

863-1
Department of Justice

44

CLASSIFICATION NO. 1368

REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE

ROY; HISTORICAL VALUE
ARCHIVES

BUREAU

4.9
of

FBI - CENTRAL RECORDS CENTER

PH - PHILADELPHIA PH-0044-0001B: PH

Class / Case #	Sub	Vol.	Serial #
0044 1368		8	457 548

4/10/313535



RRP00244Y0

INVESTIGATION

DO NOT DESTROY Bureau File Number 44-38861

RESERVE FOR SELECT

DETERMINE ON ASSASSINATIONS

SEE 66-6061 SER 6 pg 10 DATED 12/12/78

See also Nos.

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE

DATE: 3/15/25
BY: D58874572

Volume Number
Serials

457-548

Case 23-27069
Rec 3-27-69
Inventory 3-27-69
Rec 2-2-69
Inventory 1-20-69
Rec 1-10-69
Rec 8-1-68
Inventory 1-1-68

ROTOR-39

NaVo 5-27-92 Private NEP

Extra copies purged and
destroyed pursuant to
instructions in BuA/T,
11/3/86.

PH 44-1368
KKS:PMN
(1)

The following investigation was conducted by IC
E. MO:

On April 24, 1968 MR. H. S. Special Service Representative, Veterans Administration Center, 5000 Wissahickon Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. made available National Service Life Insurance (NSLI) Policy pertaining to JAMES EARL RAY and the following information was obtained:

JAMES EARL RAY made application for a \$10,000 term NSLI policy on February 21, 1946 at Fort Sheridan, ILL., listing his date of birth as at Alton, Ill., and his beneficiary as his mother L. Alton, Ill.

RAY entered on duty in the military service on February 19, 1946 under serial number His monthly insurance premiums were made to the VA by allotment from his military pay and amounted to \$6.40.

His monthly allotments were discontinued to the VA on March 31, 1947 at his own request and his NSLI policy lapsed on May 21, 1947.

On July 25, 1950 the VA sent RAY a 1948 Special Dividend which amounted to \$82.50. His address at that time was 215 Oak Street, Quincy, Ill. This is the last contact the VA had with JAMES EARL RAY and his file has been in a closed status since that time.

44-1368-457

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 1968	
PHIL	

PH 44-1368

KKS:PMN

(1)

Within the Philadelphia Division the following directories were reviewed and the following agencies and bureaus were contacted relative to any information pertaining to the names of ERIC STARVO GALT and HARVEY LOWMEYER with negative results:

Pennsylvania State Selective Service Headquarters,
Harrisburg, Pa.,
Pennsylvania State Drivers License Division,
Harrisburg, Pa.
All credit bureaus and police departments.
All telephone and city directories (where
existent)
Voters Registration Records

The records of the Motor Vehicle Registration Bureau, Harrisburg, Pa., were reviewed for a 1966 Mustang 6T07C190647, bearing Alabama License 1-38993, with negative results.

The records of oil companies maintaining credit card records in the Philadelphia Division were reviewed with negative results relative to the name of ERIC STARVO GALT.

The credit card records of Eastern Airlines, American Airlines, National Airlines, and Northeast Airlines, were reviewed with negative results relative to the name of ERIC STARVO GALT.

The records of all financial institutions in the Philadelphia Division were reviewed with negative results relative to the name of ERIC STARVO GALT.

44-1368-458

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 7 1968	
FBI - PHILADELPHIA	

PH 44-1368
(2)

The records of the Fraud and Arson Bureau, American Insurance Association, which covers the Eastern parts of the State of Pennsylvania, the State of Delaware, and the Southern part of the State of New Jersey were reviewed with negative results relative to the names of ERIC STARVO GALT, JOHN WILLARD and HARVEY LOWMEYER.

The records of all dancing schools in the Philadelphia Division were reviewed and personnel at these schools were interviewed with negative results relative to the subject.

All laundries in the Philadelphia Division were contacted relative to the use of code O2B-6 on a thermo-seal marking tape being used by the laundry for any customer with negative results. Laundries having textile marking machines were contacted pertaining to their use of marking code 2OR-3 with negative results.

Contacts with the police departments in the Philadelphia Division failed to indicate the recovery of any car stolen from the State of Georgia and recovered subsequent to March 23, 1968.

Personnel at Police Departments within the Philadelphia Division maintaining latent print sections made comparisons between the unknown latents and the known fingerprints of RAY without effecting any identification.

Through the W. S. Ponton Company, Upper Darby, Pa., a circular letter was distributed to all laundries and dry cleaning establishments (approximately 14,000) in the United States.

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

JUN 6 1968

SAC, PHILADELPHIA (44-1368) (P)

MURKIN

Enclosed are fifteen copies of an FD 302 pertaining to interview with L [REDACTED] P [REDACTED] fifteen copies of an investigative insert relative to review of records of NSLI; and fifteen copies of an investigative insert relative to investigation toward the identification and possible location of the subject.

The Barclay Laundry, 253 S. 10th Street, Philadelphia, Pa., had a customer to whom the number D-2B6 was assigned. He was subsequently identified as one FRED NEIBAUER, 2213 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, Pa. It was determined that he was a teacher in Philadelphia, Pa., at the West Philadelphia High School, and through a check with the Philadelphia Board of Education it was determined that he had been teaching at the above high school each day since March 7, 1968.

By letter dated April 16, 1968, the FBI Laboratory advised that the piece of white cloth containing six samples of thermo-seal marking tape obtained from the above mentioned laundry was found to differ in printing from the tapes appearing on Q 69 and Q70.

All laundries within the Philadelphia Division were contacted with negative results in an effort to locate a laundry utilizing thermo-seal marking tape and the marking code D-2B6.

2 Memphis (44-1987) (Encls. 45)

1 Philadelphia (44-1368)

AKS:PMN

(3)

44-1368-459

Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

PH 44-1368

Laundries using the textile marking machine were contacted in an effort to determine if the code 2OR-3 was used, with negative results.

Leads received from other field divisions concerning individuals who allegedly resembled JAMES EARL RAY were reported by teletype or airtel and the details are maintained in the Philadelphia Files. The details of leads received and handled entirely within the Philadelphia Division concerning allegations of some individuals resembling RAY are recorded in the Philadelphia file.

The names of Special Agents and Investigative Clerks conducting the investigation in the Philadelphia Division along with the names of agencies and individuals contacted and all other pertinent details are maintained in the Philadelphia File.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, 44-1368

DATE: 6/7/68

FROM : SA J [REDACTED] C [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Office memo dated 5/13/68, by SA K [REDACTED] SMYTHE.

Sergeant J [REDACTED] Z [REDACTED], Schwenksville Barracks, Schwenksville, Pa., was contacted by SA J [REDACTED] C [REDACTED] on June 4, 1968, according to instructions contained on the referenced office memo. It should be noted that Sergeant Z [REDACTED] was previously contacted regarding this matter on May 16, 1968. At that time Sergeant Z [REDACTED] was requested to request men under his supervision to compare any unidentified latent fingerprints on file with the known fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY, IO #4182.

On 6/4/68, Sergeant Z [REDACTED] said that none of the latent fingerprints maintained at the Schwenksville Barracks are identifiable with the known fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY.

① - 44-1368

JEC:kma

(1)

kma



5010-108-01

44-1368-460

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>pub</i>	FILED
JUN 7 1968	
FBI - PHILADELPHIA	

J. O'Connor JOC

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1368)

DATE: 4/19/68

FROM : CC R [REDACTED] K [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: MURKIN
RM

On 4/19/68, Mr. J [REDACTED] A [REDACTED] 300 Federal Street, Mount Laurel, N.J., telephone [REDACTED] and who is employed as Export Manager, Hoffman Tire Co., Montgomeryville, Pa., telephone CH 2-6464, telephonically contacted this office to advise of the following.

On the evening of 4/11/68, at approximately 7:30 PM, at Gino's Restaurant, route 73 and 295 in Maple Shade, N.J., he was approached by an individual who resembled ERIC STARVO GAULT whose picture he viewed in the paper and on television on 4/18/68.

A [REDACTED] stated that this individual who stated he resides at 2nd. and Girard Avenue, and works at a Brewery in that vicinity was inquiring directions as to how to get to Philadelphia. He said this individual indicated that he received \$3.25 and hour as an employee at this brewery and that his wife lived at 2nd. and Girard. However, after talking to this individual for a period of time he determined that he was not certain that he was employed at the brewery but that he had some knowledge of brewery work and was looking for a job. He also determined that he believed that this individual did not have a wife or at least did not believe this individual to have a wife.

A [REDACTED] stated this individual told him that he just came from California, via the south and although he mentioned a few street names in Philadelphia and the names of the bridges, he did not know how to get to Philadelphia.

A [REDACTED] advised this individual was driving a light colored car, make unknown, but it contained out-of-state license plates but he could not determine from what state they were, as it was too dark. However, he said that he could see a baby bassinet in the car and that there were clothes hanging in the car.

A [REDACTED] stated that this individual was about 5'9" and weighted between 160 to 180 pounds and he resembled the picture of GAULT that had the eyes open.

2 - 44-1368

RCK:rck
(2)

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



5010-108

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1368)
FROM : SA A [redacted] P [redacted]
SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/20/68
44-1368-462
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
APR 22 1968
FBI - PHILADELPHIA
[Signature]

At 9pm, 4/20/68, Mr. J [redacted] V [redacted], [redacted]
of [redacted] [redacted]
[redacted] PH, phone GA 3-4247 called
in the following information:

One H [redacted] W [redacted], aka, R [redacted] D [redacted] who occupied an
office also 2nd floor, middle, [redacted]
about 4 mos. ago strongly resembles the photo of James
Earl Ray as published in the PH Bulletin 4/20/68
(The photo taken in 1968 as Galt)

West operated a magazine subscription Co. selling
the Saturday Evening Post, Esquire, and the Ladies Home
Journal. West was described as white, 40-45 yrs,
5'10", 155-165 lbs, heavy in shoulders, pointed (but
not circular) nose, brown or black curly hair with a
brush haircut, brown eyes. He was very animated
and frequently got mad and hung up on potential customers
during phone conversations. He rented the office from
H [redacted] K [redacted] restor, Kensington & Allegheny Ave. PH,
for about 5 months, then left suddenly about 4 mos. ago,
apparently leaving unpaid phone and electric bills.

West had an office girl, D [redacted] K [redacted]
S [redacted] (phonetic). The phone was in her name so
that it could be called a residence phone.



5010-108-01

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

They used the phone constantly and had 3 or 4 extensions which were used by ^{other} girls calling also. These girls didn't stay long as West was constantly bickering with Shaeffer and once used physical violence on her. West ran ads in the paper to obtain these girls.

S [REDACTED] apparently was a partner in the business

S [REDACTED] had a small foreign sports car type not recalled, gray or cream color, 5 speed, with stick shift on the floor. S [REDACTED] was described as white 6 ft tall 160 lbs, big and clumsy, with brown red hair wavy, shoulder length

Before West left he said he was going south, place not mentioned.

The business was in the name, Harold West.

No identifiable references located.

Action

Exhibit Photos to Realtor and others in vicinity to determine if possibly identical.

WA !
1846 AMURGENT 4-24-68 ECK
TO DIRECTOR 44-38861; MEMPHIS 44-1987 AND ATLANTA 44-2386 (PLAINTEXT)
FROM PHILADELPHIA 44-1368 1P

MURKIN

RE ATLANTA TEL TO DIRECTOR, FOUR TWENTYTWO LAST, CONCERNING A
PHONE CALL FROM [REDACTED] J [REDACTED] TO THE SECRETARY OF THE DECEASED
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

[REDACTED] WAS UNABLE TO CONTACT OR INTERVIEW MARY ALICE J [REDACTED]
NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTIGATION REFLECTS [REDACTED] IS AN OLD WHITE FEMALE
RECLUSE LIVING AS THE ONLY WHITE PERSON IN AN ALL-NEGRO NEIGHBORHOOD.
SHE RARELY COMES OUT AND NEVER ALLOWS PEOPLE INTO HER HOME. NEIGHBORS
STATE SHE HAS FORMERLY BEEN IN A MENTAL INSTITUTION AND SHOULD BE
IN ONE NOW.

UACB P [REDACTED] WILL MAKE NO FURTHER ATTEMPTS TO INTERVIEW J [REDACTED]
DETAILED AIRTEL FOLLOWS.

END

RWL

FB WASH DC

SENBY CODED TELETYPE - WA

" TW X

"

- Memphis @ 10:57 AM
ack by: MCP

" TW X

"

- Atlanta @ 10:59 AM
ack by: VSC

44-1368-463
Searched _____

Serialized _____

Indexed _____

Filed _____

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1368)

DATE: 4/20/68

FROM : SA A [redacted] P [redacted]

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
APR 22 1968

SUBJECT: MURKIN

FBI - PHILADELPHIA

44-1368-462 [signature]

At 9pm, 4/20/68, Mr. J [redacted] V [redacted], [redacted]
of Ionosphere Export Co. [redacted]
[redacted] phone GA 3-4247 called
in the following information:

One Harold West, aka, R [redacted] D [redacted] who occupied an
office also 2nd floor, middle, [redacted]
about 4 mos. ago strongly resembles the photo of James
Earl Ray as published in the PH Bulletin 4/20/68
(The photo taken in 1968 as Galt)

West operated a magazine subscription Co. selling
the Saturday Evening Post, Esquire, and the Ladies Home
Journal. West was described as white, 40-45 yrs,
5'10", 155-165 lbs, heavy in shoulders, pointed (but
not circular) nose. brown or black curly hair with a
brush haircut, brown eyes. He was very emotional
and frequently got mad and hung up on potential customers
during phone conversations. He rented the office from
14 [redacted] K [redacted], realtor, Kensington & A [redacted]
for about 5 months, then left suddenly about 4 mos. ago,
apparently leaving unpaid phone and electric bills.

West had an office girl, D [redacted] K [redacted]
[redacted] (phonetic) The phone was in her name so
that it could be called a residence phone.



5010-108-01

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

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West ran ads in the paper to obtain these girls.

S [redacted] apparently was a partner in the business

S [redacted] had a small foreign sports car type not recalled, grey or cream color, 5 speed, with stick shift on the floor. Shaeffer was described as

white 6ft tall 160 lbs, big and clumsy, with brown red hair wavy, shoulder length.

Before West left he said he was going south, place not mentioned.

The business was in the name, Harold West.

No identifiable references located.

ACTION

Exhibit Photos to Reardon and others in vicinity to determine if possibly identical.

FBI

Date: 4/24/68

Transmit the following in PLAIN
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861),
MEMPHIS (44-1987)
ATLANTA (44-2386)

FROM: PHILADELPHIA (44-1368)

MURKIN

RE ATLANTA TEL TO DIRECTOR, FOUR TWENTY TWO LAST,
CONCERNING A PHONE CALL FROM M [REDACTED] J [REDACTED] TO THE
SECRETARY OF THE DECEASED MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

PHILA. WAS UNABLE TO CONTACT OR INTERVIEW M [REDACTED]
J [REDACTED]

NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTIGATION REFLECTS J [REDACTED] IS AN OLD
WHITE FEMALE RECLUSE LIVING AS THE ONLY WHITE PERSON IN AN
ALL-NEGRO NEIGHBORHOOD. SHE RARELY COMES OUT AND NEVER
ALLOWS PEOPLE INTO HER HOME. NEIGHBORS STATE SHE HAS

SENT BY CODED TELETYPE - WA

① - 44-1368

" " TWX

" Memphis + Atlanta

44-1368-463

KKS:ELS
(1)

els

Searched _____
Serialized ml
Indexed _____
Filed pt

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

WA-10 ⁴⁶_A
ME-10:57 AM
AT-10:59 AM

Per [Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]

F B I

Date:

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

Via _____
(Priority)

PAGE TWO

FORMERLY BEEN IN A MENTAL INSTITUTION AND SHOULD BE IN ONE
NOW.

UACB PHILA. WILL MAKE NO FURTHER ATTEMPTS TO INTERVIEW
JO [REDACTED] *Detailed AIRTEL follows.*

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC(44-1368)

DATE: 4/24/68

FROM : SA M [REDACTED] DA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

Reference is made to the memorandum of CC R [REDACTED] K [REDACTED] dated 4/19/68.

Miss G [REDACTED] M [REDACTED] Executive Secretary to the President of Schmidt's Brewery advised that the only person that was a new employee or rather applicant for a position at the Brewery that is located at 2nd and G [REDACTED] is N [REDACTED] S [REDACTED] who has been employed by the Quality Bros. ~~XXXXXX~~ at Cherry Hill, N.J.

Her records reflect that he is a white male, age 40, born [REDACTED] at Woodbury, N.J. He has a Philadelphia address of 127 Edwards Street and a New Jersey address of 291 Boxwood Lane, Cinnaminson, N.J. He is 5'10", 180 Lbs, Hazel eyes, brown hair, light complexion, medium build. He was employed from 10/1959 to 6/4/67 by South West Petroleum at Fort Worth, Texas. From 6/7/67 to 4/17/68 he was employed by X Quality Brothers Beverage Company.

Miss M [REDACTED] contacted this firm by telephone and was advised that this man was on duty with them in March and April of 1968, that they had fired him for drinking on the job and that they had been sure of his whereabouts during the pertinent period and that he was then driving a truck for them.

In view of the above this lead is being considered covered.

44-1368-464

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>pl</i>	FILED <i>pl</i>
APR 25 1968	
FBI - PHILADELPHIA	

[Signature]



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, PHILADELPHIA (44-1368)

DATE: 5/27/68

FROM : SA J [REDACTED] C [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: MURKIN

[REDACTED] M [REDACTED], Philadelphia, Pa., telephone [REDACTED] on 5/24/68 telephonically advised that she recalled that approximately six weeks ago she recalled reading in the obituary in either the Philadelphia Inquirer or the Philadelphia Bulletin about the death of one CHARLES GAULT who had been a long resident in the Kensington area of Philadelphia, Pa. She advised that she had recently read in the newspapers ~~KMK~~ the possibility that GALT's (RAY's) body might have been found in the area of Pottsville, Pa., and was curious to know if there was any connection between the deceased GAULT who died in the Kensington area and the body found in the area of Pottsville, Pa. ~~xx~~ She noted the difference in spelling of the deceased GAULD of the Kensington area and the alias of GALT relative to the M [REDACTED] case.

No further action is being taken inasmuch as the GAULD of the Kensington area as indicated was ~~xxx~~ a long time resident of that area.

1 - (44-1368)

44-1368-465

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 29 1968	
FBI - PHILADELPHIA	

[Signature]



5010-108-01

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, (92-453)

FROM : SA H [REDACTED] N [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM
PHILADELPHIA DIVISION

DATE: 5/28/68

Attached hereto are five copies each of a blind memorandum for the SRAs, one copy for the Bank Robbery Coordinator and copies as designated for other Agents.

It is suggested that Agents review this blind memorandum, which concerns the finding of the body of an unknown White male near Mahanoy City, Pa., on 5/8/68, apparently killed in gangland fashion, on the possibility that unknown deceased may be identical with the subject of any racketeering investigation if that subject disappeared in about March or April 1968.

Agents should contact PCIs and CIs during regular course of business, for information as to identity of unknown deceased.

It should also be considered that unknown deceased may be identical with subject of a bank robbery investigation, as well as an anti-racketeering investigation.

- 1-(92-453) (Enc. -1)
- 1-PCI Usage File (Enc. -1)
- 1-Bank Robbery Coordinator (SA KLINGLER) (Enc. -1)
- 1-Each Agent on ASAC Squad (Enc. -8)
- 1-Each Agent on #5 Squad (Enc. -9)
- 1-Each SRA (70) - (5 each)
- 1-#3 Squad (MURKIN) (Enc. -1)

HCN:ccc
(20)

44-1368-466

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIAL	FILED
MAY 28 1968	
FBI - PHILADELPHIA	

[Handwritten signature]



5010-108-01

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

MAY '28, 1968

UNKNOWN DECEASED WHITE MALE
FOUND NEAR MAHANNOY CITY, PA., 5/8/68

On May 8, 1968, the body of unknown deceased was found in shallow grave on Brandonville Mountain, near Mahanoy City, Pa. Body was badly decomposed and was clad only in shorts and undershirt. White powder, believed lime, was found in grave.

Local pathologist, Pottsville, Pa., examined body on May 10, 1968 and determined it was white male of heavy build. Three .38 caliber bullets were found in the chest cavity and a hole was found in the skull, behind one ear. Cheek bone was fractured and most of upper teeth knocked out or had fallen out. Due to decomposition no possibility existed of obtaining fingerprints. Pathologist of opinion body in grave about six months.

On May 17, 1968, body was examined by Dr. W. [REDACTED] K. [REDACTED], University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa., who stated in his opinion, derived from examination of deterioration of blood vessels of body, that body had been in grave only four to six weeks. He stated body was that of middle-aged white male, 5 feet - 9 inches to 6 feet - 1 inch, brown hair, muscular build, about 200 pounds, from or descendant of persons from northern Italy.

Teeth in lower jaw intact and contain several fillings of low quality, indicating dental work may have been done in prison or other institution.

A pair of Italian made pointed shoes, size 9D, and a pair of bifocal glasses were found near the grave. It is not known if these belonged to unknown deceased.

Lower jaw of unknown deceased in possession of Pennsylvania State Police, Reading, Pa., who are retaining for comparison with dental records of missing persons.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, PHILADELPHIA (44-1368)

DATE: 6/7/68

FROM : SA G [REDACTED] K [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel, 5/9/68.

On 5/20/68 D [REDACTED] G [REDACTED] Director, BVS, Harrisburg, Pa., was requested to determine if there is any central record of unidentified deceased persons maintained by the State of Pennsylvania and to advise of the feasibility of a search or review of same if it exists.

On 6/7/68 G [REDACTED] advised that he had determined that the only such file maintained by Pennsylvania is an index of the death certificates of unknown or unidentified dead maintained by BVS. He said that in 1967 there were only 16 such certificates filed for the entire state out of a total of 137,411 death certificates. It is not now possible, however, to cause a review to be made of the unidentified certificates for April and May, 1968, inasmuch as certificates are currently only indexed up to February, 1968, and generally lag four or five months behind time. No search would therefore be possible until at least August or September, 1968.

1 - Philadelphia
GK:ghk
(1)

44-1368-467

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>mt</i>	FILED <i>mt</i>
JUN 8 1968	
FBI - PHILADELPHIA	

Joe



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, PHILADELPHIA (44-1368)

DATE: 6/7/68

FROM : SA G [REDACTED] K [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Bureau teletype, 5/21/68.

On 5/23/68 Mrs. F [REDACTED] J [REDACTED] BMV, Pa. Department of Revenue, Harrisburg, Pa., was requested to ascertain the feasibility of causing a review to be made of all drivers license applications in Pennsylvania for the months of April and May, 1968, concerning all male caucasians over thirty and under fifty-five in an attempt to locate the subject of this investigation. She said that she was of the opinion that it was an impossible job but that she would check into the situation and determine what it would entail.

On 6/7/68 Mrs. J [REDACTED] advised that BMV records are set up by date of birth. They are not filed by sex and there is nothing in the records to indicate the race or color of the individuals. All Pennsylvania licenses are renewed every two years so that there some 250,000 applications received every month at BMV, of which about 25,000 are new drivers or persons just entering the state. However, these 25,000 are not segregated in any manner from the others and are handled as part of the 250,000 per month. It would therefore be necessary to search 500,000 applications for April and May, 1968, which are located in 24 places in their files due to their filing system of odd and even year renewals.

In view of the above, no further effort is being contemplated as to a search as outlined by the Bureau.

1 - Philadelphia
GK:ghk
(1)

44-1368-468

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUN 8 1968	
FBI - PHILADELPHIA	

goc



5010-108

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

7QBFB I PHILA

FBI WASH DC

RELAY MESSAGE PLAN IN EFFECT PLEASE TURN ON YOUR TAPE

GA

FBI PHILA

FBI WASH DC

1259PM URGENT 6/8/68 GJM

TO ALL SACS

FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861

MURKIN

SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY APPREHENDED AT LONDON,
ENGLAND, JUNE EIGHT INSTANT. DISCONTINUE EFFORTS TO LOCATE
AND REMOVE ALL STOPS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

MCD

FBI PHILA

relay - Balt - 1:11PM - LLF
Batts - 1:12PM - PVC
Rich - 1:14PM - GSS
Wynch - 1:15PM - JBD
Burr, advised 1:16PM [initials]

44-1368-469

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 8 1968	
FBI - PHILADELPHIA	

[Handwritten signatures and initials over stamp]

E. Hoover [initials]

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

708FBI PHILA

FBI WASH DC

RELAY MESSAGE PLAN IN EFFECT PLEASE TURN ON YOUR TAPE

GA

FBI PHILA

FBI WASH DC

1259PM URGENT 6/8/68 GJM

TO ALL SACS

FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861

MURKIN

SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY APPREHENDED AT LONDON,
ENGLAND, JUNE EIGHT INSTANT. DISCONTINUE EFFORTS TO LOCATE
AND REMOVE ALL STOPS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

MCD

FBI PHILA

44-1318-169

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 10 1968	
FBI - PHILADELPHIA	

44-1368-470

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>pt</i>	FILED <i>pt</i>
JUN 10 1968	
FBI - PHILADELPHIA	
<i>WPP</i>	

R/S Letter M. B. DAVIS

TO SAC Memphis (44-1987)

FROM SAC Philadelphia 44-1368

MURKIN

Re Philadelphia Teletype 4/24/68 re

Mary [redacted] [redacted] who telephonically contacted

the secretary of the deceased Martin Luther

King.

SAS attempted to contact Mrs. J. [redacted]

but the gate to her yard is wired shut. The

and SAS climbed over the fence about her

property but ~~was~~ no one ~~at~~ would

answer either ~~the~~ ^{to the} bell or repeated

knocking at front and back door.

On the front door was a letter, apparently addressed to the ^{mailman} postman, telling him to put the mail under the door since she never opened it. The letter warned not to give her mail to any neighbor since these were her enemies.

The letter warned the postman mailman to walk near the ~~off~~ curb since he might otherwise be pulled into an alley or house and injured.

Mrs. La [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] and Mrs. [redacted]

[redacted] advised that Mrs. Jones is

the only white person residing in this
all Negro neighborhood. He is
mentally ill and has been in
a mental institution. He keeps her
house locked and seldom comes out.

He ~~was~~ recently came out and
threw a brick through a neighbors
window.

The neighbors are seeking to
have her recommitted to a mental
institution.

In view of the above no further
attempt is being made to contact
Mrs. J. [REDACTED]

(Mount Clipping In Space Below)

King Assassin Hunch Awaits Dental Match

MAHANAY CITY, Pa. (UPI).—State police prepared today to compare the dental charts of the accused slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., with the facial remains of a murder victim found in a shallow grave near here.

George Durilla, State police detective, said the comparison with the mouth charts of James Earl Ray would take "a couple of minutes," but he didn't indicate when the examination would be made.

Dist. Atty. Richard Russell of Schuylkill county said yesterday there were absolutely no indications of a connection between the missing Ray and the body of the gangland-style slaying victim believed murdered less than one month ago.

RUSSELL SAID there was a "million to one" chance the body, which had been sprinkled

with lime to hasten disintegration, was that of Ray, accused of firing the bullet which killed Dr. King in Memphis, Tenn., April 4.

The district attorney said it appeared to be a gangland slaying, although "we have no Mafia as such in our area. But the burial and the beating is in the style of a professional Mafia job."

The charts were mailed to State police in Reading from FBI headquarters in Washington yesterday as part of the routine investigation into the identity of the man whose body was unearthed May 3.

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

p.5—"The Daily News"
Philadelphia, Pa.

Date: 5/25/68
Edition: 8 Star
Author:
Editor: J. Ray Hunt
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office PH
 Being Investigated

44-1368-471
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
MAY 27 1968
FBI—PHILADELPHIA
K.K.S.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**Body Found in Grave
Is Not King's Killer**

Pottsville, Pa. — (AP) — A body found in a shallow grave near here May 7 is not that of the alleged assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., investigators said yesterday.

Authorities said this was revealed after a comparison of dental charts and skull makeup between the dead man and that of James Earl Ray, 40.

Last week, state police and local officials said they were investigating a possibility the body was Ray's. Four bullet wounds—and three bullets—were found in the badly decomposed body.

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

p.3—"The Evening
Bulletin"
Philadelphia, Pa.

Date: 5/28/68
Edition: 4 Star
Author:
Editor: Wm. B. Dickinson
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office:
PH
 Being Investigated

44-1368-472

SEARCHED <i>al</i>	INDEXED <i>al</i>
SERIALIZED <i>al</i>	FILED <i>al</i>
MAY 31 1968	
FBI — PHILADELPHIA	
HNS	

WA 3

NY 3

448 PM URGENT 6-6-68 ECK

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861); ATLANTA (44-2386); BIRMINGHAM; MEMPHIS (44-1987)
NEW YORK (44-1609) AND SAN FRANCISCO (173-65) (PLAINTEXT)

SAN FRANCISCO VIA WASHINGTON RELAY
FROM PHILADELPHIA (44-1368) IP

MURKIN

RE SAN FRANCISCO TEL TO BUREAU SIX FIVE LAST.

RE R [REDACTED] R [REDACTED]

R [REDACTED] FBI NUMBER EIGHT NINE TWO ONE FOUR FOUR. A HAS IN THE PAST
FURNISHED MISLEADING AND UNRELIABLE INFORMATION TO THE PHILA FBI OFFICE
AND TO THE PHILA OFFICE OF BREAU OF CUSTOMS. BUREAU REFER TO CASE
ENTITLED, "C [REDACTED] B [REDACTED], AKA, IS - ALBANIA, OO-NYO, BUFILE
ONE HUNDRED THREE THREE TWO TWO ONE ZERO, A AND D".

END

CORRECTION - LINE FIVE, SEVENTH WORD SHLD READ "BUREAU"

END

WA...WPK

FBI NEW YORK

X

EXR R RELAY

FBI WASH DC

SENT BY CODED TELETYPE-WA; NY + SF

" " TWX " -

atlanta at - 4:41 PM

ack by: LCS

Birmingham at - 4:46 PM

ack by: JGA

Memphis at - 4:49 PM

ack by: SAB

44-1368-473

F B I

Date: 6/6/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
ATLANTA (44-2386)
BIRMINGHAM
MEMPHIA (44-1987)
NEW YORK (44-1609)
SAN FRANCISCO (173-65) VIA WASHINGTON

FROM PHILADELPHIA (44-1368)

MURKIN

RE SAN FRANCISCO TELETYPE TO THE BUREAU DATED SIX FIVE
LAST.

RE R [REDACTED] R [REDACTED];

R [REDACTED] FBI NUMBER EIGHT NINE TWO ONE FOUR FOUR A HAS
IN THE PAST FURNISHED MISLEADING AND UNRELIABLE INFORMATION TO
THE PHILADELPHIA FBI OFFICE AND TO THE PHILADELPHIA OFFICE OF
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS. BUREAU REFER TO CASE ENTITLED, "COSTACHE
GEORGE BELBA, AKA, IS - ALBANIA, OO: NYO, BUFILE ONE HUNDRED
THREE THREE TWO TWO ONE ZERO, A AND D"

SENT BY CODED TELETYPE -WA, NY + SF

" " TWX - AT; Bir + Memphis 44-1368-477

1 - Philadelphia (44-1368)
JLO/kmd
(1)

Searched _____
S. I. _____
I. _____

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 4 48 M Per [Signature]

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Canada Probes Passport Policy in Ray Affair

Special to The Inquirer
And Los Angeles Times

OTTAWA, June 8.—A study of Canadian passport procedures was ordered in Ottawa Saturday after arrest in London of James Earl Ray in possession of two Canadian passports.

There was no evidence of conspiracy or violation of regulations in issuing the two passports.

An investigation by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, during which a mass of passport applications was examined, turned up the evidence which led to Ray's arrest.

Canadian officials were embarrassed but observers doubted the case would lead to radical changes in procedures in a country which prides itself in the freedom for its own citizens.

DELAYS AVOIDED

Mitchell Sharp, Minister of External Affairs, called for a "full study and report" to determine whether stricter requirements should be required.

He said the Government wished to avoid any step that would unnecessarily delay legitimate passports.

It has been no secret that Canadian procedures are more relaxed than most, which has resulted in a number of cases in which criminals and spies have used fraudulent Canadian passports.

In Ray's case, he chose the simplest of two procedures, which amounts to little more than mail-order passport issuance.

PASSPORT LOST

Using a fraudulent birth certificate, presumably obtained in Ontario province, he was able to get his application notarized in Toronto and mailed to Ottawa where, on April 25, a passport was issued to him. He was using the name of Raymond George Sneyd.

He obtained a second passport from the Canadian Embassy in Lisbon on May 16 by claiming his first passport had been lost or stolen. Replacement of lost passports is routine for embassies of all nations.

Canada issues more than 300,000 passports a year, an official said. The duly notarized application from Sneyd was processed in a routine way and there is no evidence to suggest collusion in the passport office, according to spokesman.

ALTERNATE METHOD

The procedure followed by Sneyd is known as making a "statutory declaration" in lieu of a statement by a guarantor who must assert he has known the applicant at least two years.

The procedure for statutory declarations was established to facilitate issuing passports to persons newly arrived in communities where there might be no one who could make a guarantor statement, according to Sharp.

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

Page 20
Section I
The Philadelphia Inquirer
Philadelphia, Pa.

Date: 6/9/68
Edition: Sunday
Author:
Editor: WALTER H.
Title: ANNENBERG

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office:
 Being Investigated

44-1368-474

SEARCHED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INDEXED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SERIALIZED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FILED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
JUN 12 1968	
FBI - PHILADELPHIA	
M.K.S.	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

James Ray Nabbed At London Airport After Canadian Tip

By WILLIAM F. SUNDERLAND

LONDON, June 8 (UPI).—Scotland Yard arrested James Earl Ray, accused of murdering civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in London on Saturday after an international manhunt that involved examination of 300,000 passport photos. Officers said Ray had a loaded pistol and a Canadian passport fraudulently obtained in the name of a Toronto policeman.

Ray was seized at London's Heathrow Airport shortly after he arrived on a flight from Lisbon, Portugal, in a culmination of an operation that involved top detectives of the FBI, Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Scotland Yard.

FINGERPRINTS CHECKED

Ray, a 40-year-old former Missouri convict indicted for murder in the shooting of Dr. King in Memphis on April 4, was jailed in London's Cannon St. Police station near the Houses of Parliament where he was charged with possessing a forged passport and carrying a deadly weapon without a permit.

It was learned that a check of Ray's fingerprints was used in identifying the arrested man as the long-time criminal wanted in Dr. King's murder.

Scotland Yard said Ray would appear in London's Bow Street Court on Monday. FBI said in Washington that extradition proceedings would be initiated soon.

Fred M. Vinson, Jr., assistant attorney general in charge of the criminal division of the Justice Department, was leaving Washington Saturday night for London to review Ray's custody, protection and "expeditious return" to the United States, a department spokesman said.

NAME BORROWED

Yard authorities said that when he was detained at the airport Ray—described as a plain looking man "who completely faded into the wallpaper"—was carrying a loaded pistol and two Canadian passports bearing the name of Raymon George Sneyd, 35, of Toronto, Ont.

Canadian authorities identified Sneyd as a Toronto patrolman with 14 years service. They said Ray had fraudulently applied for a passport in the name of Sneyd, but used his own photo.

The passport application proved Ray's undoing and finally cracked the case, authorities in Washington and Ottawa said.

Early in May, Canadian officials said, a Canadian passport form bearing Ray's photo but under the name of Sneyd was discovered. The hunt focused on Toronto where police located Patrolman Sneyd, who knew nothing about the passport application.

Ray was traced to a Toronto

rooming house where he had taken up residence early in April. On May 2, he picked up his ticket and passport and bought a round-trip 21-day-economy excursion airline trip to London. He flew to the British capital May 6.

The following day, Ray returned in the return half of his ticket and booked a flight to Lisbon. In the Portuguese capital he obtained a second Canadian passport from the embassy

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

Pages 1 and 20
Section I

The Philadelphia
Inquirer

Philadelphia, Pa.

Date: 6/9/68
Edition: Sunday
Author:
Editor: WALTER H.
Title: ANNENBERG

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office:

Being Investigated

44-1368-475

SEARCHED <i>mt</i>	INDEXED <i>mt</i>
SERIALIZED <i>mt</i>	FILED <i>mt</i>
JUN 12 1968	
FBI — PHILADELPHIA	
K.K.S.	

here May 16 and then dropped out of sight.

Officials and airline personnel were alerted for anyone using a passport in the name of Sneyd. Ray was taken into custody after he flew into London airport on a British European Airways flight from Lisbon.

Ray was to take off for Brussels from London aboard another BEA jet that left less than two hours after he was arrested.

Scotland Yard said two of its top men — nicknamed the "Terrible Twins" for their exploits, were involved in the arrest. They are Detective Chief Inspector Thomas Butler and Chief Inspector Kenneth Thompson.

ANNOUNCED IN WASH.

Butler is one of the Yard's most famous men. He was in charge of tracking down the gang that made off with \$7.3 million in cash in Britain's Great Train Robbery. Only one of the gang eluded Butler.

The arrest was first announced in Washington by Attorney General Ramsey Clark and FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover and then confirmed in London.

Clark said extradition proceedings would be sought to return Ray to the United States to face murder charges in Memphis, Tenn., where Dr. King was shot April 4.

It was not clear immediately whether Ray will be returned under the U. S.-British extradition treaty, on a Federal conspiracy charge or under a Tennessee indictment for first-degree murder.

Under the latter charge, Tennessee would initiate the extradition proceeding and Gov. Buford Ellington said, "Whatever needs to be done will be done" to return Ray here as soon as possible.

Dr. King's widow, Mrs. Coretta King, attended Sen. Robert F. Kennedy's funeral in New York on Saturday and on leaving St. Patrick's Cathedral was informed of Ray's capture. She moved on without comment.

When word of the arrest got out, hundreds of curious Londoners gathered outside the Cannon St. station.

The arrest ended one of the most intense manhunts in American history. The escaped Missouri convict was placed on the FBI's most wanted list on an emergency basis 16 days after Dr. King was cut down by a rifle shot as he stood in the evening cool on a hotel balcony in Memphis. Ray was indicted for first-degree murder by a Memphis grand jury May 7.

The FBI said Ray was carrying a loaded pistol in his hip pocket when detained by British detectives. He was wearing glasses, a light-colored raincoat over gray trousers and a sports jacket.

SPONSOR NEEDED

The question of how Ray obtained Canadian passports remained something of a mystery.

Ordinarily, a person applying for a Canadian passport must have someone, usually a professional man or banker, swear he has known the applicant for two years. Or the applicant must have a notarized affidavit as to the facts in his application.

Authorities at Ottawa said Ray had no formal sponsor on his application.

A Washington source said Ray gave the name Paul Bridgeman of Toronto as a reference on his application.

The source said inquiry showed no Paul Bridgeman at the Toronto address given.

He said further that Paul Bridgeman was the name of one of Ray's fellow prisoners in the Missouri penitentiary. And he added that Ray himself apparently used this name while hiding out in Toronto before flying to London.

Ray, 40, is a fugitive from the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Mo. He had served seven years of a 20-year sentence when reported missing in April, 1967.

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

Dr. King's killing sparked race 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 poor.

In addition to armed robbery, Ray has been convicted of burglary, forgery of a postal money order and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. He also had been confined in the Los Angeles County jail, two state prisons in Illinois and the U. S. Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan.

During nearly three years in the Army he received a three-month sentence for drunkenness and breaking arrest. He was discharged in December, 1948, for ineptness and lack of adaptability to military service.



UPI Telephoto

James Earl Wray, suspect in murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, has been arrested by police in London.



AP Wirephoto

Passport photo—possibly that of James Earl Ray—was seized in studio in Toronto and led to arrest in London.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1368)

DATE: 6/10/68

FROM : SA K [redacted] S [redacted]

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 6/10/68 S [redacted] P [redacted] Willingboro, N.J., (phone 609-877-4335) called at the office and was interviewed by SAs J [redacted] O [redacted] and KENNETH K. SMYTHE.

P [redacted] works in the Housing Assistance Office of Region II of HUD, which is located on the 11th floor of the Widener Building, telephone 597-2539.

P [redacted] stated that between May 9 and May 20, 1968, he and his wife, L [redacted] P [redacted] had stayed at the Hotel Tivoli in Lisbon, Portugal, from May 16 to May 19, 1968, their daughter, S [redacted] P [redacted] had stayed with them. She works for Barrig Brazilian Airlines with offices at 634 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y.

P [redacted] stated that since he was in Lisbon at the same time that RAY was allegedly there, that he might have seen him.

Photographs of RAY were exhibited to P [redacted] and none of them were identified by him as any individual whom he saw while in Lisbon.

P [redacted] had no specific information to furnish concerning RAY. P [redacted] stated that in the event that the Bureau would further desire to interview him, that he, his wife, and daughter would be available.

44-1368-476

1 - 44-1368

KKS/lpm
(1)



SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 10 1968	
FBI - PHILADELPHIA	

K. Smythe



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

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

U.S. Working On Extradition Of J. Earl Ray

Police Try to Learn If King Suspect Was Given Help

London — (AP) — U. S. legal experts today worked on plans to return James Earl Ray quickly and safely to the United States for trial while police on both sides of the Atlantic continued their investigation into whether Ray had help in his flight that apparently took him through Canada and Portugal to Britain.

American authorities took the first formal step toward extradition last night by obtaining provisional British warrants charging Ray with the murder of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Some legal experts suggest the British government might speed up the process by deporting Ray as an undesirable alien. Others said there is a strong tradition against using this procedure as a substitute for extradition.

All Roads Blocked

Ray, a 40-year-old escapee convict, was held in Brixton Prison after his two-minute appearance yesterday in Bow Street Court on charges of carrying a forged passport and a loaded gun, the charges which he was arrested at London Airport Saturday under the name of Ramon George Sneyd. Police threw a cordon around the prison and blocked all roads leading to it. Unauthorized persons were kept at least 150

yards away from the prison. But Mrs. Anna Thomas, proprietor of a hotel in the Pimlico district of London, says Ray stayed at her hotel from June 17 to 18, a prison in a western suburb. Security at Wandsworth other hotel, the New Carlisle, has been tightened since another Ronald Arthur Briggs there from May 28. What he disappeared over the wall there 28 days ago remains a mystery.

Lawyer Assigned

Ray, at his first court appearance yesterday, was assigned a British lawyer at his own request and ordered held without bail for another hearing June 18 on the passport and gun charges.

If extradition proceedings are brought, the court will require evidence of a case against Ray and he will then have 15 days to appeal to the High Court. Ray's lawyers raised points of law there, a further appeal might be made to the House of Lords, Britain's highest court of appeal, and the process could take months.

However, if the proceedings move along without snags and without appeals to higher authority by Ray, James Callaghan, the British home secretary, could issue an extradition order by June 28.

Conflicting Stories

During the two months American authorities searched for Ray following King's assassination April 4 in Memphis, Tenn., he apparently went from the United States to Canada April 8, to London on May 6, and to Lisbon May 8. He left his Lisbon hotel on May 11.

When Scotland Yard detectives arrested Ray last Saturday, June 8, at London's Heathrow Airport, they said he had just arrived from Portugal and was trying to pass through immigration in transit to Belgium.

However, there is conflicting evidence on this point. Scotland Yard's story would indicate Ray was in Lisbon at least part of the time between May 11 and his arrest.

Help Theory Probed

Police in the four countries are seeking anyone who might have known or helped Ray, and authorities in Canada are trying to learn how Ray obtained information on the three Toronto men whose names he used as aliases. All three have dark hair and are about the same height and weight as Ray.

Ramon George Sneyd, whose name Ray used on his passport, is a Toronto constable. Paul Bridgman, whose name Ray used at one Toronto rooming house, is a consultant teacher with the Toronto board of education.

Ray first was sought under the name Eric Starvo Galt. Eric St. Vincent Galt, a Toronto warehouse foreman, has a signature which looks like Eric Starvo Galt. He uses the middle initials St. V., but with small zeros instead of periods.

Similar Scars

Galt and Ray have similar scars, in the middle of the forehead and on the palm of the right hand. Why Ray's aliases should all live in the Toronto area is baffling police.

All this has led the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, whose sifting through passport files helped trace Ray, to believe he had help.

U. S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark has said that King's killer acted alone, but the Canadians say there's a strong possibility he had accomplices, perhaps from the underworld, in obtaining a passport and escaping to Europe through Canada.

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

p.1,2-"The Evening Bulletin" Philadelphia, Pa.

Date: 6/10/68
Edition: 2 star
Author: Wm. B. Dickinson
Editor:
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: PH
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SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
JUN 11 1968
FBI - PHILADELPHIA
PK.S.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Fact, Fiction Intertwine In Trail of J. Earl Ray

By JOHN G. WARNER

By United Press International
British European Airways
flight 075 from Lisbon rolled up
to the international terminal at
London's Heathrow Airport.

Among the 96 passengers who
trudged up the ramp and joined
lines for customs and passport
checks was a slight, dark-haired
man with horn-rimmed glasses
and an oddly protruding left
ear. His light raincoat flapped
against his legs, hiding the
bulge of the pistol in his pocket.

It was 7.50 A. M. Saturday in
London.
It was 1.50 A. M. in Memphis
Tenn., where wilted wreaths
and a marble plaque still mark
Room 306 at the Lorraine Ho-
tel. It was there, on April 4
that the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther
King, Jr., was slain. The man
sive man hunted for his killer was
all but forgotten in the free-
grief of Sen. Robert F. Ken-
nedy's assassination.

Takes His Arm

As the passengers from Lis-
bon hurried toward the transi-
ent lounge, a burly man with
an official air stepped beside
him, gently took his arm, and
asked him to step into a nearby
office. Dozens of men watched
tensely; hundreds more noticed
nothing.

Eight hours later, Attorney
General Ramsey Clark in Wash-
ington announced the arrest of
the man accused of assassinat-
ing King.

James Earl Ray, 40, the small-
time, Midwestern thug charged
in Memphis with King's murder
was whisked from Heathrow
Airport to Cannon Row police
station by Thomas Butler, head
of Scotland Yard's elite detec-
tive division.

He was charged with carrying
a concealed weapon, obtaining
a Canadian passport by fraudu-
lent means, and warned that
anything he said might be used
against him.

Some Questions Answered

The Royal Canadian Mounted
Police revealed that he appear-
ed in Montreal in September,
1967, and spent six weeks there.
This trip to Canada was not
mentioned by the FBI when it
issued its warrant for Ray, al-
though it mentioned his trips
between Birmingham and New

Orleans, Atlanta, Los Angeles
and Mexico.

Another Name

Ray turned up in Toronto
April 8—four days after King
was killed—and rented a room
under the name of Paul Bridge-
man. Not surprisingly, a man
named Paul Bridgeman,
teacher, lives not far from
stable Sneyd and Eric S. Galt.

For \$345, Ray purchased a
plane ticket from Toronto to
London through the Kennedy
Travel Bureau. The agency
handled all the details—includ-
ing mailing his two fuzzy photo-
graphs and his faked birth cer-
tificate to Ottawa to get his
passport in the name of Sneyd.

Mrs. Lillian Spencer, who sold
him the ticket, said he "made
absolutely no impression on me
at all. He completely faded in
to the wallpaper."
Police refused to speculate in
detail on how Ray, without con-
siderable and expert assistance,
could have faked a birth certi-
cate—using the name of a real
man and his parents—so quick-
ly.

A Man Named Galt

Policeman Sneyd, his superi-
ors say, never heard of James
Earl Ray outside the investi-
gation.

Neither had Eric S. Galt, who
lives about two miles from
Sneyd in the Toronto suburb of
Scarborough. But it was under
the name of Eric Starvo Galt,
the Federal Bureau of Investi-
gation says, that Ray purchased
in Birmingham, Ala., the .30-06
rifle that killed King.

The real Galt's middle name
is St. Vincent. He is 52, 12 years
older than Ray. But he is rough-
ly Ray's height, and roughly
his weight. He has a scar on
his forehead and a scar on his
palm. So does James Earl Ray.

The simplest explanation, au-
thorities think, is that someone
in Canada may be adapting
identities for sale to persons
who want to make use of the na-
tion's loose passport laws.

Ray—Traveling under the as-
sumed name of Eric Starvo
Galt—visited Canada at least
twice before King was killed.

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

p.35—"The Evening
—Bulletin"
Philadelphia, Pa.

Date: 6/10/68
Edition: 4 star
Author: John G. Warner
Editor: Wm. B. Dickinson

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office:
PH
 Being Investigated

*Index in album
of Ray*

44-1368-478
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
JUN 11 1968
FBI - PHILADELPHIA
MK.KS.

Police Chief Bernard Simmons.

While in Toronto, Ray stayed in two rooming houses. Under the name of Bridgeman he rented a \$10-a-week room from Mrs. Adam Szpakowski. Under the name of Sneyd he later moved to a \$9-a-week room rented to him by Mrs. Loo Sun, a Chinese.

[Mrs. Szpakowski told the Associated Press she thought she recognized Bridgeman from a newspaper sketch as the man wanted for King's slaying, but that her husband said she was wrong and she forgot about it. Later, she said, when she was cleaning the man's room, she found a newspaper folded open to the sketch. She said her suspicions were not further aroused because "he was such a gentleman."]

Ray departed Toronto on May 6 and, on May 8, he appeared in Lisbon, Portugal.

He took a \$2.10-a-day room in the Hotel Portugal and, according to the clerk there, "behaved like a rich tourist, spending the nights in nightclubs and coming back late, sometimes at six in the morning."

But inspector Jose Paco said Ray behaved like any normal tourist and "did nothing worth attracting our attention."

Name Misspelled

On May 16 he walked into the Canadian Embassy in Lisbon, complained that his name was misspelled on his passport, and demanded another. The passport near Sneya, he pointed out, and it should have been Sneyd. Officials agreed and gave him a new one. He went away with the old one, too.

The next day he left Lisbon and his movements from May 17 until his arrest Saturday have not been revealed—although he evidently spent the week before his arrest in London.

A London reporter said a man who identified himself as George Sneyd called him several times wanting to know how he could become a soldier of fortune in Angola. The reporter said he gave him an address in Brussels.

Ray had a ticket to Brussels when he was arrested at Heathrow Airport. If he was, indeed, the caller, he must have paid only a brief return visit to Lisbon from London.

Strangely, he might have avoided arrest had he booked his flight from Lisbon to Brussels through Paris instead of London. In Paris, customs was still snarled by the French strikes.

Alert Issued

The alert for Ramon George Sneyd was issued last week. It came after a dozen mounties launched a massive search through the more than 200,000 Canadian passports issued since Ray's September visit to Montreal.

They worked only at night and on weekends—keeping their search secret even from employees of the passport department. They set aside every passport bearing a picture that remotely resembled the FBI photographs of Ray. One of those was of Sneyd, and when it proved to be fraudulent, the FBI, Scotland Yard and Lisbon police were alerted.

There were, apparently, other sources of information. A spokesman for the Mounties said they had learned "Ray had traveling plans" and were ready for an arrest as early as Friday.

Memphis greeted Ray's arrest with considerably joy, officially. Witnesses, however, seemed reticent.

Can't Identify Him

Christine Kelly, manager of the motel where a man identified as Ray spent the night before the King slaying, said, "I couldn't identify him from the beginning and still can't."

She added:

"I'm too busy to care whether they caught him or not."

Mrs. Bessie Brewer, who owns the flophouse where police have determined the assassin fired the fatal shot from, was equally hesitant.

"I don't know if I'll have to testify," she said. "I never could

recognize him. I haven't heard anything about it in a long time. I've been so busy I haven't paid any attention."

Few Negroes believe that King's assassination was planned and carried out by only one man. The FBI, in its warrant, said Ray conspired with a man he claimed to be his brother in the killing.

Ray's actual brother, no suspect in the crime, said he believes that if James Earl killed King, he was well paid to do it.

Criminal Background

There is nothing in Ray's background as a petty criminal, culminating with his escape from the Missouri State Prison, to indicate the type of fanaticism that would lead to assassination for hate rather than for money.

A man who served time with him in the Missouri prison said he had been told that a "million-dollar contract" was out for King's death. Ray said that if he ever got out of prison he would pick up that contract, the convict said.

From the time Ray appears in the public reckoning of the FBI — in 1967 — he was dashing about the country with reckless

abandon, putting 19,000 miles on his now-famous white Mustang. He was spending considerable amounts of money, and there is no indication where the money came from. Nor is there any indication of the source of the money he apparently spent lavishly in Europe — although he left the Hotel Portugal without tipping the chambermaid.

A resident of Memphis, learning of Ray's arrest, said that "now we'll find out what was behind it."

But Ray's convict buddy recalled his taciturn nature and ventured the opinion that "if anybody was in it with him, he'll take the secret to his grave."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

U. S. Accuses Ray Of King's Murder In British Warrant

He's Jailed Till June 18; Gets Lawyer

London—A British court today ordered James Earl Ray held without bail for a hearing June 18 on gun and passport violations, and the United States obtained a provisional British warrant charging him with the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

A formal application for Ray's extradition will be made by the U. S. Government in the next day or two. Legal experts said this meant the earliest Ray could be returned to face trial in the United States is June 28.

But they added if he decides to fight extradition the case could drag on here to July or August. He made the first move toward a possible fight by obtaining a British lawyer, following a court appearance today.

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

p.1,35—"The Evening
Bulletin"
Philadelphia, Pa.

Date: 6/10/68
Edition: 4 star
Author:
Editor: Wm. B. Dickinson
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office:
PH
 Being Investigated

44-1368-479
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
JUN 11 1968
FBI - PHILADELPHIA
H.K.S.

Lawyer Appointed

Michael Dresden was named by the court as Ray's solicitor. Dresden will prepare the defense and choose a lawyer to argue this case in court.

Dresden's office declined to answer questions about the case, including what stand it might take on an extradition request.

A solicitor prepares the case for the accused and chooses the barrister who does the pleading in court.

The solicitor acts as the link between the accused, the barrister and the court.

In an 82-second hearing in Bow Street Court in London's wholesale fruit district, the 40-year-old American escaped convict—half dragged to the dock by 12 police guards—spoke twice.

Says 'No' Twice

Ray said "no" both times. Once he was asked by Magistrate Frank Milton if he objected to limiting press coverage of his hearing. The second time he was asked if he had a lawyer.

Holdings him in jail until at least June 18 gave both prosecution and defense more time to prepare to argue Ray's case against the British charges that he held fraudulent passports and a gun and five bullets illegally. He was arrested Saturday at London Airport after a worldwide manhunt that began April 4 when King was slain in Memphis, Tenn.

Ray was carrying the gun in his hip pocket when seized at the airport while en route from Lisbon to Brussels, police said. They said he carried two passports, both Canadian. One was in the name of Ramon George Sneyd, 35, of Toronto.

2 States Want Him

Embassy officials said both the states of Missouri and Tennessee were preparing extradition papers based on jailbreak in Missouri and the King murder charge in Memphis.

American sources indicated the decision had not yet been made as to which, if either, of these states' possible extradition claims would be used. They said Ray could simplify things by waiving extradition—though he has not spoken on this matter—or Britain could simply deport him as an undesirable.

The British Foreign Office said it understood U. S. authorities were "in the process" of applying for Ray's extradition and that such a request would be "judged on its merits."

Taken to Prison

After his court appearance, Ray was bundled into a paddy wagon and taken to Brixton Prison, a grimy, brick compound in a working class area of London.

The defendant, who was arraigned under his alias of Ramon George Sneyd, wore the checked, gray green sports packet, the blue cotton sports shirt and dark slacks he wore when apprehended at the airport.

To Ray's right, on a hard wooden bench in the court where Charles Dickens once took notes for his novels, sat U. S. Assistant Attorney General Fred M. Vinson, Jr., son of the late U. S. Chief Justice. He arrived in London yesterday to help speed up extradition.

Ray's first appearance in a British court set a precedent. For the first time in memory every person entering the court-

house was frisked by detectives. And the detectives themselves were carrying guns—an unusual precaution in a nation where the police are usually unarmed.

Spirited From Cell

Scotland Yard detectives spirited Ray from his cell to the court two hours and 39 minutes before his 10 A. M. hearing. They moved him in a small truck convoyed by three black patrol cars. The police made the transfer without exposing Ray to public view.

Bow Street magistrates' court is usually an obscure setting. Its daily workload is the dregs of the underworld—procurers, prostitutes, drunks.

But today a crowd of almost 300 jammed the narrow street from the Covent Garden Market and the court was filled to its capacity of over 1,000.

A few minutes before the defendant was due to appear, a row of police and detectives strung themselves out in a solid line between the spectators and the judge's bench.



AP Wirephoto
Fred M. Vinson, Jr.

UPI Telephoto
JAMES EARL RAY, suspect in the slaying of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., posed for this picture recently at a studio in Toronto to use with his application for a Canadian passport.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Scotland Yard Hunts Ray's Contacts

LONDON (UPI).—Scotland Yard today hunted London contacts of the man accused of killing the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The search centered on persons who might have kept the 40-year-old escaped convict supplied with money before his arrest at London International Airport Saturday.

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.

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 Attorney General 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 yesterday secured from London's chief magistrate a provisional extradition warrant.

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 magistrate's court Thursday.

If the magistrate decides the case is strong enough, he would grant a full-fledged warrant. The

Home Office then would — 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.

Frank Milton, London's chief magistrate, granted Ray a court-appointed lawyer, Michael Dresden. At the same 82-second hearing Milton ordered Ray held until June 18 on the technical arrest charges — that of holding illegal passports and a pistol without permit when arrested at the airport.

Police sources said Ray was at the airport on the last of a series of a money-fetching trips.

THE POLICE wanted to know where the money came from and through which hands. Ray was known to have been in the Portuguese capital May 18 to 17, living in a cheap waterfront hotel and nightclubbing. He was said to have lived in cheap hotels here but no sign of night life was unearthed in the London hunt so far.

Ray himself was said to have been moved yesterday from Brixton Prison, a jail for minor criminals and persons awaiting trial, to Wandsworth Prison, a maximum security lockup in the British capital.

Police sources said Ray was not being asked to do prison chores. He could buy extra food, for he has not been found guilty of a crime in British courts.

Granting an extradition order either to Memphis for murder or to Missouri, where he broke prison last year, could change that.

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

Page 3

Philadelphia Daily News

Philadelphia, Pa.

Date: 6/11/68
Edition: 4 Star
Author:
Editor: J. RAY HUNT
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office:

 Being Investigated

44-1368-480

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 12 1968	
FBI — PHILADELPHIA	
K.K.S.	



RENTED ROOM TO KING MURDER SUSPECT—
Mrs. Fela Szpakowski and her husband Adam rented second-floor room in their Toronto home to James Earl Ray upon his arrival in city on April 8.

Philadelphia
LAW ENFORCEMENT PLANNING COUNCIL

21 SOUTH TWELFTH STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19107 • Phone: LOcust 8-4316

June 4, 1968

Mr. J. J. [REDACTED]
Special Agent in Charge
Federal Bureau of Investigation
500 Widener Building
Philadelphia, Penna. 19107

Dear J. [REDACTED]

It is possible your office is aware of the fact that in about the first week in April a human foot was found on the marshes of Tincum Township and turned over to the Tincum Township Police Department. Chief T. [REDACTED] R. [REDACTED] in turn had an examination conducted by the Philadelphia Police Laboratory. I am told that the foot was described as a man's foot, was in good condition at the time found and is now in the possession of the Delaware County Coroner.

I am concerned because as far as I can determine no effort has been made to recover the remainder of the body even though it appeared from the condition of the foot that it had been brought up by the dredge working in the Delaware River.

I was interested in the foot because I have been helping the family of a woman who has been missing since that time. You might be interested because of the Martin Luther King murder case and the disappearance of the alleged assailant.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]
R. [REDACTED] M. [REDACTED]

RM:sr

44-1368-481

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED <i>ml</i>	FILED <i>ml</i>
JUN 5 1968	
FBI - PHILADELPHIA	

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ROBERT L. TRESCHER, Esq.

H. LYNN EDWARDS
Executive Director

500 Widener Building
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107
June 10, 1968

Mr. R. [REDACTED] M. [REDACTED]
Philadelphia Law Enforcement Planning Council
21 South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

Dear Mr. M. [REDACTED]

Thank you very much for your letter of June 4,
1968.

Undoubtedly, in the light of recent nation-wide
newspaper publicity, you are aware that James Earl Ray was
apprehended in London, England, on June 8, 1968. In view
of the above, in the absence of any indication of a Federal
violation of which the FBI has jurisdiction, this office
cannot take any investigative action relative to the human
foot referred to in your letter.

Your interest in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

J. [REDACTED] J. [REDACTED]
Special Agent in Charge

1 - addressee
1 - Philadelphia (44-1368)

KKS/lpm
(2)

5 482
Searched _____
Serialized _____
1 1 1 _____
FBI _____

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL AGENTS

DATE: 6/11/68

FROM: SAC, PHILADELPHIA (44-1368)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

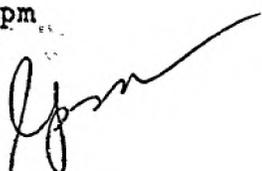
Rebutel 6/8/68 to all SACs.

Referenced teletype informed that RAY was apprehended at London, England, June 8, 1968. Referenced teletype stated to remove all stops and discontinue efforts to locate subject.

All Agents who have placed any stops either in Headquarters City or in Resident Agencies are instructed to remove same and to discontinue efforts to locate subject.

1 - 44-1368
1 - EACH AGENT
1 - 66-244

JDJ/lpm
(146)



44-1368-483

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SERIALIZED	FILED
JUNE 11, 1968	
FBI - PHILADELPHIA	

