

Department of Justice

MOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE

BUREAU

FBI - CENTRAL RECORDS CENTER

SI - SPRINGFIELD

SI-0044-0003B: SI

Class / Case #

Sub Vol.

Serial #

0044 561

1A

2

1A15

1A28

8/08/449122



RRP000RCCI

HISTORICAL VALUE ^{of}
NATIONAL ARCHIVES
INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number

44-38861

Volume Number

7

Serials

8/14/44 15

See also Nos.

Main Vol.

7 14 Section

Handwritten notes and signatures in the bottom right section, including a large 'C' and the word 'Retained'.

SHAW-WALKER 18-31713

(Title) MRUKIN(File No.) 44-561-1A

15. ILL. ST. BUREAU CRIMINAL IDENT. RECORD # 463857	4-20-68
16. MO. ST. HIGHWAY PATROL IDENT REC.	4-20-68
17. ZEROX COPY OF PHOTO OF RAY	4-20-68
18. 1959 NEWSPAPER CLIPPING	4-20-68
19. FINGERPRINTS COPIES OF JAMES RAY	4-20-68
20. ALTON PD IDENT REC. RE RAY	4-20-69
21. 1959 NEWSPAPER CLIPPING	4-20-68
22. Photo James Earl Ray (1966)	4-20-68
23. Dual Photo of Walter Terry Rife & James Earl Ray	4-20-68
24. Photo of James Earl Ray (1960)	4-20-68
25. Photo of Walter T. Rife (1955)	4-20-68
26. Photos of James Earl Ray (1960)	4-20-68
27. Letterbook Set's contacted by Pearce RD to Galt	4-22-68
28. Photos of Harvey Lowmeyer	4-22-68

Disposition.

44-561-1A

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 20 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

File No. 44-561-1A¹⁵

Date Received 4-20-68

From OSP
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)

Alton Ill.
(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(CITY AND STATE)

By Mail
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)

To Be Returned ☐ Yes
☐ No

Receipt given ☐ Yes
☐ No

Description:

Ill. St. Bureau Criminal
Ident. Record #463857

JOSEPH D. BIBB
DIRECTOR

STATE OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
BUREAU OF CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION AND INVESTIGATION
SPRINGFIELD

JAMES CHRISTENSEN
SUPERINTENDENT

The following record is furnished for official use only.

Illinois State Bureau Number 463857

F.B.I. Number

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
	1950, C.J., Los Angeles, Calif.; 90 da. For burg. 1950, Crim Crt., Los Angeles, Calif.; 2 yrs. Prob. for burg.			

JOSEPH D. BIBB
DIRECTOR

STATE OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
BUREAU OF CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION AND INVESTIGATION
SPRINGFIELD

JAMES CHRISTENSEN
SUPERINTENDENT

The following record is furnished for official use only.

Illinois State Bureau Number

F.B.I. Number

7514
SEP 1 1954

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
	463857		305 443 A	
SO., Los Angeles, Calif.	James Earl Ray #8-119908	10-11-49	Step. burg.	
PD., Los Angeles, Calif.	James Earl Ray #139648	10-11-49	Susp. 459PC (burg.)	8 mos. Co. Jail 2 yrs. Prob. serv. 1st 90 da. Co. J.I. 146 12-30-49 (Cs 129438)
SO., Cedar Rapids, Iowa	James E. Ray #5937	4-18-50	Vag.	
✓ PD., Alton, Ill.	James Earl Ray #7514	7-23-51	No oper. lic. No St. Lic. No City Lic.	Rel. to pay later
PD., Chicago, Ill.	James Ray #D-90696	5-6-52	Robb. (Gun)	G.J. \$3000.
SO., Chicago, Ill.	James Ray #131165	5-9-52	Robb.	6-13-52, sent. to penit'y.
SP., Joliet, Ill.	James E. Ray #32419	6-13-52	Robb.	1-2 yrs.
SP., Pontiac, Ill.	James E. Ray #19121	7-7-52 Tr. fr. Joliet	Robb.	1-2 yrs.
		3-12-54	DISCHARGED	
CO., Edwardsville, Ill.	James Earl Ray #2640	8-30-54	Burg. & Larc.	Pending

File No. 44-561-1A14Date Received 4-20-68From OSP
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)Alton, Ill.
(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)
(CITY AND STATE)By Mail
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)To Be Returned ☐ Yes
☐ NoReceipt given ☐ Yes
☐ No

Description:

Mo. St. Highway
Patrol Ident. Rec.

STATE BUREAU OF
CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION

MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

JEFFERSON CITY, MO.

OCT 21 1958

The following is a transcript of the record, including the most recently reported data, as shown in the files of this Bureau concerning our number 207387. FBI#306443A

FPC 15 9 U OIO 13
M 4 W IOI 15

White - Male
Ill.-Iowa-

mlf

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
SO, Los Angeles, Calif.	James Earl Ray, #B-119908	10-11-49	sus. burglary	
PD, Los Angeles, Calif.	James Earl Ray, #139648	10-11-49	sus. 459 PC (burglary)	8 mos. Co.Jl. sp; 2 yrs. Prb, srv 1st 90 ds Co Jl D46 12-30-49 (Cs 129438)
SO, Cedar Rapids, Iowa	James E. Ray, #5937	4-18-50	vagrancy	
PD, Alton, Ill.	James Earl Ray, #7514	7-23-51	no operator's license - no state license - no city license	rel. tp pay later
PD, Chicago, Ill.	James Ray, #090696	5-6-52	robbery (run)	GJ \$3000
Cook Co. Jl., Chicago, Ill.	James Ray, #131165	5-9-52	robbery	6-13-52 sent.to penty
SP, Joliet, Ill.	James E. Ray, #32419	6-13-52	robbery.	1-2 yrs.
SP, Pontiac, Ill.	James E. Ray, #19121	7-7-52 in trans. f/Joliet	robbery	1-2 yrs., disch. 3-12-54
SO, Edwardsville, Ill.	James Earl Ray, #2640	8-30-54	burglary & larceny	
PD, Hannibal, Mo.	James E. Ray, #40714	3-23-55	inv. breaking & entering Post Office	
State Highway Patrol Macon, Mo.	James Earl Ray #B-3376	3-23-55	cashing stolen postal money orders	rel.to Postal Insp., Kans.City,Mo.3-24-55

*Represents notations unsupported by fingerprints.

For completion of our records, please supply dispositions to this Bureau in any of the foregoing cases where they do not appear.

SHP FORM NO. 104

44-561-1A16

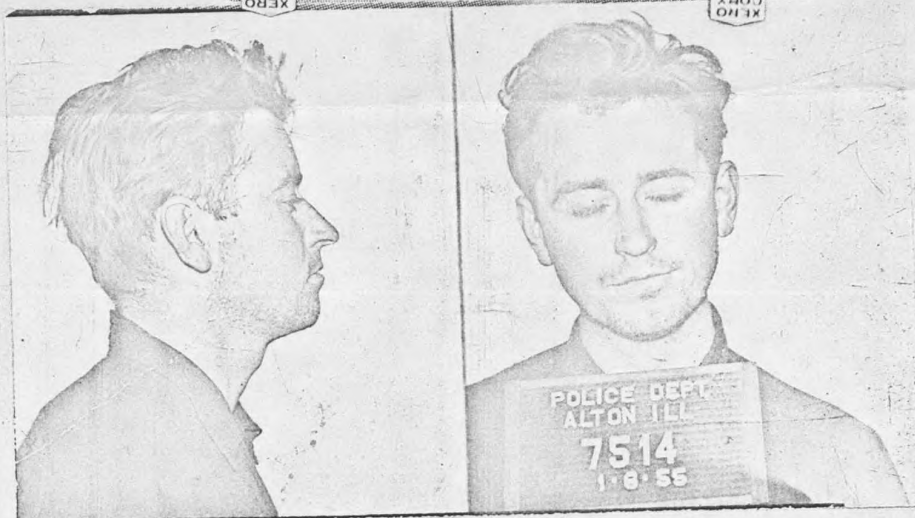
File No. 44-361-1A¹⁷Date Received 4-20-64From OSP
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)Alton Ill.
(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(CITY AND STATE)

By Mail
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)To Be Returned ☐ Yes
☐ NoReceipt given ☐ Yes
☐ No

Description:

2
Zerry copy of photo of
Ray.



File No. 44-561-1A¹⁸Date Received 4-30-68From PSD
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)Clifton, Ill.
(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)
(CITY AND STATE)By Mail
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)To Be Returned ☐ Yes
☐ NoReceipt given ☐ Yes
☐ No

Description:

PSD Newspaper
clipping.

URT TWO ROBBERS AREA ARRESTED SOON AFTER HOLDUP

Both Former Convicts
— Police Recover
\$120 They Obtained
From Kroger Store.

Two men who held up a Kroger store at 3417 Ohio avenue today were arrested about 20 minutes later in the 2000 block of Park avenue. A total of \$120, taken in the robbery, was recovered from the men, police said.

The robbers were identified by police as James L. Owens, 40 years old, a barber, 4000 block of Olive street, and James Earl Ray, 30, a baker, 2000 block of Park avenue. Police said both men are former convicts.

Donald Schaefer, co-manager of the store, said Ray approached him in the office. Schaefer said Ray, armed with a revolver, ordered him to open the safe.

Schaefer said he explained to the robber that two persons are required to open the safe and for that reason he could not comply.

As Wayne Chapman, head grocery clerk, approached the office, the robber went to a cash register and ordered Mrs. Hazel Meyer, a cashier, to hand over the contents of the register.

Drive Away in Stolen Car.

Owens stood behind Ray while he took the money from Mrs. Meyer, Schaefer said. The two men ran from the store and drove away in a stolen automobile, police said.

A customer pursued the robbers and saw them switch to another automobile at Potomac street and Ohio avenue. A description of the car was broadcast by police.

Patrolmen Ralph King and Edward McGrath saw an automobile fitting the description in the 2000 block of Park. They placed it under surveillance.

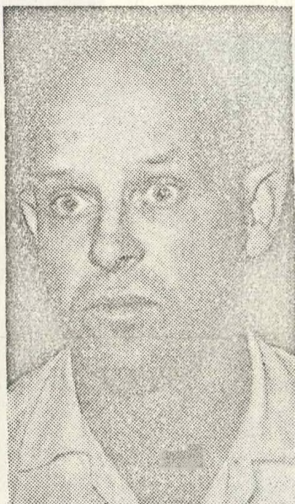
A few minutes later, Owens entered the car and started it. The patrolmen blocked his path, and Detectives Harry Connors and Emmett Rimmer arrived.

While the patrolmen guarded Owens, the detectives went to the second floor of a nearby apartment building. They said they saw Ray coming from a bathroom in a hallway.

Scuffled With Officers.

Connors said he told Ray to halt but that he scuffled with the officers and had to be subdued. Ray was struck on the

Holdup Suspects, Victim



—By a Post-Dispatch Photographer.
JAMES OWENS



JAMES EARL RAY

4 HELD IN \$21,000 WAREHOUSE THEFT

Four men were arrested in the theft of merchandise valued at \$21,000 over a period of three years from the Sears, Roebuck & Co. warehouse, 1024 South Vandeventer avenue.

Caesar Sorrentino, superintendent of the warehouse, was booked suspected of stealing more than \$50. He admitted selling the goods for \$7000.

Booked suspected of buying and receiving stolen goods were: Isadore L. Finocchiaro, a tavern owner, of the 6400 block of Colletta drive; Burford C. Shy, a carpenter, of the 6500 block of Southwest avenue; and Francis X. Jansen of Pevely, a heating and plumbing contractor.

Sorrentino, of the 2800 block of Sulphur avenue, said that in the three-year period he had been stealing merchandise from the warehouse and selling it for about one-third of its actual value, police reported. He told police he had been working for the company for about 10 years.

Police recovered a truckload of merchandise at Jansen's home and in a barn in Jefferson county. Jansen told police he stored heating and plumbing equipment and appliances, which he bought from Sorrentino, until they were installed at various buildings.

Shy said he has a country place near DeSoto, and he bought some items for use there, police said. Finocchiaro told police he purchased only a few things for himself.

Sorrentino said he received about \$3000 from Jansen for the merchandise, about 75 per cent of which already has been installed in several new houses in Jefferson county.

DR. FRANK FINNEGAN, INTERNIST, IS DEAD

Member of Old Soper-Mills
Clinic — Former Head of
De Paul Staff.

Dr. Frank R. Finnegan, St. Louis internist, died of cancer today at DePaul Hospital. He was 65 years old and lived at 560 Bedford avenue, University City.

A native of Deloit, Kan., he took his medical degree at St. Louis University and interned at St. Luke's Hospital. Dr. Finnegan was a member of a group of specialists which organized the old Soper-Mills Clinic in 1928. He headed the staff of DePaul Hospital from 1941 through 1944.

He was a diplomate of the board of the American College of Physicians and Surgeons, a member of the Catholic Physicians' Guild and a charter member of the local chapter of Serra International, Catholic laymen's organization.

He is survived by his wife; one son, Frank R. Finnegan Jr.; three daughters, Mrs. Clinton A. Bliss, Mrs. F. Wallace Maull and Mrs. Thomas J. Ryan; a brother, Dr. F. J. Finnegan, who is a dentist in Logan, Kan.; two sisters, Miss Anna Finnegan, Beloit, and Mrs. John Gretner, Junction City, Kan., and 17 grandchildren.

SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD VOTE FOR BROOKLYN, ILL.

A special election to select three members of the Brooklyn Board of Education was ordered by Circuit Judge Harold O. Farmer at Belleville yesterday. Date of the election will be set by Clarence T. Blair, superintendent of schools for St. Clair county.

Judge Farmer said the former school board secretary, Robert Boatner, failed to enter the names of three certified candidates on the ballot in the election last April 11. He said only the incumbent's names were listed. They are Lester Hill, Isaiah Anderson and Raymond Winston.

The petition contesting the election was filed by Ulysses Jackson, Meyer Wilson and Jesse Woolfork. Judge Farmer ruled that the three incumbents still are seated as members of the board until their successors are qualified. The names of all six candidates shall appear on the ballot in the special election, he said.

Death of Mishop Danehy.

LIMA, Peru., Oct. 10 (UPI)—Bishop Thomas J. Danehy, who

CUTBACK IN ROAD FUNDS DEFENDED BY EISENHOWER

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10 (AP)—President Eisenhower yesterday defended the Administration's cutback in funds for the interstate highway program as "the only prudent and equitable course to follow."

The Government has limited federal spending on roadbuilding to \$1,800,000,000 in the fiscal year which began July 1 and set strict limits on the amount each state may spend in any one quarter. Earlier it had been planned to spend 2½ billion dollars on the highway program in the year.

The Administration's action had been anticipated by Senator Albert Gore (Dem.), Tennessee, in a letter to the President last month, in which Gore said such a slowdown in payments was a "deliberate default in payment of obligations to the states."

Replying to Gore in a letter made public yesterday, Mr. Eis-

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**ED ON DIRECT
A PLANE ENGINE**

N, Oct. 10 (AP)—
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-use of improved
-nuclear reactors
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**POLIO CASES
SEASONAL DECLINE**

TON, Oct. 10 (AP)—
-lio cases may have
-peak for this year.
-Health Service held
-ospect yesterday on
-reports showing 279
-last week, compared
-preceding week and
-week before that.
-ses normally lessen
-approach of colder
-here have been 4013
-ases reported this
-th Oct. 3. This total
-ith 1931 for the cor-
-period last year and
-same months of 1955,
-alk vaccine became

Scuffled With Officers.
Conners said he told Ray to halt but that he scuffled with the officers and had to be subdued. Ray was struck on the head with a revolver and suffered a scalp wound. Ray broke away and ran to the bathroom, the detectives reported. Conners fired a warning shot, and the officers again grappled with Ray. In a room which he had been occupying, the detectives found two fully loaded pistols.

Owens admitted his part in the Kroger robbery, police said. They added that Ray admitted committing the robbery at the time he was arrested, but refused to make a statement at police headquarters. Police said Ray was identified as the robber who threatened Schaefer and Mrs. Meyer with a revolver. James Criswell, night auditor at the Forest Park Hotel, 4910 West Pine boulevard, was robbed of \$107 early today by a man who kept his hand in a pocket of his jacket as though he was holding a pistol, police reported.

Two robbers, both carrying revolvers, held up the Veterans' Bar at 4743 Natural Bridge avenue early today and escaped with \$86 after forcing a barmaid and five customers to go to a wash room.

Robbed of Automobile.
Melvin Whitlaw, 5505 Belridge court, Jennings, reported to police that he was beaten and robbed of \$2 and his automobile early today by a man who forced his way into Whitlaw's automobile at Market and Eighteenth streets.

Whitlaw told police he was driving east in Market and stopped for a traffic signal at Eighteenth. He said the man opened the door of the automobile and struck him several times in the face. He said he did not remember anything else until after a railroad watchman found him wandering at the foot

about \$3000 from Jansen for the merchandise, about 75 per cent of which already has been installed in several new houses in Jefferson county.

The arrests grew out of an investigation made after officers of the company said an inventory showed there had been great losses of material. Detective Sgt. Joseph Kuda and Detective Adrian, working under Detective Lt. Joseph Blocher, conducted the investigation and made the arrests.

Union Leaders Re-elected.
CLEVELAND, Oct. 10 (AP)—O. A. Knight was re-elected president of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union at the closing session of its convention last night. Also re-elected were vice presidents N. J. Schaefer and Elwood Swisher and secretary-treasurer T. M. McCormick.

of Branch street in north St. Louis.

Whitlaw was taken to City Hospital, where he was reported suffering from severe facial and head injuries.

Patrolman Stephen Simora, operating a one-man police car, reported he fired two shots early today at a man he saw attempting to break into the Kugman Auto Sales Co. at 4301 Washington avenue. The man escaped on foot.

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110 S. Twelfth St., CH. 1-2041

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GLASS WOOL
15"x2" 100 Sq. Ft. roll \$7.00
15"x3" 70 Sq. Ft. roll \$6.40
23"x3" 107 Sq. Ft. roll \$9.80
Schaefer HAS IT!
4233 W. Nat'l Bridge
JE. 1-6368

4% SAVINGS
INSURED UP
TO \$10,000
BE
CURRENT DIVIDEND
PRUDENTIAL
SAVE WITH
PRUDENTIAL
SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION
12 Forsyth Walk, Clayton PA 1-8765

month, in which Gore said such a slowdown in payments was a "deliberate default in payment of obligations to the states."

Replying to Gore in a letter made public yesterday, Mr. Eisenhower said a shortage in the highway trust fund made the cuts necessary, and he blamed Congress for the shortage. He had asked for a 1½-cent increase in the gasoline tax for the next four years. Congress boosted the tax 1 cent for 22 months.

Follows Wife in Death.
PITTSBURGH, Pa., Oct. 10 (AP)—Mrs. Helen M. Kernan, 52 year old, died of a heart attack last night in her home near here. Fifteen minutes later while being consoled by a physician, Mrs. Kernan's husband Thomas, 51, collapsed and died. The doctor said his death was due to a stroke.

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ST. LOUIS 2, MO. GA. 1-1980

ICE CREAM
MARVEL ½ GAL.
VANILLA CARTON **59¢**
THE GREAT ATLANTIC & PACIFIC TEA COMPANY
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Prices effective at A&P Stores thru Today

six candidates shall appear on the ballot in the special election, he said.

Death of Bishop Danehy.
LIMA, Peru., Oct. 10 (UPI)—Bishop Thomas J. Danehy, who spent 17 years as a Roman Catholic missionary in the jungles of Bolivia, died here yesterday of a heart attack. He was 45 years old. A Maryknoll missionary, Bishop Danehy was among the first of his order assigned to Latin America in 1942.

Dress right in
G.G.G.
clothes... from
Werner Hilton

SEE NEW 1960
MOTOROLA
STEREO HI-FI AS LOW AS \$495
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5840 Hampton 6725 W. Florissant

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3 CU. YD. LOAD—64 BUSHELS
Delivered in Our Trade \$12.00
Zone. Coll. WO. 1-7292
OLD ORCHARD GARDENS

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SALESMAN
Man with successful sales experience in office equipment or copier field by large national distributor of Eastman Verifax copiers and supplies. Excellent opportunity and permanent connection for good producer with AAA national company. Salary, commission, car, and many employee benefits. Please write giving information on past experience and earnings, education and personal details.
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BRIDGE RD.

PENNEY'S
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price comparisons!
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NO MONEY DOWN \$69
Modern divided top range with life-time white finish, large oven.
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Carson-Union-May-Stern
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Call Enterprise 811 Toll Free...
Lafayette 7 Walnut 1 Wood River Devis
Valley 5 Drexel 3 Edwardsville Essex
Taylor 1, 2 Express 7 Dickens Clearwater
Tremont 2 Upton 3, 4, 5 Adams Lehigh
Thornwall 1, Turner 6 Hobart Randolph
5, 8 University 4 Triangle 6, 7 Atlas Justice
FREE DELIVERY IN THESE AREAS TOO!
CENTRAL HARDWARE

File No. 44-361-1A 19Date Received 1-20-68From QSD
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)Altan Ill.
(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)
(CITY AND STATE)By DeJail
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)To Be Returned ☐ Yes
☐ NoReceipt given ☐ Yes
☐ No

Description:

*Fingerprint copies of
James Ray.*

LEAVE THIS SPACE BLANK

Name RAY, James Earl
(Surname) (First name) (Middle name)
(Please type or print plainly)


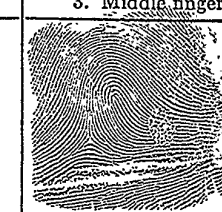
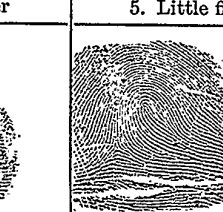
Class. _____

Alias _____

No. 7514 Color White Sex Male

Ref. _____

RIGHT HAND

1. Thumb	2. Index finger	3. Middle finger	4. Ring finger	5. Little finger
				

LEFT HAND

6. Thumb	7. Index finger	8. Middle finger	9. Ring finger	10. Little finger
				

Impressions taken by: _____

Note amputations _____

Signature of person fingerprinted: _____

Date 7-24-57

Four fingers taken simultaneously

Four fingers taken simultaneously

Left Hand

Left thumb

Right thumb

Right Hand

DO NOT FOLD THIS CARD

44-561-11089

XERO COPY

XERO COPY

XERO COPY

XERO COPY

LEAVE THIS SPACE BLANK

Name RAY, James Earl
(Surname) (First name) (Middle name)
(Please type or print plainly)





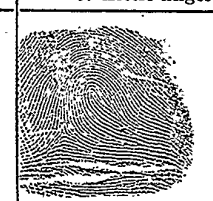
Class. _____

Alias _____



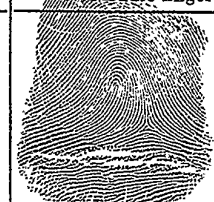
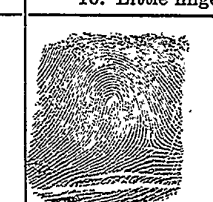
No. 7514 Color White Sex Male

Ref. _____

RIGHT HAND

1. Thumb	2. Index finger	3. Middle finger	4. Ring finger	5. Little finger
				

LEFT HAND

6. Thumb	7. Index finger	8. Middle finger	9. Ring finger	10. Little finger
				

Impressions taken by: _____

Note amputations _____

Signature of person fingerprinted: _____

Date 7-24-57

Four fingers taken simultaneously

Four fingers taken simultaneously

Left Hand

Left thumb

Right thumb

Right Hand

DO NOT FOLD THIS CARD

16-53906-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

File No. 44-561-1A²⁰Date Received 1-20-68From DSP
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)Alcon Dec
(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(CITY AND STATE)

By Mail
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)To Be Returned ☐ Yes
☐ NoReceipt given ☐ Yes
☐ No

Description:

Alcon AD Desk Dec
to Ray.

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE
CITY of ALTON, ILL.

Name RAY, James Earl

Reg. # 7514

Alias _____

Date July, 24, 1951

Address 805 Alby St. Alton Ill.

Date Arrest July, 23, 1951

Age 23 Date of birth March, 10, 1928 Born Alton Ill.

Height 5'11" Weight 160 Build Slender Complexion Ruddy

Eyes Blue Hair Black Teeth Fair Social condition Single

Color White Sex Male Parentage American Occupation Laborer

(Life) (Husband)

Mother Lucille (nee Maher) Ray

Address 1439 Locust St. Quincy Ill.

Father George Ray

Address " " " " "

Sisters _____

Brothers _____

Daughters - Sons _____

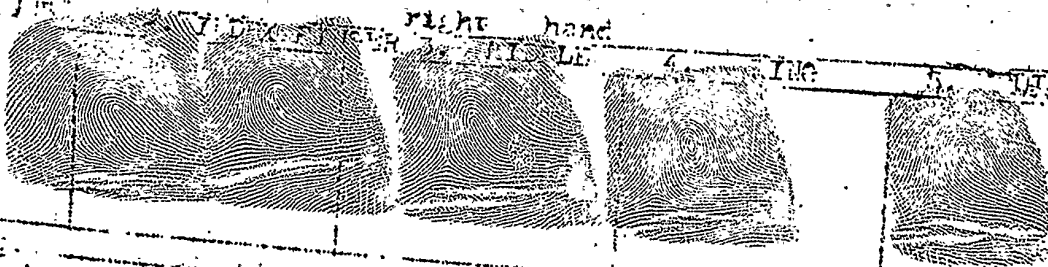
SCARS _____

RECORD _____

NO OPERATOR LICENSE--NO STATE LICENSE--NO CITY LICENSE,
Disposition Released to Pay Later.

ARRESTING OFFICERS

RENO - E. JOHNSON
Vanfossen and



Signature _____

Arrestation _____

Signature _____

ET NAME _____

R. MUE

James Ray

File No. 44-361-1A²¹

Date Received 4-30-68

From JSP
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)

Alton J. J.
(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(CITY AND STATE)

By Alton J. J.
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)

To Be Returned ☐ Yes
☐ No

Receipt given ☐ Yes
☐ No

Description:

1959 Newspaper
clipping

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1959

INDITEMENT MADISON COUNTY 27 October 1959

St. Louis Globe-Democrat

COURTS BUILDING BREAK FOILED

Ex-Convict Gets 20 Years After Escape Attempt Fails

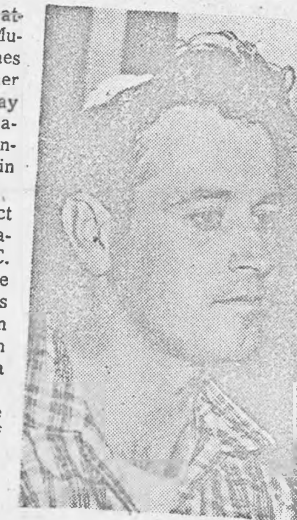
Three hours after he attempted to escape from the Municipal Courts Building, James Earl Ray, 30-year-old former convict, was convicted Thursday of armed robbery under the habitual criminal act and his punishment fixed at 20 years in prison.

The jury returned the verdict after only 20 minutes deliberation and Circuit Judge John C. Casey immediately announced he would sentence Ray to 20 years imprisonment. Any defendant in a criminal case has 10 days in which to file a motion for a new trial.

Ray was being taken to the courtroom by Deputy Sheriff Earl Riley when he made a break as the deputy removed the handcuffs. The former convict pushed Riley aside and leaped into a self-service elevator on the third floor.

OFFICER HALTS

However, the deputy was able to pull the outside door of the



JAMES EARL RAY

elevator open before Ray could get the elevator operating. Ray jumped out of the elevator and started running down the hall but was halted by Patrolman Ed-

ward G. Bright, who is assigned to the circuit attorney's office.

He was taken to the courtroom for the concluding part of his trial. Ray was convicted of being one of two bandits who held up a Kroger store at 3417 Ohio ave. on Oct. 10 and escaped with \$191 taken from the cash register.

CARS SWITCHED

He and James L. Owens, 40, also a former convict, were arrested 20 minutes after the robbery after a customer followed their getaway car, saw them switch to another machine and obtained the license number. The charge against Owens is still pending.

Five witnesses identified Ray at the trial. He took the stand and denied any part in the robbery, asserting he was in his room all that day. He was released from an Illinois prison in 1954 after serving two years for robbery. He also has served two other prison terms, police said.

44-561-1021

File No. 44-561-1A²²Date Received 4-20-68From FBI
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)KC
(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)
(CITY AND STATE)By mail serial 194
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)To Be Returned ☐ Yes
☒ NoReceipt given ☐ Yes
☐ No

Description:

Photo of
James Earl RAY

1966



JAMES EARL RAY

44-561-1A²²

SEP. 8 1966

File No.

44-561-1A²³

Date Received

4-20-68

From

FBI

(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)

KC

(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(CITY AND STATE)

By

mail Serial 194

(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)

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

Description:

2 color photo of
Walter Terry Rife
& James Earl Ray.



2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

WALTER T. RIFE

JAMES EARL RAY

1955 MAR 28

1955 MAR 28

44-561-1A²³

File No.

44-561-1A²⁴

Date Received

4-30-68

From

FBI

(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)

KC

(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)

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By

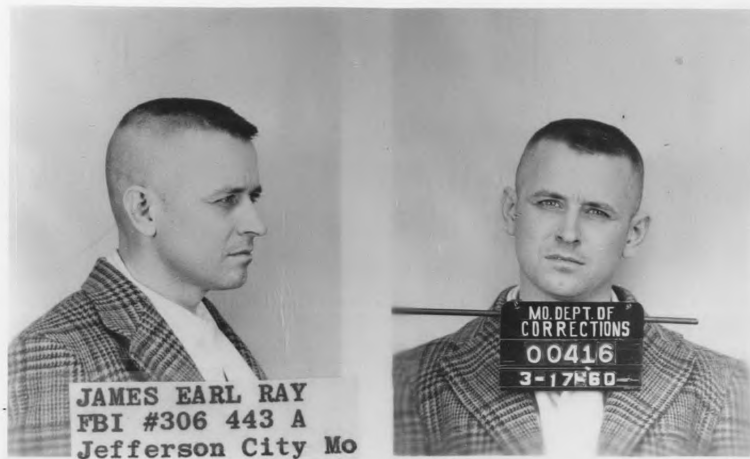
mail serial 194

(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)

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

Description:

Photo of
James Earl Ray
(1960)



2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

44-561-1A³⁴

File No.

44-561-1A²⁵

Date Received

4-30-68

From

FBI

(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)

KC

(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(CITY AND STATE)

By

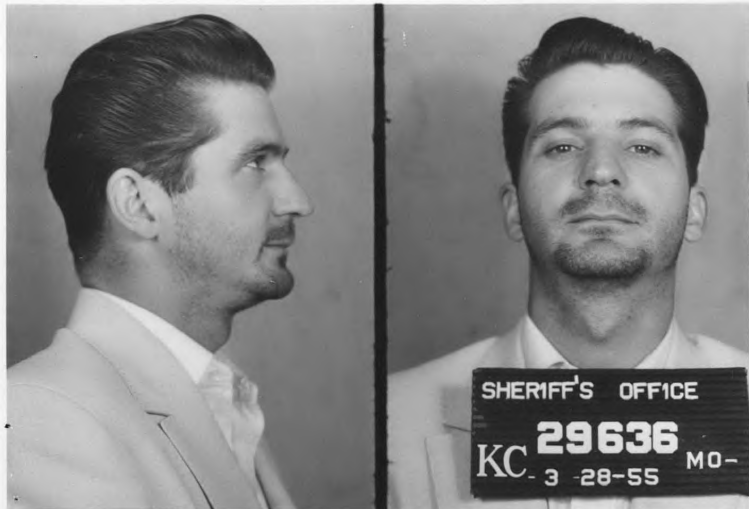
mail serial 194

(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)

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

Description:

Photo of
Walter T. Rife
(1955)



2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

WALTER T. RIFE

44-561-1A²⁵

File No. 44-561-1A²⁶

Date Received _____

From _____
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)

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By _____
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)

To Be Returned ☐ Yes
☐ No

Receipt given ☐ Yes
☐ No

Description:

Photos of
James Earl Ray
(1960 photo)



2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

JAMES EARL RAY

44-561-1A²⁶



2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

JAMES EARL RAY

44-561-1A²⁶



2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

JAMES EARL RAY

44-561-1A²⁶



2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

JAMES EARL RAY

44-561-1A²⁶



2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

JAMES EARL RAY

44-561-1A²⁶

File No.

44-561-1A³⁷

Date Received

4-12-68

From

(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(CITY AND STATE)

By

(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)

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

Description:

lists of Banks &
S & L's contacted by
Peoria RA re
Eric Starvo Galt

	Total	Banks	S+L
Peoria Co	28	18	10
Tazewell Co	22	14	8
Fulton	16	13	3
Woodford	9	9	0
Marshall	8	6	2
Putnam	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	<u>86</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>23</u>

44-561-1A27

Peoria County

Bartonville

Bartonville Bank, 5600 SW Adams

Merlin Kruse, Cashier

637-8428

Brimfield

Exchange State Bank of Brimfield

Melvin McCoy, Cashier

446-3344

Chillicothe

Truitt-Matthews First National Bank,

1007 N. 2nd

274-5432

Jo Myers, Sec. & Receptionist

Chillicothe Federal Savings + Loan Assn

823 N. 2nd

274-4033

Betty Lambert, Secretary

→ Peoples Savings + Loan Assn,

→ 1007 N. 4th

274-2136

→ Dorothy Hays, Sup. of Tellers

→ Zinser Agency, 1011 N. 2nd

274-2136

Dunlap

Dunlap State Bank

243-7733

Mrs Melba Cline, Asst Cashier

Elmwood

Farmers State Bank, 104 E. Main Elmwd 3711

Mrs Templeton, BookKeeper

✓ Elmwood Savings + Loan Assn,

105 S. Magnolia

Elmwd 3621

Glasford

Glasford State Bank

389-2551

Erma Vandeventer, Cashier

Hanna City

Hanna City State Bank

565-4261

Donald George, Exec V.P. + Cashier

Laura

Laura State Bank

446-3024

W F. Emrick, Cashier

Peoria

Commercial National Bank, 301 SW Adams
John L. Mattheessen, Auditor 674-7781

First Nat'l Bank of Peoria, 416 Main
Mrs Della Russell, Customer Records 676-1311

Jefferson Trust + Savings Bank of Peoria
123 SW Jefferson
J.C. Marshal, VP + Loan Officer 676-0831

Madison Park Bank, 3100 W. Harmon Hwy
Sue Gregory, Bookkeeper 637-3611

Prospect National Bank of Peoria, 3429 N. Prospect Rd
Mrs. Norma Berger, Asst Cashier 685-7651

Sheridan Village State Bank, 4125 N. Sheridan Rd.
Jerry Newsam, Asst Cashier 685-7667

South Side Trust + Savings Bank, 2119 SW Adams
Betty Cain, Asst Supr of Tellers 676-0521

Peoria (cont)

University National Bank of Peoria, 3109 N.
University 682-5456
Evelyn Stables, Asst Cashier

Central City Savings + Loan, 335 Fulton St.
Miss Betty Taggart, Asst Sec 674-8137

First Federal Savings + Loan, 111 NE Jefferson
Chorine Claude, Savings Division 676-0811

First Mutual Savings, 700 Main
Mrs. M.F. Dodson, Treasurer 674-8165

Home Savings + Loan, 2232 SW Adams
Jim Berry, V.P. 674-3121

Peoria Savings + Loan, 107 SW Jefferson
Mrs Mary Ellen Bass, Sec 673-4405

Provident Savings + Loan, 129 SW Jefferson
Linda Jackson, Teller 674-8121

Security Savings + Loan, 200 NE Adams
Miss Sue White, Teller 673-9011

Princeville

Princeville State Bank, 142 E Main
Mrs Gene McCoy, Sec'y

385-4375

Trivoli

Trivoli State Bank
Clyde Miller, Cashier

568-2155