
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-B-110

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 12 1968	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

cc To Bu  
6/12/68

## Reveal Plan To Pick Up More Money

LONDON (UPI) — When a James Earl Ray was arrested here, he was making the latest of an undisclosed number of trips in Europe to pick up money said to have been deposited for him in a Swiss bank, British police sources said.

The police informants said the suspected killer of Martin Luther King arrived in Britain May 8, went to Lisbon to pick up money sent there for him from his Swiss bank account and returned to London May 17. The sources said Scotland Yard received an alert to be on the lookout for Ray on May 17 but missed him.

Details of Ray's movements between May 17 and the day he was arrested were shadowy, but the police sources said he ran out of money again and was reported to have flown back to Lisbon. Perhaps because of his inability to receive another cash transfer he then decided to fly to Brussels and was caught as he passed through London.

Meanwhile Ray is being held without bail on charges of illegally entering Britain and U.S. authorities have been given the go ahead to begin extradition proceedings for his trial as the accused killer of Dr. King.

The legal machinery moving Ray to Memphis, Tenn., where King was killed by a sniper's bullet April 4 was set in motion when a phalanx of guards swept the neatly dressed ex-convict into packed Bow Street Magistrate's court yesterday afternoon. He was sullen and scowling.

The hearing on the British charges that Ray entered the country with a loaded .38 caliber pistol and forged passport lasted one minute and 22 seconds.

The Magistrate ordered Ray held for another hearing on June 18 and informed sources said he granted U.S. authorities a "provisional warrant" for extradition.

The provisional document gave the U.S. Justice Department the green light to prepare a full, formal application for extradition. Authoritative sources said this would be done at a hearing in Bow Street court Thursday. Ray would be present, these sources said.

Immediately after the brief hearing yesterday guards hustled Ray off to Brixton Prison and transferred him later in the day to the maximum security wing of Wandsworth Prison. Informed prison sources said two guards were posted inside his cell to maintain an around-the-clock watch.

In addition to the murder charges in Tennessee, Ray faces possible trial in Missouri as an escapee from the state penitentiary there.

Ray, 40, wore a blue checked sports coat, an open-neck dark-blue sports shirt and dark slacks as he was led into the famous old courtroom on Bow Street. He scowled and jerked his head to one side as a team of burly Scotland Yard men half dragged him at one point to the dock. He shuffled into the prisoner's box.

With head partially lowered, Ray spoke only twice and both times his voice was barely audible. He had one word to say each time — "No." The judge asked if Ray objected to restrictions on news coverage of

the hearing and if he had a statement of his own to make.

Thomas Butler, the Scotland Yard detective who arrested Ray at Heathrow Airport last Saturday morning, handed Magistrate Frank Milton a request for counsel for Ray. Milton accepted the request.

Court sources said the Bow Street magistrate appointed the British law firm of Michael Dresden and Co. to represent Ray. The firm was chosen because it stood next in line on the court's legal aid roster, the sources said.

Ray, his hands deep in the pockets of his jacket, was led quickly out of the courtroom, put aboard a "Black Maria" police van and driven to Brixton Prison.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## ~~POLICE~~ CLAM UP ON RAY

LONDON (UPI)—The mysterious activities in Europe of James Earl Ray, wanted for the murder of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. has been clouded in a fog of conflicting reports.

While U.S. officials swiftly gathered documents to present a formal request today or tomorrow for Ray's extradition to the United States, both American and British officials declared a news blackout on the enigma of the much-travelled fugitive.

Officials confirmed only that Ray had been transferred from ancient Brixton Prison to the maximum security wing at Wandsworth Prison. Two policemen were posted inside Ray's prison cell at all times.

Scotland Yard detectives fanned out across London, interviewing hotelkeepers where Ray stayed under the alias of Ramon Sneyd and confiscating registration records in an effort to determine if he had any contacts in this city.

"Sneyd had very little lug-

Informed legal sources said the tenant left suddenly from Missouri, Tennessee and other parts of the United States.

Meanwhile, American officials ordered documents from Missouri, Tennessee and other points to try to establish airtight proof that the sullen man called Sneyd really was James Earl Ray.

Informed legal sources said that the American request for Ray's extradition to the United States would have to establish his identity as Ray beyond the shadow of a doubt "in the eyes of British law."

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

A-3 Herald Examiner  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/12/68

Edition: Night Final

Author:

Editor: Donald Goodenow

Title:

MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: LA 44-

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

-B-

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
1 JUN 12 1968	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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*c.c. to Bu  
6/12/68*



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# Ray Moved to New Cell for Maximum Security

## U.S. Officials in London Hope to Present Extradition Papers in Court Thursday

BY ROBERT C. TOTH

Times Staff Writer

LONDON—U.S. officials in Britain waited Tuesday for documents from Tennessee and Missouri which they hope to present in court Thursday in the extradition of James Earl Ray, accused of killing Dr. Martin Luther King.

Spokesmen said the papers from the two states were at the Justice Department in Washington, and would be forwarded here shortly.

Ray's return to the United States for trial in the April 4 shooting of Dr. King in Memphis will be delayed until at least the end of June, perhaps even later in the summer, to allow time for the extradition proceedings and possible appeals.

### Lawyers Appointed

While the Americans worked on their case, British lawyers appointed by the court to represent Ray were busy preparing his defense to the passport and gun charges on which he was arrested here Saturday. Trial on the British charges, however, is likely to be postponed for the extradition hearings.

Ray, 40, was transferred Tuesday from Brixton Prison to a maximum security cell in Wandsworth Prison, in a western suburb of London. Police equipped with walkie-talkies cordoned off Brixton Prison and blocked all roads leading to it, keeping unauthorized persons at least 150 yards away.

Wandsworth is used for Britain's long-term prisoners. Security at the prison was tightened after Ronald Arthur Biggs, one of the men in Britain's Great Train Robbery, escaped three years ago.

### London Stay Confirmed

There was no longer any doubt that Ray was in London for the three weeks before his Saturday arrest. He had gone from a hotel to the airport for a flight to Brussels late Saturday morning when apprehended.

Precisely how he was caught has yet to be disclosed.

There are reports that a passport control official spotted his alias, Ramon George Sneyd, as one of those in the little black books which he and his colleagues keep handy. The books list names of persons to be "watched for and detained."

Passport officials presumably could have picked up Sneyd, or Ray, on his way into the country three

weeks earlier, although that alias may not yet have been known to police here.

Another report is that Ray's capture was a "stroke of luck" in that he was confused in the bustling airport and asked an immigration officer directions. The officer asked to see his passport, and a police officer standing with him spotted the name Sneyd.

Still another report is that Ray mistakenly walked through foreign passport control, rather than through Commonwealth passport control where he should have gone with his forged Canadian passport, and that he was identified at that point, again through the aid of a police officer who

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

I-4 Los Angeles Times  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/12/68  
Edition: Home  
Author: Robert C. Toth  
Editor: Nick B. Williams  
Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: LA 44-1574  
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_ INDEXED \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIALIZED \_\_\_\_\_ FILED \_\_\_\_\_  
JUN 12 1968  
FBI - LOS ANGELES

happened to be standing there.

Why Ray spent three weeks here and why he decided to leave was also a mystery. One theory is that he was waiting for someone akin to the reported "fat man" who delivered an envelope to him in Toronto four days before he left Canada for Europe.

(One version of his trips is that he decided to go to Brussels last Saturday either to join a mercenary unit or to collect money from an account allegedly opened for his use in a Swiss bank, United Press International reported.)

Ray may have decided that his wait was in vain. He tried to fly to Germany a few days before his fateful Saturday trip to the airport but the British airline phoned to cancel his space, after first booking him aboard, because the flight was oversold.

Another curious aspect was why Scotland Yard implied that Ray had flown in earlier Saturday morning from Lisbon and was in transit to Brussels when the passport they took from him must have

showed he had been here for weeks. The most obvious answer to this is that the police wanted to trace back his movements without tripping over newsmen, as subsequently happened.

The only man who could answer all the questions was Ray himself, and he was in Wnadsworth prison's maximum security wing under round-the-clock guard. An attempt by a journalist to visit him was simply laughed off by British officials.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# RAY WAS 'JUMPY' 3 DAYS BEFORE ARREST

LONDON (AP)—James Earl Ray seemed to be an easy going fugitive until something alarmed him three days before his arrest.

Then, overnight, he was jumpy and sought to hide himself. The bars and restaurants of Lisbon and London saw him no more. He switched to an obscure back street hotel, locked himself in, changed his whole mode of life.

When he went out it was only to buy cold snacks from the shop around the corner. He ate them in his room. And his nervousness seemed to increase when he was twice informed that his planned flights out of England had been delayed.

The Pax Hotel in Pimlico, where Ray stayed and called himself Ramon George Sneyd,

presents a blankly anonymous face to the outside world.

It is a cream-painted three-story building in a street filled with others just like it. A two-minute walk away is the British Overseas Airways terminal and the busy Victoria continental rail depot.

Ann Thomas, the Swedish-born 54-year-old wife of an Englishman, bought the place recently, redecorated it from top to bottom, and opened in April. She has seven rooms and can accommodate a total of 12 guests.

She saw little of Sneyd during the three days he was with her from last Wednesday to Saturday. He was already lying low.

"He arrived in the middle of a violent rainstorm Wednesday evening," Mrs. Thomas said

Monday. "There was no one in the hotel because I'd only just returned from visiting my 86-year-old mother in Stockholm.

"He had only an airline bag as luggage, but I gave him No. 1 on the ground floor. We often get single gentlemen with only an airline bag, staying over between flights." Mrs. Thomas said Sneyd didn't have much to say.

"He said he was from Toronto. I asked him about Toronto. He said there was a lot of unemployment there."

But she noticed how nervous and ill he seemed.

"He hardly ever went out and then only to buy food, lots of newspapers and aspirins," Mrs. Thomas said.

"He seemed so ill and stayed in bed all day. He told me he had arrived on an early flight, and was very tired. He seemed very, very nervous."

Mrs. Thomas said she only once got into the room while he was there. That was when he'd slipped out for aspirin. She found he'd made the bed and tidied up. And he'd washed his own shirts.

When she brought him breakfast the first morning he refused to open the door and told her to leave the tray outside. She asked him for the hotel register which she'd given him to sign. He put it out later with the tray. But she found he hadn't signed it.

Mrs. Thomas said Sneyd had no visitors and only two phone calls—both from a girl at British European Airways about postponed flight bookings to Germany.

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

A-3 Herald-Examiner  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/11/68  
Edition: Night Final  
Author:  
Editor: Donald Goodenow  
Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: LA 44-1574  
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-B-113

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 12 1968	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

*cc to Ben  
6/12/68*

BEA telephoned Sneyd on Thursday and again on Friday. Mrs. Thomas pushed the messages under his door. He didn't open or answer.

"He said he would be leaving Saturday," she said, "and I said to myself: Good riddance."

But she moved him upstairs to No. 3 for his last night in the Pax Hotel, because No. 1 had been booked for someone else.

Sneyd paid his hotel check with a five-pound bill, the equivalent of \$12. Then he went out for the last time through that anonymous-looking street door. He was arrested at Heathrow Airport a few hours later.

He was booked on a flight for Brussels, not Germany. But there was no clear lead as to why he might go to either place.



—Associated Press Wirephoto

WHERE JAMES EARL RAY HID IN LONDON  
Room No. 3 was one of two at Pax Hotel used by fugitive

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## PUTTING PIECES TOGETHER

Doubt Cast on Theory  
That Ray Acted AloneBY RICHARD T. COOPER  
Times Staff Writer

TORONTO—Information accumulated about James Earl Ray's activities here makes it increasingly hard to believe the accused assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King acted alone.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, hesitant to discuss their investigation of Ray here, have confirmed only that he arrived in Toronto on or about April 8, applied for a Canadian passport and ordered a round-trip plane ticket to London through a travel agency April 16, and left Canada on a flight May 6.

But information from other government sources and from area residents who are touched by the affair suggests patterns which the laws of probability seem inadequate to explain. In particular, his choices of assumed identities seem more than coincidental.

On April 8 Ray rented a room in a boarding house at 192 Ossington Ave., using the name Paul Bridgman. Three days later, a birth certificate application bearing the same name and address was received here by the office of the Ontario registrar-general.

The vital statistics on the application, which was processed routinely, match those of a Paul Bridgman who lives in the Scarboro section of Toronto. The real Bridgman is a language consultant in the public school system.

On April 16, Ray visited a travel

agency and ordered the air ticket to London. At the same time he applied through the agency for a passport under the name of Remon George Sneyd, a constable on the Toronto Metropolitan Police Force. The real Sneyd also lives in the Scarboro section.

During a visit to Montreal during July or August of 1967, it has been confirmed, Ray used the name Eric S. Galt—just as he used the name Eric Starvo Galt several times in the United States before the April 4 assassination in Memphis.

A Canadian citizen named Eric St. Vincent Galt, whose physical characteristics are remarkably similar to Ray's, also lives in the Scarboro area.

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

I-1 Los Angeles Times  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/13/68  
Edition: Home  
Author: Richard T. Cooper  
Editor: Nick B. Williams  
Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: LA 44-1574  
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 13 1968	
FBI—LOS ANGELES	

44-1574-B-114

From the real Galt's house to the real Sneyd's is about a mile and a half; from Sneyd's house to Bridgman's is just over a mile; and from Bridgman's to Galt's is about two miles. And the suburban area in which they live is all of 12 miles across the heart of the city from the deteriorating, impoverished neighborhoods in which Ray hid.

The RCMP has asserted that neither Bridgman, nor Sneyd, nor Galt was involved with Ray, but speculation continues that they were in some way linked to him indirectly—perhaps by a Scarborough resident who knew all three and supplied Ray with data about them.

In an interview with The Times, Galt said he did not know Bridgman directly but revealed that the name was "familiar." He said an acquaintance at the Union Carbide plant where Galt works is a close friend of Bridgman's. Galt refused to reveal the mutual friend's name.

Galt also said he did not recall ever meeting Sneyd. But he said many metropolitan policemen are active in the target shooting club and competitions which occupy a great deal of Galt's time. He has been secretary of the Viking Gun Club since 1946, and as such processes all members' annual applications for pistol permits—permits that are handled by the metropolitan police.

#### Familiar Figure

It is not known whether Sneyd is connected either with the permit section or with a shooting club. He and the department have declined to release any information about him whatsoever. But Galt said his (Galt's) activities in the gun club have made him a familiar figure to many police officers in the Toronto area.

An avid skin diver, a amateur photographer and rock collector as well, Galt has been the subject of several articles in small magazines, particularly the plant publication where he works and Skin Diver, the largest U.S. magazine devoted to the sport.

Galt and his wife have traveled regularly to the United States—primarily to Florida, jumping off place for his diving trips in the Bahamas. Sometimes they fly to Miami, Galt said, but often they drive, and on the motor trips they frequently make side excursions to points of interest for their other hobbies.

#### Visited Memphis

One of these was an overnight visit to Memphis, in July or August of 1966, Galt said. They were "hitting the rock shops" and stayed overnight in a Memphis motel.

One curious point that suggests the origin of the name "Starvo" concerns the signature of the real Galt.

Until about two years ago, Galt signed his name "Eric St. V. Galt." Instead of dots after the "St" and the "V", he drew small horizontal ovals. The result resembles the middle name "Starvo" used by Ray.

This suggests that Ray or an accomplice, in deciding on the name "Eric Starvo Galt," might have seen a copy of the real Galt's signature.

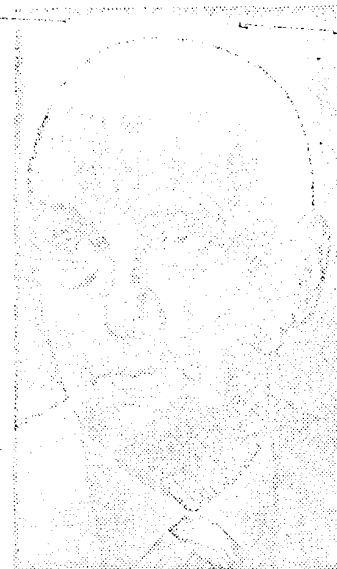
The physical similarities between Galt and Ray also are striking. They are about the same height and weight. Galt, at 53, is 13 years older, but he is trim, vigorous, and looks about the same age as Ray does in his photographs.

More startling: both have inconspicuous scars on their foreheads and on the palms of their right hands.

Galt said the only place these details have ever been printed, to his knowledge, was on a security clearance report prepared on him in 1961 by the RCMP; he was working on a classified project at the plant.

As far as the present incident is concerned, neither the RCMP nor any other law enforcement agency has visited him, Galt said, although he believes the RCMP has made inquiries through his employer.

An informed source in



Eric St. Vincent Galt  
(W) Wirephoto

Toronto said it is characteristic of the RCMP to question everyone close to an individual in whom they are interested, but seldom the individual himself.

Galt said he applied for a passport for the first time last November, when his mother made a trip to Scotland and he feared her ill health might require him to follow her there.

This fact is interesting because neither Bridgman nor Sneyd has ever sought a passport. If Ray had tried to use the name of a person already holding a passport, his deception might have been detected immediately, leading some observers to believe he knew the Sneyd name was safe to use in this respect.

Also, since Ray established the Galt alias before the assassination and was being sought under that name, it is to be expected that he would assume a new alias for a passport and a getaway.

When Ray asked the travel agency employee, Lillian Spencer, to secure a passport for him in Sneyd's name, she says he was aware that presentation of a birth certificate was not required. Under Canadian regulations, a person may submit a notarized statement that he is a citizen in lieu of a birth certificate.

Some police officials believe Ray may not have known about this alternative when he applied for the Bridgman birth certificate almost a week earlier.

This certificate was mailed to him at 102 Ossington but was not delivered, apparently because he had already moved to another rooming house at 962 Dundas St.

Yet on May 18, a birth certificate application bearing the Sneyd name and Dundas St. address was received by the registrar-general. This certificate was issued and received by Ray, it has been reported.

There has been speculation that Ray fled the Ossington Ave. room about April 21 because his photograph had been printed in Toronto newspapers April 19.

Mrs. Yee Sun Loo, landlady at the Dundas St. house, said Wednesday, however, that Ray had first come to her front door on the morning of April 16. He rented the room that day, but did not move in until April 19—also in the morning—she said.

Mrs. Loo, who speaks English with some difficulty, was interviewed at length by The Times through Thomas Wu, an interpreter who works in the Toronto courts.

She noted that she had had a room for rent card in the front window of her house when Ray arrived. He was carrying only a newspaper and was wearing eyeglasses, she said.

Mrs. Loo said she never saw Ray make or receive telephone calls and there were no unexplained long-distance tolls on her April bill.

Ray told Mrs. Loo he worked at night, explaining why he was often in his room during the day. Since the other roomers at 962 Dundas leave for work early in the morning and return home late, they apparently had little contact with Ray. One noted that the only time he encountered Ray, Ray made an effort to avoid him.

The fugitive did receive one visitor, however. A "large" or "fat" man of medium height came to the door one day and asked for Mr. Sneyd. Mrs. Loo said she called him

downstairs and saw the man give Ray an envelope.

She said Ray was standing in the door taking the letter when she returned to the family apartment at the back of the house. She did not see whether the two men exchanged words and does not remember what Ray's reaction to the caller seemed to be.

Indeed, Mrs. Loo appears to have paid little attention to her solitary lodger. Using Canadian bills, he paid the \$9 weekly rent in advance three times and it was not until payment for the fourth week was past due a couple of days that she visited his room and found he had gone.

Ray left behind a small, dark-blue travel bag of the type which often bears the name of an airline, but Mrs. Loo recalls no printing on it. Ray also left a map, she said, and several rolls of camera film which reportedly had not been used.

All of these articles, and perhaps others she does not remember, were taken away by detectives.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

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

A-1 Citizen-News  
Los Angeles, Calif.Date: 6/11/68  
Edition: Metropolitan  
Author:  
Editor: Abe Greenberg  
Title:  
MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: LA 44-

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
1 JUN 13 1968	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

44-1574-B-115

Scotland  
Yard  
Hunting  
Ray's  
Money  
Contacts  
Prison Appeal  
Keep Him  
London

LONDON (UPI)—Scotland Yard today hunted London contacts of the man accused of killing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The search centered on persons who may have kept the 40-year-old escaped convict supplied with money before his arrest at London International Airport Saturday.

cc - 6/13/68  
6/13/68



The hunt spread to Brussels and Lisbon where, according to unofficial reports, James Earl Ray may have been picking up funds funneled through a Swiss bank account.

#### Lawyers Cooperate

The detectives hunted while U.S. and British government lawyers cooperated in an effort to extradite Ray to America to stand trial for the slaying of the civil rights leader in Memphis, Tenn., April 4.

U.S. Assistant Atty. Gen. Fred M. Vinson Jr., leading the extradition drive, was aiming for as speedy an extradition as possible—by June 28, legal sources said. But court observers here said the process could run into a long hot summer if Ray exercises his civil rights to the extent of an appeal to the House of Lords, Britain's supreme court.

With the aid of the British Foreign and Home Offices, Vinson Monday secured from London's chief magistrate a provisional murder-extradition warrant.

#### Full Hearing

That warrant meant Ray would be held here pending a full extradition hearing in court. Legal sources said the U.S. murder case against Ray would be heard in Magistrates' court Thursday.

If the magistrate decides the case is strong enough, he would grant a full-fledged warrant. The Home Office then could — and probably would — order Ray's extradition to America. However Ray can appeal the magistrate's ruling and that could mean months of court fights, the observers said.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## The Killer Of Dr. King

The arrest at a London airport Saturday of James Earl Ray, believed to be the assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King, seems likely to provide the nation and the world with a trial which will rival the trial of Sen. Kennedy's assassin for international interest and dramatic suspense.

We have little doubt that the FBI has enough evidence against James Earl Ray to bring him to trial as the murderer of Dr. King, once he has returned to the United States. But the problem of getting him to reveal who were his fellow conspirators, if any, and who financed his traveling existence, will occupy first place in public concern.

We trust we are not jeopardizing his chances of a fair trial by mentioning these points, which refer to matters of record. The U.S. Supreme Court has made it difficult for a press or airwaves commentator to discuss any criminal case, without prejudicing the civil rights of the accused. However we think it permissible to point out that the central question raised by the arrest of James Earl Ray has major import in the United States and possible international significance as well.

That question is: what organization or individual(s) supplied this man with funds ample enough to permit him to carry out his design and then escape to

Canada and Europe?

He did not have such funds when he escaped from a Missouri State prison some time ago. Who approached James Earl Ray and sounded him out to determine whether he could be hired to kill Martin Luther King?

What organization or what individuals could have desired King's death, and for what motives? Where did the funds come from to hire the alleged killer, support him during a lengthy period and insure his getaway?

There are several possible answers. Leftists will point to the Ku Klux Klan or some other racist and anti-Negro group; others will want to believe that the activist branch of world communism, operating from Castro's Cuba and financed by Peking, were persuaded that King's assassination would advance the cause of Negro insurrection and guerrilla war in the United States.

The nation will hope that a true answer to this question may be given and proved. But this will depend on whether the alleged assassin can be induced to give the true answer, whether he can be convicted, and whether the Powers-That-Be in Washington will want all the facts to be known.

In the long run we think the truth must come out—provided James Earl Ray is kept under constant guard and in prison.

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

4  
EVENING OUTLOOK  
SANTA MONICA, CALIF.

Date: 6/11/68

Edition:

Author:

Editor: Robert McClure

Title:

MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: 44-1574

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-B-116

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
1 JUN 13 1968	
FBI—LOS ANGELES	

*cc to Bu  
6/13/68*

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Ray Became 'Jumpy' 3 Days Before Arrest

## Landlady of Obscure Hotel Says He Hid in Room, Went Out Only to Buy Cold Snacks

LONDON (AP) — James Earl Ray seemed to be an easygoing fugitive until something alarmed him three days before his arrest.

Then, overnight, he was jumpy and sought to hide. The bars and restaurants of Lisbon and London saw him no more. He switched to an obscure back-street hotel, locked himself in, changed his whole mode of life.

When he went out it was only to buy cold snacks from the shop around the corner. He ate them in his room. And his nervousness seemed to increase when he was informed twice that his planned flights out of England had been delayed.

### A Blank Face

The Pax Hotel in Pimlico, where Ray stayed and called himself Ramon George Sneyd, presents a blankly anonymous face to the outside world.

It is a cream-painted, three-story building in a street filled with others just like it. A two-minute walk away is the British Overseas Airways terminal and the busy Victoria continental rail depot.

There is no name on the black-painted door and the electric sign above it only says "hotel." The push-button by the knocker is labeled "bell." The telephone number is unlisted. The Pax is discreet.

### Only 7 Rooms

Taxi drivers have never heard of the Pax Hotel. Nor has the nearby milk depot. Nor the newsstand.

Anna Thomas, the Swedish-born 54-year-old wife of an Englishman, bought the place recently, redecorated it from top to bottom and opened in April. She has seven rooms and can accommodate 12 guests.

She saw little of Sneyd during the time he was with her from last Wednesday to Saturday. He was already lying low.

"He arrived in the middle of a violent rain-storm Wednesday evening," Mrs. Thomas said

Monday. "There was no one in the hotel because I'd only just returned from visiting my 86-year-old mother in Stockholm.

"He had only an airline bag as luggage, but I gave him No. 1 on the ground floor. We often get single gentlemen with only an airline bag, staying over between flights."

Mrs. Thomas said Sneyd had little to say.

### Seemed Nervous, Ill

"He said he was from Toronto. I asked him about Toronto. He said there was a lot of unemployment there."

But she noticed how nervous and ill he seemed.

"He hardly ever went out and then only to buy food, lots of newspapers and aspirins," Mrs. Thomas said.

"He seemed so ill and stayed in bed all day. He told me he had arrived on an early flight and was very tired. He seemed very, very nervous."

The room assigned to Ray was at the rear of the ground floor. It looks out on a tiny back yard surrounded by a wall. The wallpaper is patterned with peacocks and there are yellow drapes at the lace-curtained window. A bathroom is in the corridor outside, next door and two steps down.

Mrs. Thomas said she only once got into the room during his stay. That was when he had slipped out for aspirin. She found he had made the bed and tidied up. And he had washed his own shirts.

When she brought him breakfast the first morning he refused to open the door and told her to leave the tray outside. She asked him for the hotel register which she had given him to sign. He put it out later with the tray. But she found he had not signed it.

Mrs. Thomas said Sneyd had no visitors and only two phone calls — both from a girl at British European Airways about postponed flight bookings to Germany.

"I didn't know who he was when she asked for Mr. Sneyd," Mrs. Thomas said. "I said, 'Do you mean the Canadian?' And that was it."

British European Airways telephoned Sneyd on Thursday and again on

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

I-14 Los Angeles Times  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/11/68  
Edition: Preview  
Author:  
Editor: Nick B. Williams  
Title: MURKIN

Character:  
or  
Classification: LA 44-  
Submitting Office: Los Angeles  
☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-B-117

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 13 1968	
FBI — LOS ANGELES	

Friday. Mrs. Thomas pushed the messages under his door. He did not open or answer.

"He said he would be leaving Saturday," she said, "and I said to myself, 'Good riddance.'"

But she moved him upstairs to No. 3 for his last night in the Pax Hotel, because No. 1 had been booked for someone else.

Sneyd paid his hotel check with a 5-pound bill, the equivalent of \$12. Then he went out for the last time through the anonymous-looking street door. He was arrested at Heathrow Airport a few hours later.

He was booked on a flight for Brussels, not Germany. But there was no clear lead as to why he might go to either place.

Brussels airport police had Ray's name with a couple of aliases on their watch list, according to an informant at the Belgian state police. But they had no picture of the man.

Speculation in Brussels ranged from the suggestion that he might be seeking to enroll as a mercenary for Africa or Yemen, was en route to Eastern Europe, or just hopes to lose himself in the continental summer crowds.

There was mystery about some of Ray's earlier movements. London

Airport officials first said he was arrested when he flew in from Lisbon. Later they said he was outward-bound for Brussels. Mrs. Thomas said he had been intending to fly to Germany.

Reports from Lisbon showed that the man known as Sneyd had certainly been in Lisbon earlier. He was registered at the third-category Hotel Portugal May 8 at 8 p.m., arriving from Lisbon Airport with a flight bag and a suitcase.

The hotel has only sleeping accommodations and no restaurant service. He signed the register as Ramon George Sneya, 35, Canadian, without profession. The same spelling difference in the surname also appeared on his passport, and the Canadian Embassy in Lisbon said he noted this when he asked for a new passport there.

He stayed in room No. 2 on the first floor of the Hotel Portugal until May 17, when he left at 10 a.m. and paid 60.50 escudos or just over \$2 per day.

The hotel staff said he usually went out about 10 each morning, often returning 15 or 16 hours later.

He appeared to have plenty of Portuguese currency and possibly ate his

meals in local restaurants or bars.

The general impression Sneyd gave the hotel staff was that of "a man of few words."

The New Earls Court Hotel is where Sneyd stayed from May 28 to last Wednesday, when something apparently alarmed him and he shifted a couple of miles east to the even greater anonymity of Pimlico's Pax Hotel.

At the New Earls Court, which is usually full, Sneyd had room No. 54, a third-floor single.

Jane Nassau, 21-year-old receptionist, remembers Sneyd as "very quiet, nervous pathetically shy and unsure of himself."

She said he had no visitors at the hotel and no telephone messages. Because the hotel serves only breakfasts, he went out for his meals. He took breakfast in the hotel dining room with other guests.

Miss Nassau said Sneyd signed the hotel register but she could not show it because the police had taken it away.



**WHERE RAY STAYED**—White building in center is the Pax Hotel in London's Pimlico section where James Earl Ray stayed for three days before arrest.

AP Wirephoto

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Ray's Questions Told on Move to Rhodesia

Exclusive to The Times from  
the Washington Post

WASHINGTON -- Last Dec. 30 the man accused of killing Dr. Martin Luther King wrote the American South African Council here seeking information on how he might emigrate to the white minority-ruled country of Rhodesia, it was learned Wednesday.

But it appeared that the idea was no more than that, as Rhodesian authorities said there were no records of any direct contacts from the man who made the inquiry, Eric Starvo Galt.

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

I-10 Los Angeles Times  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/13/68  
Edition: Home  
Author:  
Editor: Nick B. Williams  
Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: LA 44-1574  
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
1 JUN 13 1968	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

44-1574-B-118

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# U.S. Applies Formally for Ray's Extradition

BY ROBERT C. TOTH  
Times Staff Writer

LONDON—The United States formally applied Wednesday—one day earlier than expected—for extradition of James Earl Ray to stand trial for the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King. The British government acted promptly to speed official action on the U.S. request.

A folder of documents at least an inch thick was delivered to the Foreign Office. It contained a sum-

mary of some of the evidence against Ray in Dr. King's death and information about his escape from a Missouri penitentiary while serving a sentence for armed robbery. The United States seeks extradition on both counts and must satisfy a British judge that both would be crimes under British as well as U.S. law.

Shortly after receiving the petition, the Foreign Office certified that the request falls within the terms of the extradition treaty between the two countries. It then was sent to the Home Office, which is roughly comparable to the U.S. Department of Justice, where lawyers started a preliminary screening to insure it establishes a case against Ray.

## To Go to Court

It will go from there, presumably this morning, to Bow Street Magistrate's Court.

A preliminary hearing is expected in that court either today or Friday, at which time a formal hearing will be scheduled. This will probably be seven to 10 days later in order to give defense counsel an opportunity to examine the documents.

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

I-10 Los Angeles Times  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/13/68  
Edition: Home  
Author:  
Editor: Nick B. Williams  
Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: LA 44-1574

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

cc to B...  
6/13/68

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
1 JUN 13 1968	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

44-1574-B-119

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## POLICE CLAM UP ON RAY

LONDON (UPI)—The mysterious activities in Europe of James Earl Ray, wanted for the murder of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. has been clouded in a fog of conflicting reports.

While U.S. officials swiftly gathered documents to present a formal request today or tomorrow for Ray's extradition to the United States, both American and British officials declared a news blackout on the enigma of the much-travelled fugitive.

Officials confirmed only that Ray had been transferred from ancient Brixton Prison to the maximum security wing at Wandsworth Prison. Two policemen were posted inside Ray's prison cell at all times.

Scotland Yard detectives fanned out across London, interviewing hotelkeepers where Ray stayed under the alias of Ramon Sneyd and confiscating registration records in an effort to determine if he had any contacts in this city.

"Sneyd had very little luggage,"

Informed legal sources said the tenant left suddenly from Missouri, Tennessee and other parts of the United States.

Meanwhile, American officials ordered documents from Missouri, Tennessee and other points to try to establish airtight proof that the sullen man called Sneyd really was James Earl Ray.

Informed legal sources said that the American request for Ray's extradition to the United States would have to establish his identity as Ray beyond the shadow of a doubt "in the eyes of British law."

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

A-3 Herald-Examiner  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/12/68  
Edition: Night Final  
Author:  
Editor: Donald Goodenow  
Title:

MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: LA 44-1574  
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-B-120

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
1 JUN 13 1968	
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*cc to Bureau  
6/13/68*



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# No Definite Tie With Ray Found in Toronto

TORONTO (AP) — A spokesman for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police said Monday there was no definite indication that James Earl Ray had any contacts during the month he spent in the city.

This followed a report that Mrs. Sun Loo, the owner of a rooming house in which he stayed, said that she saw a "fat man" pass a small envelope to Ray about four days before he flew to London. Ray got the envelope on the day his rent was due and the day he paid \$345 for an excursion flight ticket to London.

The RCMP spokesman said preliminary investigation showed that the man who delivered the package did not know Ray and was simply making a delivery. "Every effort is being made to trace this man, but so far there is no indication as to who he is," the spokesman said.

Toronto Metropolitan police dismissed another report that a blonde woman,

calling herself "Sneyd's aunt," picked up a birth certificate for him at a provincial registrar's office.

Waiters at a bar in Toronto's West End said they remember seeing Ray drinking beer and watching go-go girls on at least three occasions. He is also remembered at two pool halls where customers say he walked away when asked to shoot a game.

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

I-15 Los Angeles Times  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/11/68  
Edition: Preview  
Author:  
Editor: Nick B. Williams  
Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: LA 44-

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-B-121

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Police Shield Ray Who Says 2 Words in British Court

BY ROBERT C. TOTHE  
Times Staff Writer

LONDON—James Earl Ray looked seedy and impassive as he appeared briefly in the small, wood-paneled room of Magistrates Court on Bow Street, directly across from the Covent Garden Opera House.

Nearly 300 persons had clamored to get in. Only 100 were admitted, most of them newsmen, and each was frisked front and back in a safety precaution said to be unprecedented in British courts.

An almost solid row of uniformed and plainclothes policemen separated the prisoner from the public gallery.

Ray shuffled into court with one hand in baggy trousers, eyes cast down over a summer-weight blue-green checked jacket and his tieless, solid blue sports shirt buttoned at the neck.

He faced the magistrate straddle-legged, hands clasped behind him, with escort on both sides, his back to a dozen officers who watched the gallery. He was not put in the dock, a raised platform with waist-high

iron grill from which he would have been more visible and exposed.

He spoke only once.

"No sir," he said in a firm voice after the business-suited magistrate asked over half glasses whether Ray had anything to say about being remanded.

Ray simply shook his head "no" in response to another question dealing with waiving a British rule that bars news coverage of indictable offenses. The effect was interpreted as meaning he did not want publicity, so British newspapers and American publications distributed here will be severely circumscribed in the details they can report from next week's proceedings.

The prisoner earlier had requested in writing legal aid for his defense, and this was ordered by the magistrate.

## British Charges

He had also been informed in advance of the British charges against him—possessing a false passport and carrying a gun. The gun was described as a .38-caliber Liberty Chief revolver with five rounds of ammunition.

Ordered held for next week's hearing, Ray was hustled off in a cluster of police to be whisked back to his cell in Cannon Row police station about one mile away. He was taken in a police van with a police car running interference.

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

I-1 Los Angeles Times  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/11/68  
Edition: Preview  
Author: Robert C. Toth  
Editor: Nick B. Williams  
Title: MURKIN

Character:  
or  
Classification: LA 44-  
Submitting Office: Los Angeles  
☐ Being Investigated

6-22-68  
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SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
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FBI—LOS ANGELES	

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Postponing the substantive proceedings against Ray will allow time for the state-supported legal aid to prepare his case. Some postponement for this reason was inevitable.

But the delay also gives time both for further investigation by Scotland Yard, and for British and American authorities to prepare their case for extradition or deportation down to the last clause.

But the most intriguing new twist in the case is the newspaper reports, in the Daily Express and in the Daily Telegraph, that Ray had been in London for three weeks before his arrest. Neither was officially confirmed, although the Express article is understood to be the more accurate.

It said he flew here from Toronto with a 21-day, \$345 excursion ticket on May 7, immediately cashed the return half and flew to Lisbon. He stayed for nine days, returning on May 18 to London.

He is said to have lived in four different hotels in West London, most of them near airline terminals and most of the rather cheap.

The Express said Ray remained here until his arrest Saturday. He was discovered when airport police spotted his assumed name, Ramon George Sneyd, on an outgoing flight list to Brussels due to depart at 11:50 a.m.

His alias apparently had been supplied by Canadian police or the FBI.

"Contrary to first reports that he had arrived by plane at Heathrow from Lisbon only hours earlier," the Express stated, "Scotland Yard officers have established that he had been in London for about three weeks."

#### Alike in Essence

The Telegraph story essentially confirms the Express, although it stated that Ray is known to have been here for certain only until Thursday.

The reporter, Ian Colvin, said a man named Sneyd had phoned twice from pay boxes last Tuesday and Thursday to ask for information about mercenaries. Colvin took the first call, which was made initially to the foreign editor, because he had written recently about foreign mercenaries in Africa.

The caller identified himself as "Ramon Sneyd" and said he wanted to join his brother in Angola. This is a southern Africa colony of Portugal, which might explain his trip to Lisbon.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# First Step OK'd To Extradite Ray

## Britain Approves Hearings for Ray

LONDON (UPI)—Britain today formally authorized court hearings on American requests to extradite James Earl Ray to the United States to stand trial for the killing of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The hearings and appeals might last through the summer. Callaghan's order made Ray liable for possible extradition not only for the killing of King in Memphis, Tenn., but for breaking out of a Missouri prison in 1967.

The order came as Scotland Yard hunted a shadowy man—or men—and a woman with an American "twang" accent to learn what Ray was doing in Britain before his arrest at London International Airport Saturday.

The man stood near James Earl Ray when the 40-year-old accused killer checked into a London hotel. The woman with the twang telephoned the hotel asking for Ray.

Behind the hunt to piece together the last days of freedom of Ray was the desire

The police hunt for the people in Ray's recent life was hampered by the absence on vacation of a woman clerk from the New Earl's Court Hotel, a converted mansion where Ray spent time before his arrest.

Mrs. Anna Thomas, owner of another small hotel where Ray stayed, said his staying there makes her want to change the hotel's name. It is now called the Hotel Pax, meaning peace.

of U.S. and British police to know who, if anyone, had helped Ray flee.

While the police hunted, American and British government lawyers moved on getting Ray extradited for the April 4 assassination of the civil rights leader in Memphis, Tenn. The U.S. case for extradition—compiled in a wad of documents—was expected to be handed to Chief London Magistrate Frank Milton today by the Foreign Office.

Milton was expected to read the case and then hold private talks with Ray's court-appointed defense lawyers and the legal attache at the U.S. Embassy. His ruling on extraditing Ray would come a week or 10 days from now after a hearing with the accused present.

Ray was locked up under 24-hour guard in South London's Wandsworth Prison. He was arrested Saturday at London International Airport for carrying false passports and a gun without permit. Milton ordered him held without bail until Tuesday and that was expected to be extended.

The police hunt for the people in Ray's recent life was hampered by the absence on vacation of a woman clerk from the New Earl's Court Hotel, a converted mansion where Ray spent time before his arrest.

Mrs. Anna Thomas, owner of another small hotel where Ray stayed, said his staying there makes her want to change the hotel's name. It is now called the Hotel Pax, meaning peace.

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

A-1 Herald-Examiner  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/13/68  
Edition: Night Final  
Author:  
Editor: Donald Goodenow  
Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: LA 44-1574  
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-B-123

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI — LOS ANGELES	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Clue Found in Atlanta Led to Ray's Identity

BY JACK NELSON  
Times Staff Writer

ATLANTA — Accused assassin James Earl Ray apparently stayed at a cheap Atlanta rooming house for at least a week just before the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King and left there the clue that led to his true identity.

Jimmy Garner, landlord of the apartment house, Thursday told The Times that a man using Ray's principal alias, Eric Starvo Galt, rented a room from him March 24 and paid a second week's rent March 31. Dr. King was assassinated in Memphis April 4.

It was in Ray's first-floor room that the FBI located an Atlanta map with two pertinent areas circled: Dr. King's Atlanta residence and the Ebenezer Baptist Church which the civil rights leader copastored with his father.

Also found in a storage room was a television set that the suspect allegedly had secured in a trade with a girl friend in Los Angeles.

On the map was a well-defined fingerprint which the FBI used to determine that Galt was actually Ray, a 40-year-old escapee from the Missouri State Penitentiary.

Ray was captured by Scotland Yard detectives at London's Heathrow Airport Saturday as he was preparing to fly to Brussels. U.S. officials are attempting to extradite him to face murder charges in Memphis.

Although the FBI has traced Ray from Los Angeles to Atlanta and Memphis, and apparently back to Atlanta early on the morning of April 5, there still remains the question

of how he traveled from Atlanta to Toronto. On April 8, using the alias Paul Bridgman, he checked into a Toronto rooming house.

## Two-Week Stay

Whether he took a plane to Toronto April 5, or possibly stayed here and took a plane later, or traveled by slower means, such as a bus, is not known.

The suspect stayed in Toronto about a month, obtaining two birth certificates under different names and a Canadian passport under one of them, before flying to London.

Atlanta first entered the picture of the assassin's flight from Memphis on April 11 when residents of a public housing project here reported to police that a white Mustang had been parked there since about 9 a.m. April 5—about 11 or 12 hours after the assassination. The vehicle was registered under the Galt alias.

Garner, Ray's landlord here, said he saw the suspect only three times—"when I rented him the room and when I collected the rent the second time and when I walked by once and his door was open and we just said 'Hello.'"

"He was always dressed in a dark suit and made a good impression," Garner said. "There was nothing suspicious about him. He didn't talk much and I didn't know much about him."

Garner said pictures of Ray the FBI had shown him looked like the man who registered as Galt and drove a white Mustang.

He confirmed that the FBI found the television set in the storage room next to the room rented by the suspect, but said he was not sure where the map was located.

On March 30, the suspect apparently drove to Birmingham, about 170 miles west of here, because on that date, according to police sources, he purchased a rifle from a gun dealer there. The weapon, dropped by a man fleeing the murder scene in Memphis, was traced back to the dealer by the FBI.

A night clerk at the Rebel Motel in Memphis had said earlier in the investigation that a man registered as Eric S. Galt

and driving a white Mustang stayed at his motel April 3. There has been no indication of where Ray was between March 31, when he paid his second week's rent here, and April 3.

Garner said that as far as he knew the suspect was never in the room after the killing. He said that he went into the room about 10:30 a.m. April 5 to change the bed linen and found that Ray had gone, leaving behind the key to the door.

The house Garner manages is a two-story white frame structure in Atlanta's "hippie" district, just off Peachtree St. and not far from the downtown area. Its tenants are transients who usually stay only a few days or weeks.

"Nobody who was there when he was is still living there," said Garner. "And I don't think any of them would have known anything about him, anyway."

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

I-18 Los Angeles Times  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/14/68  
Edition: Home  
Author: Jack Nelson  
Editor: Nick B. Williams  
Title: MURKIN

Character:  
or  
Classification: LA 44-1574  
Submitting Office: Los Angeles  
☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-B-124

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

6/11/68

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# 'Fat Man' Tells of Visit to Ray, Cleared by Police

Says He Found, Returned  
Letter Accused Assassin  
Had Left in Phone Booth

BY RICHARD T. COOPER  
Times Staff Writer

TORONTO—The "fat man" who delivered an envelope to James Earl Ray at a rooming house here has come forward voluntarily, metropolitan police announced Thursday, but his story does little to dispel the mystery surrounding the activities here of the suspected assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King.

The man, whose identity was withheld by police, said he found an unsealed envelope, containing a letter written by Ray, in a telephone booth near the rooming house at 962 Dundas St. where Ray was staying. He glanced at the letter to learn the sender's address, and returned it to Ray, he said.

Ray was using the name Ramon George Sneyd at that time. The man said the letter concerned employment, according to police, but he remembered no details of its contents.

## Visit to Ray Reported

Police began to search for the unidentified "fat man" after Mrs. Yee Sun Loo, landlady at the Dundas St. rooming house where Ray spent part of three weeks in late April and early May, told of his visit with Ray.

Police refused to elaborate on their announcement about the fat man, adding only that they are convinced he had no connection with Ray or with any criminal plot.

In London, the attempt to extradite Ray to the United States to face trial took another step forward when the British courts received official government permission to proceed with the case.

The date for a formal hearing is expected to be set in a closed hearing today. Ray, sought since soon after the April 4 assassination of Dr. King in Memphis, was arrested Saturday at London's Heathrow Airport.

## Police Search for Associates

In Toronto, the investigation of Ray's movements between April 8, when he first turned up here, and May 6, when he flew to London, concentrated Thursday on efforts to find persons associated with him in Toronto's impoverished west end. Ray stayed in two different rooming houses in this section.

Metropolitan police and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police also are attempting to establish possible links between three Toronto men whose names Ray apparently used — Paul Bridgman, Sneyd, and Eric S. Galt.

Teams of RCMP were reported to be working in the Scarborough section of Toronto, a workingman's suburb on the east side of the city, Thursday. Bridgman, Sneyd and Galt all live in the area.

In addition, there were scattered, unconfirmed reports that Ray's photograph had been identified by a number of persons in the west end. Most were frequenters of the bars, poolrooms, and similar establishments which dot the area.

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

I-1 Los Angeles Times  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/14/68  
Edition: Home  
Author: Richard T. Cooper  
Editor: Nick B. Williams  
Title: MURKIN

Character:  
or  
Classification: LA 44-1574  
Submitting Office: Los Angeles  
☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-B-125

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 17 1968	
FBI — LOS ANGELES	

*cc to Bue  
6/14/68*

The only persons known to have dealt with Ray while he was in Toronto were the proprietors of the two rooming houses and persons he encountered in applying for birth certificates, seeking passports and in purchasing his plane ticket to London.

Otherwise, except for the "fat man," he dealt with other persons only in a perfunctory fashion. Police, however, also are believed to be seeking a "short, slight" man who visited Ray late in April at one of his rooming houses, and a belly dancer whom Ray reportedly met in a tavern.

No explanation has been made thus far, however, of one or two telephone calls Ray is said to have received while he lived in a rooming house at 102 Offington Ave. The calls allegedly came in mid-April.

fense of the accused murderer of Dr. Martin Luther King in the action, and is expected in closed hearings today to set the date for a formal hearing.

Meanwhile, Asst. U.S. Atty. Gen. Fred M. Vinson Jr. flew back to Washington after five days here in which he helped prepare the American submission for extradition.

Ray's next appearance in court is scheduled for Tuesday. His remand in prison on the British charges against him—possessing a gun without a permit and a false passport—expires then. But that case is expected to be postponed indefinitely in favor of the extradition action.

The formal hearing on extradition is still expected to wait a week or 10 days while Ray's counsel examines American documents.

United Press International quoted Jane Nassau, 21, a clerk at London's New Earl's Court Hotel, as saying that Ray "gave the impression he had just come from an air terminal" when she first saw him May 28.

Ray apparently interested Miss Nassau, UPI said, and she described him as "pathetically shy." She added: "I didn't know why he was so secretive. I just thought he was nervous."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

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

A-1 Herald Examiner  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/15/68  
Edition: Eight Star  
Author:  
Editor: Donald Goodenow  
Title:  
MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: LA 44-1574

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-B-126

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
1 JUN 17 1968	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

*cc to Bu  
6/17/68*

*gyn*



LONDON (UPI) - Efforts to delay and difficulty because of with prima facie evidence of his return James Earl Ray to the Britain's complex extradition guilt - not just suspicion - before United States for trial in the laws, legal sources said today. he can be sent to America, the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. may run into a sea of The language of the 1970 law sources said.

is vague on the subject of political assassination, the sources said, and it will require U.S. authorities to present strong evidence that Ray is responsible for the civil rights leader's death.

King was struck down in Memphis, Tenn., by a sniper who fired from a rooming house across the street from his motel. Ray, linked to the shooting through a path of evidence leading from the rooming house through Chicago and into Britain, was arrested at London's Heathrow airport one week ago.

The legal sources said framers of Britain's extradition laws sought to exclude political assassination from offences of a "political character" -- and therefore not subject to extradition -- but the language used was vague.

They also said that if U.S. authorities are permitted to question Ray in his prison cell prior to the extradition hearing, it could jeopardize his case.

They must go before the court planned to meet Monday to set a date for the hearing on America's extradition request. Meanwhile, Ray was being held in a prison in London and is expected to be held in Whitehall Prison.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Ray Query on Rhodesia Bore His L.A. Address

BY ROBERT L. JACKSON  
Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON—A letter that James Earl Ray wrote last December seeking information on emigrating to Rhodesia bore the return address of 1535 N. Serrano Ave. in Los Angeles, it was learned Monday.

The crudely typed letter from the accused killer of Dr. Martin Luther King bore the signature of Eric S. Galt, one of Ray's many aliases.

Ray was previously known to have resided in an apartment at the Serrano Ave. address last December. The letter, dated Dec. 28, is the first indication of Ray's interest in Rhodesia before, not after, the assassination. It had been known that Ray made inquiries after Dr. King was slain April 4 in Memphis about travel to Rhodesia.

## Found by Accident

The American Southern Africa Council, which received the letter and answered it in early January, found it by accident in its files last month.

Ray's early thoughts of fleeing to segregationist Rhodesia, and the circumstances of the letter, would seem to indicate that he made these escape plans alone.

The FBI, however, is understood to feel that the letter of itself neither supports nor detracts from the theory held by some that Ray had accomplices.

A letter signed by the man himself would seem amateurish if coconspirators were assisting Ray.

Ray never followed up the letter with further questions after the council informed him it did not

And he did not contact the Rhodesian representative in Washington. But he was still inquiring loosely about Rhodesia, and the possibility of joining African mercenaries, a few days before he was seized in London June 8.

John A. Cord, director of the Southern Africa Council, said Monday a secretary came across the letter "by pure accident" May 9 when the name "Galt" caught her eye.

"We receive about four or five requests a week from people wishing to emigrate to southern Africa nations," said A. Cord, whose council represents five countries.

"We sent Mr. Galt a form letter saying we don't handle such inquiries. We mainly encourage tourist travel."

A. Cord wouldn't divulge the text of Ray's letter, but it was learned that the brief note (six sentences) was typed poorly in capital letters and contained misspellings.

The letter said, "The local John Birch Society provided me with your address." The sender said he realized the U.S.

government does not issue passports for travel to Rhodesia and asked if there were any other means of emigrating to that country.

Kenneth Towsey, the Rhodesian representative in Washington, said he took the letter to the FBI last month after the council called it to his attention.

"If Ray associated African mercenaries with Rhodesia, he was wrong," Towsey said. "We don't recruit them and we don't have them."

He agreed that if Ray had gotten to Rhodesia, it might have been difficult for the United States to extradite him, since the U.S. government does not officially recognize that country.

Towsey said he made repeated offers to the FBI to help contact Rhodesian authorities, but the FBI never enlisted his help.

The FBI declined comment Monday on whether it ever started looking for Ray in Rhodesia before his arrest in London.

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

I-8 Los Angeles Times  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/18/68  
Edition: Home  
Author: Robert L. Jackson  
Editor: Nick B. Williams  
Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: LA 44-1574  
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 18 1968	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

44-1574-B-100

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Ray's Defense Plans Extradition Fight

LONDON (UPI)—A British law firm today started preparing a rebuttal to an American demand for extradition of James Earl Ray, accused of killing the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The American extradition demand is expected to be presented in court for the first time at a hearing tomorrow at the Bow Street Magistrate's Court. A formal extradition hearing probably will be held a week to 10 days after the hearing tomorrow.

Last Tuesday Chief Magistrate Frank Milton ordered Ray held for eight days on charges of carrying a false Canadian passport and possession of a loaded pistol. He was arrested at London's Heathrow Airport June 8 while traveling under the name Ramon George Sneyd.

Legal sources said Milton probably will order Ray's conditional imprisonment extended Tuesday.

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

A-4 Herald-Examiner  
Los Angeles, Calif

Date: 6/17/68  
Edition: Night Final  
Author:  
Editor: Donald Goodenow  
Title: KENSALT

Character:

or

Classification: LA 44-1574

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 18 1968	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

44-1574 B-128

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**Ex-Mayor Tentatively  
Plans to Defend Ray**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (UPI)—Former Birmingham Mayor Arthur J. Hanes said Monday he has

tentatively agreed to represent James Earl Ray, the escaped convict charged in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King.

Hanes said he received a letter from Ray asking that he be his lawyer if he is brought to the United States from London to stand trial for the Negro leader's death.

"After conferring with his London lawyer, I have tentatively accepted this case and am flying to London Wednesday to confer with this client," Hanes said.

The American demand for extradition of Ray is expected to be presented in court for the first time at a hearing today at the Bow Street magistrate's court. A formal extradition hearing probably will be held a week to 10 days after today's hearing.

Hanes was mayor of Birmingham in the early 1960s when the city was the center of civil rights demonstrations led by Dr. King. He later unsuccessfully defended two ku klux klansmen charged with violating the civil rights of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo, a white woman slain while participating in civil rights activities at Selma.

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

I-8 Los Angeles Times  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/18/68  
Edition: Home  
Author:  
Editor: Nick B. Williams  
Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: LA 44-1574  
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-8-12

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 18 1968	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

# *Expert Police Work*

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., noted Negro civil rights leader, was murdered in Memphis, Tenn., April 4.

Last Saturday -- June 8 -- the leading suspect in the case, James Earl Ray, was arrested at London airport.

Assistant U.S. Attorney General Fred Vinson is in London now, working for Ray's early -- it is hoped -- extradition to the U.S.A. Trial in Memphis should follow shortly thereafter.

No one should prejudge Ray. He has not been tried for the King killing; and in this country a person is deemed innocent until proved guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

'But it is not too early to extend enthusiastic salutes to the police organizations involved in Ray's apprehension -- our own Federal Bureau of

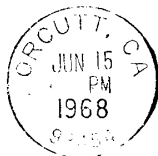
Investigation, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, London's world-famous Scotland Yard, and any other group or groups which may have helped on the quiet.

Catching Ray necessitated a lot of brilliant, complex and laborious police and detective work of many kinds. We are delighted that this work got the desired results, and in a comparatively short time.

We're especially pleased with reference to the FBI. It and its great director, J. Edgar Hoover, are hated and feared by certain groups and individuals around the country. Some of these have been putting it about that the FBI was dragging its feet in the King case, if it was working on the case at all. To see these gentry so effectively refuted is a pleasure of the first water.

***Art Hoppe***

TONY LEWOTSKY  
1600 CLARK  
SANTA MARIA, CAL.  
93454



TO FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
120 WEST CYPRESS STREET  
SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA

14 June 1968

Dear Sir;

I would like to extend  
my deeps feeling for a good  
job.

I can not express my  
self as well as someone that  
writes for a news paper. So

I am sending this clipping  
because it has in it what  
I want to say.

ack 6/19/68  
on

Sincerely Yours  
Tony Lewotsky

P.S. I'm just a working American.

44-1574-B-120

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
1968	
FBI — LOS ANGELES	

*[Handwritten signature]*



1340 West Sixth Street  
Los Angeles, California 90017  
June 18, 1968


Mr. Tony Lewotsky  
1600 Clark  
Santa Maria, California 13454

Dear Mr. Lewotsky:

Thank you for your letter dated  
June 14, 1968, addressed to our office at  
Santa Maria, California, and for its enclosure.

I appreciate your making this  
clipping available to us and your favorable  
comments concerning the work of the FBI.

Very truly yours,

  
WESLEY G. GRAPP  
Special Agent in Charge

1 - Addressee  
1 - Los Angeles (44-1574)  
VJH:CM  
(2)

44-1574-B-131

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Extradition Proceedings for Ray Slated June 27

## Hearing Marked by Denial of Account That U.S. Official 'Interviewed' Defendant

BY ROBERT C. TOTH  
Times Staff Writer

LONDON—Formal extradition proceedings against James Earl Ray, accused slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King, were set for June 27 by a British court in a preliminary hearing Tuesday.

The only unexpected event during the 10-minute session in Bow Street Magistrates Court was a denial by Ray's defense counsel "on behalf of my client" of a British newspaper story that said Ray had been "interviewed" by a U.S. official.

The denial does nothing for Ray's case. If anything, it helps the case against him, for he might have tried to claim improper interference in British law by a foreign official if it were true.

A possible explanation for the denial was that Ray, who gets newspapers in prison, wanted it known that he has not been "talking."

### Heavy Guard

Ray, 40, appeared in court under the same heavy police guard as on his first hearing June 10. He wore the same checked sports jacket over a white shirt and dark tie and had on dark-framed glasses that made him instantly recognizable from some of his "wanted" pictures.

Ray showed no emotion when the British lawyer representing the United States, Nigel Graham Maw, read out the two extradition counts. The first said:

"James Earl Ray, hereinafter called defendant, suspected and accused of the commission of the crime of murder, to wit, on April 4, 1968, in Shelby County, state of Tennessee, did unlawfully, feloniously, wilfully, deliberately, premeditatedly and of his malice aforethought kill and murder Martin Luther King Jr. within the jurisdiction of the United States."

The second count dealt with robbery with violence and a deadly weapon in 1960 for which Ray was sentenced to 20 years.

Chief Magistrate Frank Milton dealt first with the British case of passport and gun violations against the prisoner, who is charged here in the name of Ramon George Sneyd.

Ray was arrested on the passport and gun charges June 8 at London airport as he sought to board a plane for Brussels. On July 10 he was remanded in custody until Tuesday.

The magistrate continued the remand until June 21 and agreed with the prosecution request that extradition should take precedence over the British case in the future. Presumably there will be no further action on the British charges, except for keeping Ray in custody on them until completion of the American case.

Extradition was then taken up. Ray continued to stand facing the magistrate while a human wall of nine plainclothes officers stood behind him facing the audience of 30

correspondents and 25 in the public gallery, all of whom had been well frisked before admittance.

### Interview Denied

Ray's court-appointed barrister, Roger Frisby, rose to complain of the headline (but not the story) in the London Times June 10 which said Ray had been "interviewed" in jail the day before by Asst. U.S. Atty. Gen. Fred M. Vinson Jr.

"Mr. Sneyd (alias Ray) is extremely anxious to make clear," said Frisby, "that there was no interview with Mr. Vinson or any other officer of the U.S. government." Such an interview would be a "most improper thing," he added.

The magistrate agreed and thanked Frisby for the statement.

The misunderstanding arose when Vinson, who had come to speed extradition of Ray, was asked by reporters on June 9 whether he had "seen" Ray in Cannon Row Police Station. He replied simply, "Yes." Immediately after the Times headline appeared, Vinson made a public statement denying any interview, explaining that he caught a glimpse of Ray through the cell door while visiting the jail.

The incident would not jeopardize the extradition case because there was in fact no interview. But why Frisby and Ray should have gone out of the way to set the record straight remains curious.

The court was also told that all the necessary evidence against Ray has now been submitted by the United States.

It was presented in two batches. The first inch-thick file was turned over last Wednesday with the application for extradition. The second, reportedly consisting of seven or eight affidavits which arrived from the United States later, was submitted Monday.

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

I-4 Los Angeles Times  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/19/68  
Edition: Home  
Author: Robert C. Toth  
Editor: Nick B. Williams  
Title: MURKIN

Character:  
or  
Classification: LA 44-1574  
Submitting Office: Los Angeles  
☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-B-132

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 19 1968	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

Routing Slip  
FD-4 (Rev. 4-28-67)

Date 6/18/68

To:

☒ Director

FILE \_\_\_\_\_

Att.: **CRIME RECORDS**

Title \_\_\_\_\_

☐ SAC \_\_\_\_\_

☐ ASAC \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Supv. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Agent \_\_\_\_\_

☐ SE \_\_\_\_\_

☐ IC \_\_\_\_\_

RE: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ CC \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Steno \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Rotor #: \_\_\_\_\_

### ACTION DESIRED

☐ Acknowledge

☐ Open Case

☐ Assign \_\_\_\_\_ Reassign \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Prepare lead cards

☐ Bring file

☐ Prepare tickler

☐ Call me

☐ Return assignment card

☐ Correct

☐ Return file

☐ Deadline \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Search and return

☐ Deadline passed

☐ See me

☐ Delinquent

☐ Serial # \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Discontinue

☐ Post ☐ Recharge ☐ Return

☐ Expedite

☐ Send to \_\_\_\_\_

☐ File

☐ Submit new charge out

☐ For information

☐ Submit report by \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Handle

☐ Type

☐ Initial & return

☐ Leads need attention

☐ Return with explanation or notation as to action taken.

**The files of the Los Angeles Office contain no information which would preclude a letter of appreciation.**

SAC WESLEY G. GRAPP

\_\_\_\_ See reverse side

Office LOS ANGELES

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Expert Police Work

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., noted Negro civil rights leader, was murdered in Memphis, Tenn., April 4.

Last Saturday -- June 8 -- the leading suspect in the case, James Earl Ray, was arrested at London airport.

Assistant U.S. Attorney General Fred Vinson is in London now, working for Ray's early -- it is hoped -- extradition to the U.S.A. Trial in Memphis should follow shortly thereafter.

No one should prejudge Ray. He has not been tried for the King killing; and in this country a person is deemed innocent until proved guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

But it is not too early to extend enthusiastic salutes to the police organizations involved in Ray's apprehension -- our own Federal Bureau of

Investigation, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, London's world-famous Scotland Yard, and any other group or groups which may have helped on the quiet.

Catching Ray necessitated a lot of brilliant, complex and laborious police and detective work of many kinds. We are delighted that this work got the desired results, and in a comparatively short time.

We're especially pleased with reference to the FBI. It and its great director, J. Edgar Hoover, are hated and feared by certain groups and individuals around the country. Some of these have been putting it about that the FBI was dragging its feet in the King case, if it was working on the case at all. To see these gentry so effectively refuted is a pleasure of the first water.

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

Page 4

Santa Maria Times

Santa Maria, California

Date: 6/14/68

Edition:

Author:

Editor: ROBERT MAGEE

Title: MURKIN

Character: 44-1574

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-B-133

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 18 1968	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

Indices Search Slip  
FD-160 (Rev. 10-1-59)

Date

6-15-66

TO: CHIEF CLERK

Subject

THE SMITH MURDER TRIALS

Aliases

Address

Birth Date

Birthplace

Race

Sex

☐ Male

☐ Female

☐ Exact Spelling

☐ Main Criminal Case Files Only

☐ Restrict to Locality of

☐ All References

☐ Criminal References Only

☐ Main Subversive Case Files Only

☐ Main Subversive (If no Main, list all Subversive References)

☐ Subversive References Only

☐ Main Criminal (If no Main, list all Criminal References)

File & Serial Number

Remarks

File & Serial Number

Remarks

66-1500-422

6/10

et al page from document

66-1500-31

4/12

document on page 2 of 2

66-1500-284

5/12

in connection with document

66-1500-3

HP

66-1500-3

HP

66-1500-3

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66-1500-3

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66-1500-3

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HP

Requested by

Squad

Extension

File No.

Searched by

(date)

Consolidated by

(date)

Reviewed by

(date)

File Review Symbols

I - Identical

? - Not identifiable

NI - Not identical

U - Unavailable reference

**Indices Search Slip**  
FD-160 (Rev. 10-1-59)

TO: CHIEF CLERK		Date 6-11-61	
Subject Report on ( )			
Aliases H. J. ( )			
Address		Birth Date	Birthplace
			Race
			Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female

<input type="checkbox"/> Exact Spelling	<input type="checkbox"/> Main Criminal Case Files Only	<input type="checkbox"/> Restrict to Locality of _____
<input type="checkbox"/> All References	<input type="checkbox"/> Criminal References Only	
<input type="checkbox"/> Main Subversive Case Files Only	<input type="checkbox"/> Main Subversive (If no Main, list all Subversive References)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Subversive References Only	<input type="checkbox"/> Main Criminal (If no Main, list all Criminal References)	

[illegible]

Requested by	Squad	Extension	File No.
Searched by			
Consolidated by			
Reviewed by			
<p>File Review Symbols</p> <p>I - Identical                      ? - Not identifiable</p> <p>NI - Not identical                U - Unavailable reference</p>			

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# James Ray's Return to U.S. A Step Closer

LONDON (AP) — A British magistrate today scheduled a hearing on June 27 on the U.S. government's application to return James Earl Ray to Tennessee for trial on a charge of murdering Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Ray's British attorney, Roger Frisby, indicated in Bow Street Magistrate's Court that the 40-year-old escaped convict would fight extradition. The lawyer asked Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Frank Milton for as much time as possible to prepare his case.

Milton said he wanted to hold the hearing as soon as possible, and they compromised on Thursday of next week.

British extradition hearings usually last a day or two, and the magistrate generally gives his decision as soon as he hears all the evidence.

Ray was brought to Bow Street today for the second time since his arrest 10 days ago. The magistrate ordered him returned to Wandsworth Prison.

Two attorneys from Birmingham, Ala., Arthur J. Hanes and his son, Arthur Jr., are expected in London Wednesday to assist Ray's British attorney.

The hearing today was the customary two-minute session when a court has decided on a postponement.

The small courtroom was filled with about 100 persons, mostly newsmen.

Ray, wearing a blue checked suit and glasses, sat impassively in the dock while attorneys and the magistrate discussed details.

After Milton fixed the extradition hearing date, Ray spoke only two words: "Thank you."

He was separated from the spectators by a wall of policemen and detectives. Police also lined the corridor through which he reached the courtroom.

Attorneys for the U.S. government told the magistrate that Ray is wanted on a charge of murdering Dr. King in Memphis April 4 and also on a charge of escaping from Missouri State Prison while serving an armed robbery sentence.

Documentary evidence already has been produced in London, the American lawyers told the court, and a fingerprint expert will be flown over to testify at the extradition hearing.

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

A-1 Herald-Examiner  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/18/68  
Edition: Night Final  
Author:  
Editor: Donald Goodenow  
Title: MURKIN

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Classification: LA 44-1574

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

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44-1574-B-134

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
1 JUN 19 1968	
FBI — LOS ANGELES	

cc L.B. 6/19/68

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Masterpiece Of Sleuthing

It is necessary to remember that James Earl Ray is for now only accused in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis, Tenn.

His arrest, however, comes as a great relief. For at least some Americans, possibly a great many, were beginning to lean to the opinion that the prime suspect in the murder of Dr. King was either dead or had so successfully covered his tracks that he never would be found.

The arrest of Ray in England was a masterpiece of FBI sleuthing, benefited by the full co-operation of law en-

forcement agencies in Canada, Portugal and Britain.

Our extradition pact with Britain makes certain that he will be returned to the U.S. for questioning and trial, whether he does so voluntarily or through legal process.

The nagging question of whether there was a conspiracy in the slaying of the civil rights leader now has a chance of being answered. Americans of good will can be thankful that Ray has been apprehended. The chances of his arrest were beginning to appear rather frail.

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

Editorial Page  
Daily News  
Indio, Calif.

Date: 6-17-68

Edition:

Author:

Editor: Arthur Sonneborn

Title: Murkin

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-B-135

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SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 19 1968	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Alabama attorney Arthur J. Hanes Sr. arrived in London and held talks with British attorneys who will represent James Earl Ray in extradition proceedings next Thursday. Hanes, former mayor of Birmingham, announced at the airport that he would defend the accused killer of Dr. Martin Luther King "with the last ounce of my breath." He stressed that he had been retained to represent Ray only in the event the United States wins its demand that he be returned to face trial in Tennessee. Hanes said he would take no part in the extradition hearings.

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

I-2 LA Times

Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/21/68  
 Edition: Home  
 Author:  
 Editor:  
 Title:

Character:  
 or  
 Classification:  
 Submitting Office: LA

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
1 JUN 21 1968	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

44-1574-B-136

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Alleged King Assassin Fights London Extradition

**LONDON (AP)** — James Earl Ray began a legal fight yesterday against extradition to the United States to face the charge of assassinating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The 40 - year - old escaped convict sat silently in a well - guarded dock while his British lawyer asked London's Bow Street Court for as much time as possible to prepare for the extradition hearing.

Judge Frank Milton gave him until June 27, the date he set for the hearing to begin.

As attorneys representing the United States presented their extradition request to Milton, Ray said barely a word and displayed not a flicker of emotion in the eight - minute session.

He was dressed in a neat, blue-check-

ed suit, wore heavily rimmed glasses and was surrounded by police in court.

Milton addressed Ray only once, to inform him of when the formal hearing on the extradition request would be held and that he would continue to be held in custody.

Ray replied quietly, "Thank you."

An American lawyer is due in London later this week to discuss preparation of Ray's defense if he is extradited to Tennessee to stand trial. King was slain in Memphis April 4.

The lawyer is Arthur J. Hanes, former mayor of Birmingham, Ala., and a segregationist who defended three men accused of murdering Viola Gregg Luizzo, a civil rights worker, in Alabama three years ago. Asked about payments for Ray's defense, Hanes said he "under-

stands this man has funds."

Hanes told newsmen in Birmingham he was telephoned by Ray's court - appointed London attorneys and then received a handwritten letter signed "R. G. Sneyd" asking him to handle the case. Ramon George Sneyd is the name under which Ray was arrested at London Airport June 8, carrying a forged Canadian passport and a loaded gun.

The British attorneys representing the United States said they would produce a fingerprint expert at the extradition hearing, presumably to testify on Ray's identity. The rest of the hearing, which will probably last one day, is expected to be taken up with a review of the case against Ray.

If Milton grants extradition, Ray could still appeal to the High Court and then the House of Lords. Such appeals

usually are based on the argument that the case against the defendant is a political one. British extradition law forbids surrender of suspects in political cases.

This was Ray's second routine hearing at the Bow Street Court.

At least 100 London uniformed and plain - clothes police were assigned to guard duties.

Police frisked all reporters and spectators who entered the courtroom, inspecting handbags and briefcases. The doors were locked during the hearing and a line of police stood facing the public.

After the hearing three Jaguar sedans escorted a police van carrying Ray back to Wandsworth Prison, where he is held in a maximum security cell.

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

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The Sun

San Bernardino,  
California

Date: 6/19/68  
Edition: Morning

Author:

Editor:

Title:

MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-B-137

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