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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

# FBI Doubts Dr. King a Victim of Plot

By Drew Pearson and  
Jack Anderson

It now looks as if the FBI has exploded the generally prevalent theory that the murder of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King involved a conspiracy.

The conspiracy theory has long been held, as a result of the large amounts of money spent by James Earl Ray, the suspected killer, and the manner in which he was able to travel around the United States, Canada, and Europe. It was believed his operations would have been impossible without help from other conspirators who were out to murder Dr. King.

For instance, Ray rented a safe-deposit box in the Birmingham Trust National Bank, Aug. 20 of last year, and suddenly began passing out crisp \$20 bills. He paid \$499 for dancing lessons. He also paid \$335 for mail-order photographic equipment that he didn't know how to operate.

He shelled out money for a bartending course, though he showed no interest in working behind any bar. He also took a course in lock-picking from a correspondence school in Michigan, which cost about \$400.

His white Mustang cost \$1995, which he paid in cash. He drove it from Mexico to Montreal and from Los Angeles to New Orleans, and al-

ways seemed to have enough cash.

Occasionally Ray slipped \$20 tips to bar girls and prostitutes.

All told, Ray spent an estimated \$10,000 in seven months. Yet during this time he never held a job. After the King murder, the suspect went to Canada and eventually to England where he also seemed to be in the dough. He had plenty of money to spend on clothes and airplane fare.

So the big question was: Where did he get the money?

For a long time the FBI toyed with the possibility that Ray was financed by a white supremacy ring. He had boasted to fellow prisoners that he intended to make a big "score" on the outside and that he might try to collect a rumored \$1-million bounty that a business group supposedly had offered for the death of Dr. King.

## Source of Money

Now, however, the FBI has found a robbery where Ray probably got his money. On July 15 the Bank of Alton, in Upper Alton, Ill., was robbed of \$20,000. Alton is across the Mississippi River from Missouri, and it was from the Missouri State Penitentiary that Ray escaped on April 23, 1967, three months before the July 15 robbery in Alton.

The holdup was pulled off by two robbers who wore stocking masks. Their faces

could not be identified. However, the FBI has been checking very carefully, and one of the robbers answers the description of James Earl Ray. He had the same long hair, the same height and the same physical makeup.

At first the FBI was inclined to be skeptical. However, rechecking the Alton bank robbery has convinced them that Ray was involved and that this was where he got the money on which he lived so extravagantly prior to the King murder.

The idea that a group conspired to murder Dr. King and paid Ray to do it has now been dropped.

Note: The FBI has also traced a British bank robbery to Ray.

Now Dr. Arthur J. Hanes, the American lawyer who turned up in London to defend Ray, has been connected with various other cases, involving racial violence. He was the attorney defending the Ku Klux Klansmen in the Viola Liuzzo murder case, has a flair for publicity and it's believed he went to London on his own. There is no evidence that he is being paid by conspirators.

## The Guevara Diary

Some authorities have questioned the authenticity of the Che Guevara diary, which the revolutionary kept before his death in the Bolivian mountains. We can report that the diary is authentic.

Cuban dictator Fidel Castro got hold of it by purchasing bootleg excerpts from Bolivian officials, then piecing the excerpts together. A few pages were missing from the version, which he released to friendly publications around the world, including Ramparts magazine in this country.

Parade magazine's enterprising editor, Jess Gorkin, organized a consortium of publications that sought to purchase the rights to the diary from the Bolivian Government. Gorkin sent Andrew St. George, a bring-em-back-alive correspondent, to Bolivia to translate the diary and research the story behind it.

Actually, some of the other documents captured with Guevara are much more revealing than his diary. He lugged them around the jungle in a waterproof jungle pack and a portable field safe made of special, high-impact plastic.

The papers included the outline of a book Guevara planned to write on the evolution of man's political thinking, going back to the ancient Greek philosophers; also an original short story entitled "Passing the Test," which he wrote in the jungle.

The bloodthirsty guerrilla leader also packed poetry with him to occupy his leisure moments. His favorite poet apparently was Ruben Dario, although some verses appear to have been written by Guevara himself.

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## His Attorney Says Ray Has Given Him Leads

LONDON (AP) — James Earl Ray's American lawyer stated he got "clues and other leads" to build a case for the defense of Ray, accused of assassinating Martin Luther King Jr.



ARTHUR J. HANES

Arthur J. Hanes of Birmingham, Ala., met with Ray for an hour in an interview room at Wardsworth Prison. Hanes said afterward he found the conditions somewhat restrictive. He said he was not permitted an interview in chambers. He and Ray were separated by a glass screen.

The Alabama lawyer said he was beginning to build his case and organize a defense for the day that Ray might be extradited to stand trial for the murder of the American civil rights leader.

"Our meeting was most helpful, most fruitful and beneficial," Hanes said. "We got to know each other better. He is relaxed and feels good. He is perfectly rational, sane and logical."

Hanes said he plans to leave London tomorrow and did not foresee another trip to Britain.

He said Ray had been receiving "many messages of support from all kinds of sources and he is grateful for it. He also has received many offers of help for his defense."

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# Ray a Friendless Bungler in



Drawing by Illinworth

Ray in Bow Street Court for extradition ruling.

## RAY, From A1

branches of London Trustees, is a small office with five cash windows. It is on a busy shopping street in a working-class district and adjoins a narrow street called Clem Attlee Parade.

The white bag left behind by the robber was turned over to Scotland Yard's fingerprint bureau and was first dusted with a recently developed chemical used to disclose fingerprints on paper. It was then put under heat, yielding a clear impression of prints that matched those of Ray.

British police first became aware that the 40-year-old American might be in London a week before his arrest. Scotland Yard was informed that the Canadian Royal Mounted Police had found that Ray was travelling under the name of Ramon George Sneyd and was London-bound.

If Ray had been travelling under an American passport, it would have been easy for police to determine immediately if he had entered Britain. But Canadians, as members of the Commonwealth, are subject to less rigorous immigration controls.

The Scotland Yard officer in charge of the case has been Chief Inspector Kenneth Thompson, who for 29 years has specialized in offenses involving illegal immigrants and false passports. When word reached Thompson that Ray might be in England, the inspector issued an "all-port warning."

There are usually only a few names on the "all-port warning" list, which is given to special branch detectives at every point of entry into Britain. One of the officers who had this list was Detective Sgt. Philip Birch, who at 11.30 a.m. on June 8 was standing next to the immigration desk at building No. 2 in London Airport.

When Ray came to the desk and showed his Canadian passport, the immigration officer noticed that he had a second Canadian passport in his wallet and asked why. This was the initial warning-signal that first brought Ray to the attention of Sgt. Birch, who, when he saw the name "Sneyd" immediately called Chief Inspector Thompson.

Ray's apparent carelessness in letting an official see the second passport is felt to be typical of his proneness to accidents. Police believe that Ray's past record of almost comically bungled crimes in America, and his behavior during stops in Toronto and Lisbon, are consistent with the maladroitness of London pattern.

British police have found no evidence that Ray had or made any friends while he was in Britain. The only time any witness saw Ray with anyone else during his London stay was on June 4, the day he left a hotel in Earls Court to find a new place to stay.

Ray turned up at a YWCA hostel on Warwick Way in Victoria. The hostel, despite its name, also provides rooms for men, and the

## London View of Ray Friendless Bungler

By Karl E. Meyer

Washington Post Foreign Service

LONDON, July 4—An exhaustive Scotland Yard investigation into the London life of James Earl Ray has led senior police officials to three judgments about him: while here, he was friendless, almost penniless and highly accident-prone.

A squad of ten detectives has been working full-time on the case of the man accused of killing the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. since his arrest on June 8 at London Airport under the name of Ramon George Sneyd. Several thousand people have been questioned about Ray's movements in London from May 17 until his arrest.

One major blank spot remains. British police still do not know where Ray was staying for the first ten days after his arrival. But the belief is that he was staying in a cheap and obscure rooming house in London, and not in a private residence. Ray himself has reportedly

said he does not remember where he stayed.

The major find made by detectives is that a set of fingerprints matching Ray have "turned up on a paper bag thrown to a cashier during the robbery of a London bank.

The robbery occurred the afternoon of June 17 when a man wearing glasses walked into the Trustees Saving Bank, bustling North End Road, Fulham. The man pulled out a gun and said to the counter clerk, "Put some money in this." He escaped with about £100 (\$240) 5-pound notes.

Immediately after the robbery, the clerk described the gunman as being about 30 years old, 5 feet 10 inches tall, suntanned with wavy black hair and possibly of mid-European origin. He wore a blue suit and his face was not masked.

The bank, one of

See RAY, A3, Col. 3

## London, Scotland Yard Finds

man at the desk saw Ray as a young blond man who she thought was an American. Ray was told that there was no room at the hotel, and was referred to Pax Hotel, three doors down the same street.

When Ray turned up at Pax Hotel he was alone, then spent most of his time in his room. The only person he received was a postcard from Ian Colin, a Daily Express reporter whom he had called to seek information about getting in touch with European mercenaries.

British police believe that the whole purpose of his trip to London and Lisbon,

and of the trip he was planning to make to Brussels, was to join up with white mercenaries, probably in Biafra, which is fighting for independence from Nigeria.

When he left the Pax Hotel on June 8, two paperback novels were found in his room. One was a yellow-covered thriller, "Tangier Assignment" by Cameroun Rougvié. It is described by its blurb: "In a time of Suez crises, the Mediterranean, from Tangier to Port Said, seethes with nationalist revolt, international intrigue, Mafia villainy and freebooting contrabandists. Helped by the lovely Sandra Grant, this is precisely the situa-

tion on which Robert Belpaire thrives . . . although many interests would rather see him dead."

Written in the back flyleaf of the novel was the calculation "2.40 times 6 equals 14.40." At the time of his ar-

rest, Ray had about 60 pounds on him.

If he was a big-time operator, with powerful friends and a massive bankroll, he concealed it completely during a London visit remarkable chiefly for its banality.

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## Alabama Attorney Sets 2d Ray Visit

Washington Post Foreign Service

LONDON, July 3—Arthur J. Hanes, the American attorney, an interview with his attorney for James Earl Ray, is due to visit Wandsworth Prison. The re-arrive in London Friday for quest was granted the same an unexpected second visit today, but Hanes had already see his client, who is facing blown back to Alabama.

extradition to the United States on charges of murder. Meanwhile, a British news paper reported today that Scotland Yard has apparently linked Ray's fingerprints to a London bank robbery.

Hanes spoke by telephone today with Michael Eugene, Ray's British solicitor. The Evening Standard said that a bank in the Fulham area was robbed sometime before June 8 by a lone armed

raider, who made off with about \$24. The robber left a paper bag behind and it was subsequently "baked" in the Yard's fingerprint department, disclosing prints that reportedly matched the American suspect's.

Apparently there was a mixup. The Home Office asserted that it received a re- Yard officials declined to confirm or deny the story.

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# U.S. Denies Killing King Was Political

LONDON (AP)—The U.S. government today denied James Earl Ray's contention that the killing of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was a political crime for which he could not be extradited from Britain.

"There is not a shred of evidence to show that the murder took place to further the ends of a larger enterprise," David Calcutt, a British lawyer representing the U.S. government, told London's Chief Magistrate Frank Milton.

Today's was the second session in the Bow Street Magistrate's Court on the U.S. government's application for Ray's extradition. At the first hearing last week Ray denied he killed King or even knew him.

"No other man or body was involved," Calcutt said today. "There have been undertones that this might be so, but the evidence before this court points to a lone assassination for private purposes."

Calcutt addressed the court after Ray's British attorney, Roger Frisby, told the magistrate that whoever killed King did not do it on personal grounds but because he disapproved of the type of activity King was conducting.

## Ray Makes Statement

Shortly after the court adjourned for lunch, Ray returned to make an unexpected statement.

Sandwiched between two policemen, he told the magistrate: "I don't want to repeat myself. I would like to take the opportunity to object to Mr. Butler's testimony."

Detective Chief Supt. Thomas Butler of Scotland Yard had testified last week that, when accused, Ray collapsed on a seat in his cell crying: "Oh God. I feel so trapped."

Ray quickly denied he ever said it and he made a further denial today "especially in view of the fact that this case will probably be given wide publicity in the United States, especially in the so-called liberal press."

## Never Signed Anything

"I would urge this court to take in the totality of the circumstances," Ray said. "no, that I did not sign any kind of statement whatsoever, and also the fact that I said I did not want to have conversation with anybody connected with the United States Justice Department."

"One other thing I object to, I'm sure it is not connected with the case. I believe there is a connection between this hearing and the trial in the States. Shortly after I was arrested by the British authorities, I engaged an attorney in the United States—Mr. Arthur Hanes of Birmingham, Ala."

"He subsequently made a trip to consult with me. This was opposed by the Home Secretary James Callaghan, and I made an application to the home secretary and I received no answer."

"I then wrote to Mr. Edward Heath Conservative opposition leader and I was informed by the governor of Wandsworth Prison that this was not permissible and that he would forward the letter to Mr. Callaghan. Evidently the Home Secretary would decide whether Mr. Heath would be permitted to read the letter."

## Seeks More Freedom

"I think that in view of the circumstances of this case, I should like to have more freedom."

to say and I would like to thank the court."

Ray was then taken back to the cells adjoining the court.

Persons accused of political crimes are not subject to extradition under the treaty between Britain and the United States. The United States has also asked for Ray's extradition as an escaped convict from the Missouri State Penitentiary, but if he is returned on that charge only, the extradition treaty would prevent his trial on the murder charge.

Frisby argued that an offense could be a political offense without any attempt to overthrow the lawful government of a country. Nor was it necessary for there to be any kind of open insurrection or civil war, he contended.

## Fourth Court Appearance

"Wherever there is a substantial body of persons in the state seeking by constitutional or other means to compel the government or the state to change its policy, you have a situation where even the crime of murder may be motivated politically," Frisby asserted.

"I have to say that the deceased man was a political figure engaging in political activities."

It was Ray's fourth appearance in Bow Street court since his arrest on June 8 at London airport, where he was waiting to board a plane for Brussels with a Canadian passport issued to Ramon George Sneyd.

The hearing may end today, but if the magistrate rules in favor of extradition, Ray is certain to appeal to the High Court. This would extend his stay in Britain for weeks at least.

## Extradition Expected

The first extradition hearing Thursday was devoted mainly to testimony on behalf of the U.S. government seeking to prove that Ray had purchased a rifle with telescopic sights in Birmingham, Ala., had been seen in a Memphis, Tenn., rooming house overlooking the motel where King was shot, and that prints found on the abandoned gun were his.

British legal experts generally are convinced that Milton will order Ray's extradition. But they say that conflicting precedents give Frisby ample scope to argue the case on appeal.

Over the years, British courts have held that to be entitled to exemption for a political offense, a fugitive must be allied with one of two separate and identifiable political groups contending for power in a country.

# Ray Extradited to U.S.

By Karl E. Meyer  
Washington Post Foreign Service

W7 JUL 2 1968

LONDON, July 2—A British magistrate today ordered the return of James Earl Ray to the United States to face charges of murdering the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Ray, 40, showed no visible emotion in Bow Street Court as he heard Chief Magistrate Frank Milton reject a defense argument that the murder of Dr. King was a political crime and therefore not subject to extradition.

The judgment, which is almost certain to be appealed, was pronounced in a crowded and dingy courtroom. It meant that the American had lost the first major round in what could be the legal battle lasting well into August.

In an unexpected development, Ray complained that he had not received all the rights due him since he was arrested at London airport on June 8 under the name of Ramon George Sneyd.

Ray volunteered the statement after formal argument had concluded in the morning. He began by repeating his objection to testimony by Chief Superintendent Thomas Butler of Scotland



Sketch by Illingworth

JAMES EARL RAY  
... at hearing yesterday

Yard, who quoted Ray at the time of his arrest as saying "Oh God... I feel so trapped."

Ray declared:

"I would like to take the opportunity to object to Mr. Butler's testimony, especially in view of the fact that this case will be given wide publicity in the United States, especially in the so-called liberal press."

"I would urge this court to take in the totality of the

circumstances. One, that I did not sign any kind of statement whatsoever, and also the fact I said I did not want to have a conversation with anybody connected with the U.S. Justice Department."

Ray also objected to being denied a visit with U.S. Attorney Arthur Hanes, stating that "I believe there is a connection between this hearing and the trial in the States."

"Shortly after I was arrested by British authorities, I engaged an attorney in the United States, Mr. Arthur Hanes of Birmingham, Ala. He subsequently made the trip to consult with me. This was opposed by the Home Secretary, and I made an application to the Home Secretary and received no answer."

"I then wrote to Edward Heath (leader of the conservative opposition)" Ray said, "and was informed by the governor of Wandsworth Prison that this was not permissible and that he would forward the letter to Mr. Callaghan (James Callaghan, the Home Secretary)."

"Evidently, the Home Secretary would decide whether

See RAY, A6, Col. 6

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# EXTRADITION OF RAY ORDERED IN LONDON

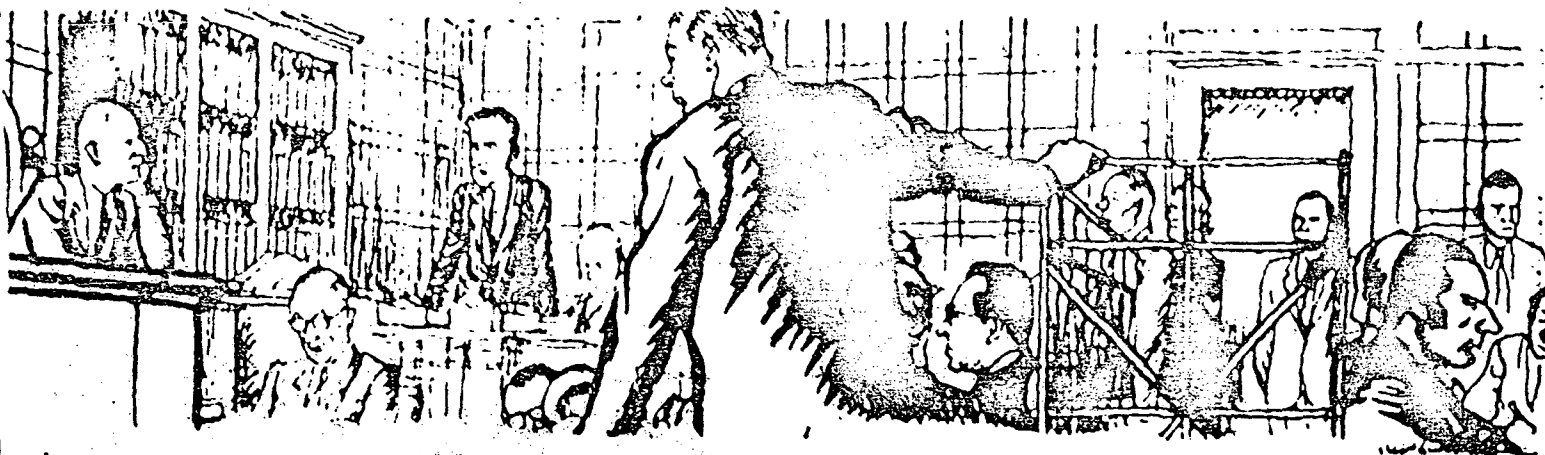
LONDON (UPI)—A London court today ordered James Earl Ray extradited to the United States to stand trial in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ray, 40, identified as an escaped convict from a Missouri jail, is accused of shooting the civil rights leader in Memphis, Tenn., on April 4. He was arrested at London Airport on June 8.

Ray's defense attorney, Roger Frisby, argued in Bow Street Magistrate Court that the slaying was a political crime. But Frank Milton, chief metropolitan magistrate for London, agreed with the U.S. position that it was outright murder.

There is still much legal red tape to go through before Ray is returned to the United States. His defense attorney indicated he would appeal in a nipper that would take weeks.

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(Earlier Story on Page A-10)



is Bow Street Court scene shows the main characters the James Earl Ray extradition hearing. From left, of Magistrate Frank Milton; the court clerk; de-

fense attorney Roger Frisby, addressing the court; David Calcutt, representing the United States; a detective guarding Ray; the defendant and another detective seated

behind a barrier that separates newsmen and spectators from the court proceedings. Each person was searched before being permitted to enter the courtroom.



DAVID CALCUTT  
... represents U.S.

## Extradition of Ray Ordered

RAY, From A1

Mr. Heath would be permitted to read the letter. I think in view of the seriousness of this case I should have had a little more freedom to write and visit people in the circumstances. That is all I would like to say. I would like to thank the court."

Ray spoke in a low voice, his words coming in rapid bursts. The court reported had difficulty understanding his accent, especially the phrase "so-called liberal press," which was initially transcribed as "little press."

Ray's statement was made after the court had formally adjourned for lunch. When the magistrate heard through Ray's attorney that the defendant wished to offer a statement, he reconvened the court so that he might hear it before making his ruling. The statement was then read aloud by a court reporter when the afternoon session resumed, with Ray making occasional corrections as it was recited.

Later in the day, the Home Office denied that it had prevented Ray from seeing his American attorney. A spokesman said that on June 23 Ray had petitioned the Home Office for a visit with Hanes and this was granted the same day.

But Hanes had flown back to the United States on the 24th.

In court, Chief Magistrate Milton said that Ray's complaint could have no bearing on the ruling he was about to make. He pointedly said that Ray's case "could not have been more conscientiously, persuasively and ably put" than it was by Roger Frisby, the defense counsel.

Frisby summed up his main argument by asserting that something akin to an insurrection existed in the South of the United States as a result of the civil rights movement of which Dr. King was a prominent and controversial leader.

Frisby did not dispute that the U.S. had submitted evidence showing that there was a prima facie case for trying Ray for murder, even though his client denies killing Dr. King.

Whoever's finger was on the trigger in Memphis, on April 4, the attorney contended, "was acting consciously or otherwise as a representative of a large group of people who oppose Dr. King..." This, he maintained, meant that the murder was a political crime and as such was specifically excluded from offenses subject to extradition.

David Calcutt, the attorney representing the U.S.,

replied that in a political offense the motive is critical and that the crime had to be in furtherance of a larger enterprise. In the case of Ray, he said, all the evidence pointed the other way...

There was "no evidence" of a conspiracy in Dr. King's murder, no evidence that Ray was working with another man, he said.

The judge rejected a defense contention that a technical difference in terminology meant that Ray could not be extradited for armed robbery, for which he was convicted in 1960 and was serving a 20-year sentence in Missouri State Penitentiary until his escape last year. "Robbery with violence" and "armed robbery" are analogous offenses, the Magistrate said.

The next legal move now rests with Ray's court-appointed solicitor, Michael Eugene, who works with Frisby.

An appeal would take the form of an application within 15 days for a writ of habeas corpus to the divisional court of the high court. If the application were granted, the case would be reargued before the high court, whose decision is subject to a final appeal to the Law Lords of the House of Lords.

STRENGTH, STIFFNESS, AND DUCTILITY OF REINFORCED CONCRETE

**T**HE ASSASSINATIONS OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. April 4 presents a series of striking parallels to the Kennedy case. A rifle with a telescopic sight was conveniently dropped at the crime scene. Just as the Carcano left in the Texas School Book Depository Building was readily traceable to Oswald, so the Remington-Union Carbide outside the cigar hotel from which King was shot was readily traceable to Eric Starvo Galt (whom the FBI subsequently identified as James Earl Ray, a 1967 escapee from a Missouri prison).

In both instances, also, it appears that the police radio network was penetrated. Within minutes after the President was shot, the Dallas police radio was broadcasting a description of a suspect—he generally resembled Oswald—that to this day is of unknown origin. Within minutes after the King shooting,

the Memphis police radio was describing a police chase of a "white Mustang" that was to be the getaway car. Police spokesmen now say the chase never took place. A white Mustang registered to Eric Starvo Galt was found abandoned in Birmingham, Alabama, a few days later. In the car was an Atlanta city map with circles drawn around Dr. King's home and church. The map was reminiscent of the Dallas city map found among Oswald's possessions after his arrest which had the Texas School Book Depository Building and several points along the Kennedy motorcade route circled.

The parallels come close to forming what the police would call a *modus operandi*, in which a trail was laid down to point to Oswald on the one hand, Galt on the other.

Yet despite these compelling indications, Attorney General Ramsey Clark insists that there is no evidence of conspiracy

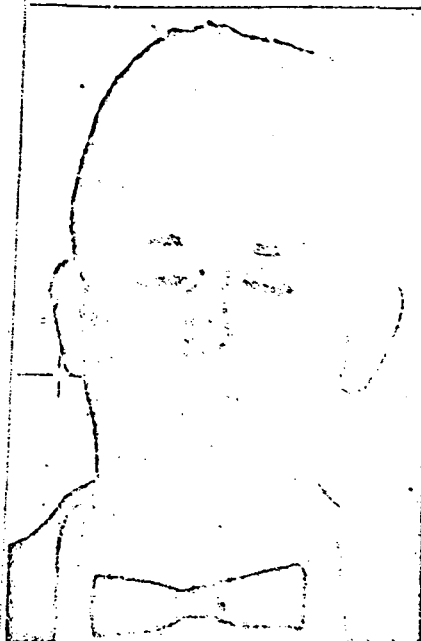


Figure 1



Figure 2



in the King case. When I first saw the Memphis item, he was convinced that it was a dead man, that it was not a man and that an arrest was imminent. On May 12, on the ABC network, Clark claimed there was no evidence to support theories that Galt had been hired by conspirators to kill King, and that there was "no evidence to believe that he [Galt] is not still alive."

The reference to the possibility that Galt was dead evidently stems from a photograph of him on the FBI's wanted bulletin (Figure 1). When I first saw it, it struck me as that of a dead man. The eyes were closed (an FBI artist dabbed in open eyes on a published reproduction), the face seemed puffy and in repose and the coat collar rod/high, as if the man had been in a prone position. The Bureau did not reveal where it obtained the photograph, although there was speculation it was taken

on the occasion of Galt's flight from a Los Angeles interrogation, which took place in 1968, but the investigation in Los Angeles did not believe it is the Galt they know, and witnesses at the Memphis hotel tend to agree. "Ugly, he was wearing a wig or had had a face-lift or something, it's not the man I saw," commented hotel resident Charles Q. Stevens, who saw the fleeing sniper. "The hair is too full and the face is too young."

A few days after the King slaying, Memphis police released an artist's sketch of the suspect, reportedly prepared in Mexico under FBI supervision (Figure 2). It bore hardly any resemblance to the Galt photograph, but did have a startling resemblance to a face I had seen before. The face appears in a series of photographs taken by Black Star photographer William Allen in Dealey Plaza shortly after Kennedy was

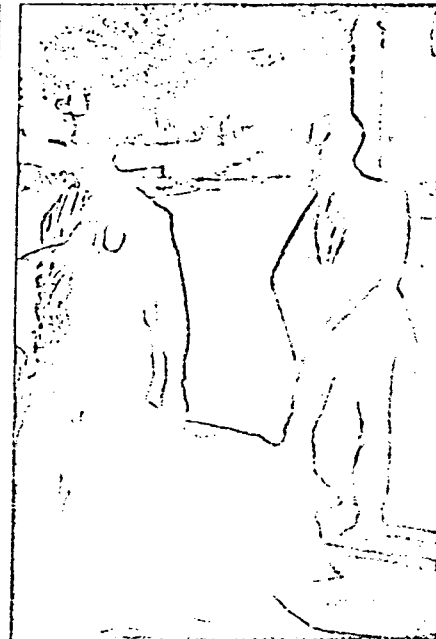
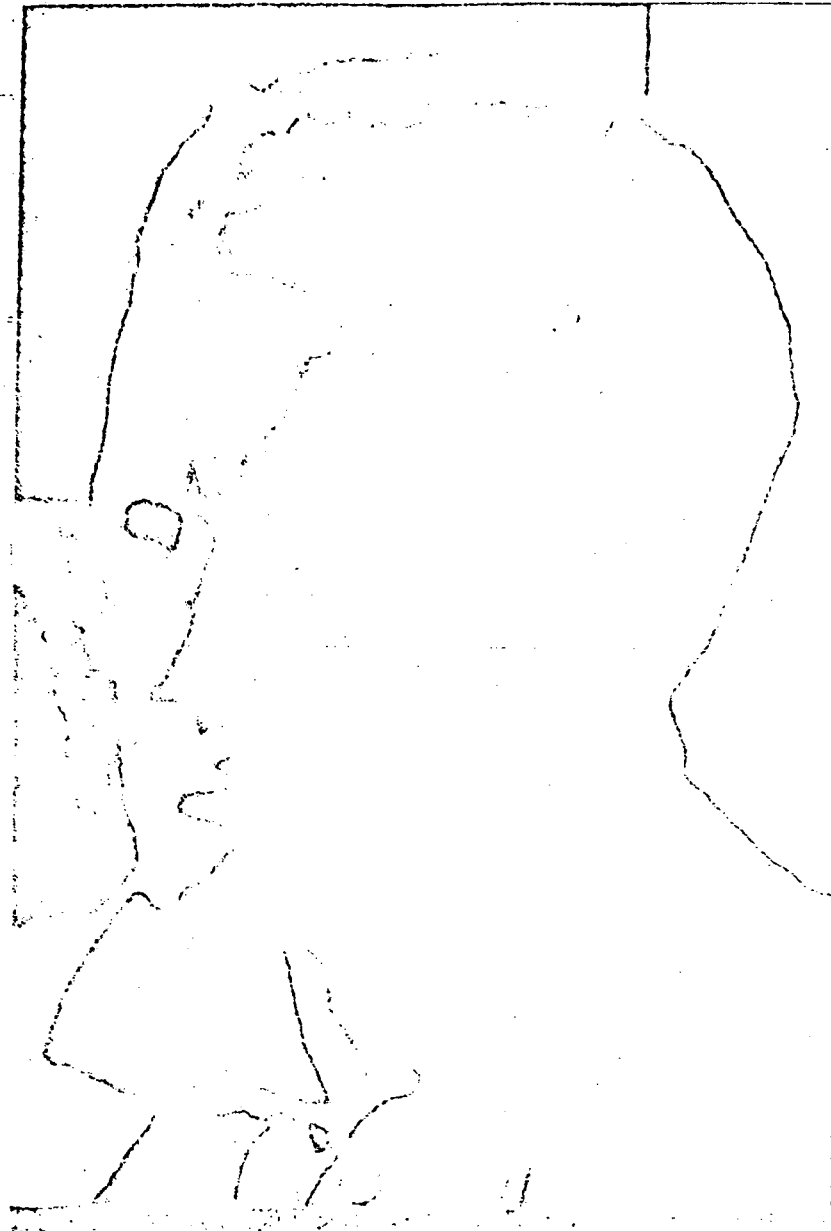


Figure 3A

Figure 3



## 3 Witnesses Against Ray Vanish From Memphis

MEMPHIS, Tenn., June 27 (UPI)—Three key witnesses against James Earl Ray, accused of killing the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., have dropped from sight and may be in protective custody, investigation showed today.

A fourth witness has been confined to a mental institution, authoritative sources said. The witness was not identified.

British barrister David Calcutt, representing the United States today at an extradition hearing for Ray in London, told the court that American authorities had a witness a "Mr. Stevens," who had seen Ray enter the boarding house bathroom that Dr. King's killer used as a sniper's post.

Calcutt's disclosure sent local reporters scurrying to

the "Eden" hotel, where the witness "Charles Q. Stevens" was known to have given information concerning the April 4 killing.

But when newsmen reached the house they found Stevens missing and a package on his old room, No. 6. Also missing were Beanie Brewer, former house manager, and another occupant, Willie Anschutz, who gave officials information.

Mrs. Brewer and her husband, Frank, had been replaced in the manager's office by Mr. and Mrs. James Macdonald. The Macdonalds said they had been managing the rooming house "one or two days" and did not know the Brewers.

Frank Hoffmann, Director of Fire and Police, said he could make no comment, and FBI agent Robert Jen-



United Press International

**CHARLES STEVENS**

**3rd witness against Ray**

Jensen, questioned about Stevens, said he talked to him a few weeks ago, but "I have no knowledge of his whereabouts at the present time."

Jensen refused to comment regarding Mrs. Brewer and Anschutz, explaining: "I'm sorry. I'm restricted and can say nothing about the case."

# Suspect, at Extradition Hear

RAY, From A1

lined by David Calcutt, the British lawyer representing the United States:

- FBI fingerprint analysis showed that Ray's prints, the print on the murder weapon and the prints of Ramon George Sneyd were all from the same man.

- Ray was observed by a fellow boarder in a Memphis rooming house emerging from the bathroom from which authorities maintain Dr. King was shot.

- Ray was identified by witnesses as the buyer of the gun used to kill the civil rights leader.

Before the terse dramatic denial, Chief Superintendent Thomas Butler of Scotland Yard testified that when Sneyd was first informed that the police believed he was really Ray, he slumped into a chair, put his head in his hands and said, "Oh, God." After a moment, the court was told, he added, "I feel so trapped."

Sneyd promptly spoke up.

"I would like to disagree with what Superintendent Butler has said. I have to say his testimony is false."

The bulk of the case against Ray was offered in the form of depositions read by Calcutt, who recalled that the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy had said after Dr. King's death that the Negro leader had given himself "to justice and love." Dr. King's murder, he said, "was the working of the single hand of this man."

Chief magistrate Frank

Milton, who is expected to rule on the extradition request Tuesday, was given this sequence of evidence to lay the grounds for Ray's extradition:

On March 29 Ray allegedly entered the Aeromarine Supply Co. in Birmingham, Ala., and purchased a Winchester rifle, telescopic sights and ammunition. He used the name "Harvey Lowmeyer," and was seen by a customer in the store.

On March 30, he allegedly returned to the store and exchanged the gun for a Remington rifle, serial number 461470, with a Redfield telescopic sight, serial number 17350. He was served by Donald Wood, whose father owns the store and who identified Ray by picking out his photograph.

On April 3, Ray checked into the New Rebel Hotel in Memphis, registering as "Eric S. Galt." He was seen by Henrietta Hagemaster, 37, the receptionist, who also was able to identify Ray.

Ray checked out April 4 and the same day bought a pair of Bushnell binoculars costing \$41.50 at the York Arms Co. He was served by Cordra York Sr., who picked out Ray's photograph from a group.

The same day the accused man also moved to a rooming house known by its address, 424½ Main Street, and took room 5B adjoining the room of Charles Stevens, 46, a disabled veteran. Stevens in his written statement recalled that his neighbor made repeated trips to the bathroom—a third visit was especially remembered.

Q. Have you ever met Dr. Martin Luther King personally in your life?

A. No, sir, I haven't.

Q. Have you ever had any kind of grudge against him?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did you kill Dr. Martin Luther King?

A. No, sir.

WP JUN 28 1968

## Suspect Ray Denies Killing Dr. King

By Karl E. Meyer

Washington Post Foreign Service

LONDON, June 27—The man accused of murdering the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said in magistrate's court today that he didn't do it.

The denial, the first public statement uttered by James Earl Ray alias Ramon George Sneyd, was made at an extradition hearing that revealed some key elements in the U.S. Government's case against him.

Ray sat calmly in 300-year-old Bow Street Court as a lawyer for the United States offered evidence to show that Ray bought and fired the weapon that killed Dr. King in Memphis last April 4.

And he listened attentively as his own attorney argued that the murder of Dr. King was a political offense, thereby exempt from the extradition treaty between the United States and Britain.

Only twice did Ray speak. The first time he contradicted a police account of his behavior upon arrest here. The second time he denied committing the murder.

Ray was asked by his British lawyer, Sir A. Frisbee: "Have you ever met Dr. Martin Luther King personally in your life?" "No, sir, I haven't," replied Ray.

"Have you ever had any kind of grudge against him?" "No, sir."

"Did you kill Dr. Martin Luther King?"

"No, sir," answered Ray.

He spoke in a low, almost inaudible drawl. Because Ray was not testifying under oath, he was not subject to questioning about his name. As he spoke, detectives formed a protective line around him.

The key points in the U.S. case were these, as out-

See RAY, A1, Col. 1

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# ing, Denies Killing Dr. King

"because I wanted to use the toilet."

The bathroom window faces the balcony of the suite in the Loraine Motel in which Dr. King was staying. A bullet would travel 207 feet from the bathroom to where Dr. King was standing on the balcony. It was asserted that the entry angle of Dr. King's wound was consistent with the path such a bullet would follow.

After Dr. King was killed, Stevens says he saw a man running in the hallway carrying a bundle in his right hand wrapped in newspapers. "I think it was the same man I saw with Mrs. Brewer (the landlady) in room 5B" Stevens asserted.

N. E. Zachary, the first policeman on the scene, recovered the bundle, which contained the gun, binoculars, two maps, a newspaper, toilet articles and socks. According to U.S. ballistics expert, a bullet fired through the Remington rifle would have the same characteristics as the bullet recovered from Dr. King's body.

The only American who appeared in court today as a witness for the United States was George J. Bonebrake, who since 1941 has been a fingerprint examiner for the FBI. He lives at 12314 Georgia ave. in Silver Spring, and said he has made "millions of fingerprint comparisons."

On April 5, he received for examination the Remington rifle, the Redfield telescope sight, and the Bushnell binoculars. He testified that he found one clear print on each of these, and that

the prints were those of James Earl Ray.

Because he was the only witness from America, Bonebrake was asked a series of questions about Dr. King's reputation by Sneyd's attorney. Bonebrake agreed that the Negro minister was a controversial figure who aroused strong feelings pro and con.

Frisbee, a British barrister with a casual and soft-spoken courtroom manner, used this testimony to help

develop his argument that the murder of Dr. King was of a political character and therefore not an extraditable offense.

Frisbee cited three leading cases in which Britain had denied extradition of foreigners on the grounds that the offense was political. An 1891 case involved a Swiss revolutionary who took control of a municipal building and shot and killed a guard before escaping to England. In 1894, France

unsuccessfully sought extradition of several anarchists who had blown up a barracks, killing a number of people. The third case involved a Polish tradesman who in 1935 seized his boat and sought asylum in Britain.

This line of defense prompted the judge to remark: "If your argument is right, when any controversial figure is killed, this court must draw the conclusion that this is a political offense."

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# Ray Sole Killer, U.S. Says at Hearing

LONDON (UPI)—The United States said today James Earl Ray was the "single hand" killer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. It said it had a witness to prove it.

A British lawyer for the United States called in a formal extradition hearing for Ray's return to Memphis, Tenn., to face charges of the "calculated, brutal and senseless murder" of the Nobel Peace Prize-winning civil rights leader April 4.

British barrister David Calcutt said in historic Bow Street Magistrate's Court that finger prints connected Ray to the rifle used to assassinate King.

The attorney said U.S. authorities had a witness who saw Ray enter a rooming house bathroom overlooking the motel where King died, heard a shot fired from the bathroom and watched Ray come out of the room a minute later.

Calcutt identified the witness as a "Mr. Stevens" but did not give his first name.

## Heard Shot Fired

The barrister said the witness said Ray stayed an "unconscionable length of time" the third and last time he was observed going in the bathroom.

The third time Mr. Stevens heard a shot fired from the bathroom window," Calcutt said. "A minute later Mr. Stevens saw a man coming out of the bathroom. He was the same man who booked accommodations" (in the rooming house.)

King was hit as he stood on a motel balcony. Investigators said the shot was fired from the bathroom window in the rooming house across the street.

As Ray stood — showing no apparent emotion — in the prisoner's dock, Calcutt looked at him and said: "This tragic death was the work of this criminal."

## Work of "Single Hand"

Calcutt described the crime as "the working of a single hand."

Today's was the third British court appearance for the 40-year-old escaped convict from Missouri since Scotland Yard detectives arrested him at a London airport June 8 and charged him with possessing false passports and a loaded pistol. He was traveling under the name of a Toronto policeman, Ramon George Sneyd.

One hundred policemen guarded Ray at the hearing. He rode to the court in a black police paddy wagon.

Calcutt quoted Stevens as saying he was certain a shot had been fired from the bathroom window, "because a partition between my kitchen and the bathroom was very thin."

## Saw Man Running

"I looked through a broken pane of glass and heard voices coming from across the street in the direction of the Lorraine Motel," the lawyer quoted Stevens. "I opened my door and I looked toward the bathroom. The door was open. I saw a man running. He was carrying a bundle which looked to be about three to four feet long and eight inches

wide. It was wrapped in newspaper."

"I think it was the same man I had seen earlier with Mrs. Brewer (the landlady) in Room 33. I went back to the window and looked toward the Lorraine Motel. I saw a lot of men and policemen."

The barrister charged the bundle the man carried contained the murder rifle, with telescopic sight, and binoculars. Calcutt said there was strong evidence the bullet that killed King came from the rifle. He said the United States also had evidence Ray purchased the rifle. The rifle was found in a doorway on the street.

Calcutt quoted a deposition from George Bonebrake, U.S. Department of Justice fingerprint expert, that three fingerprints found on the murder rifle, its telescopic sight and a pair of binoculars found outside the rooming house matched prints of Ray on file with the FBI.

## Admitted Being American

A Scotland Yard detective testified that Ray admitted he was an American although he carried two Canadian passports in the name of Sneyd when he was picked up.

Chief Superintendent Thomas Butler said he saw Ray at London Airport the day he was ar-

rested. He said he told Ray that although he claimed Canadian citizenship he had reason to believe Ray was an American.

"He replied, 'Oh well, yes I am' and nodded agreement," Butler told the court.

Butler said when he told the defendant he believed he was Ray the accused suddenly slumped in his cell.

"The accused had been standing up but at this he suddenly slumped down on the seat behind him, put his head in his hands and said, 'Oh, God.' After a moment or so he added, 'I feel so trapped.'"

## Made No Admissions

Butler said, however, the man in the dock had made no admission he was Ray. Neither, Butler said, did he admit guilt to murder charges concerning King.

The defendant made "no admissions of any kind," Butler said.

The hearing recessed at 1:05

p.m. for a 75-minute lunch period. The magistrate said another hearing would be held next week.

Sources closely acquainted with the case said they expected the hearing to be completed today. Further legal proceedings will follow a decision by the magistrate. British law requires that the Home Secretary concur in extraditions and that he give the person held 15 days to appeal the magistrate's decision to a higher court decision or the House of Lords.

Legal sources said Ray and his attorneys could delay extradition through the end of the summer even if all appeals fail.

Ray has been held under 24-hour-a-day observation in the maximum security wing of London's Wandsworth Prison.

In his first court appearance June 10, Ray was formally charged with carrying a loaded

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## RAY'S ODL ODYSSEY



RIVERS & FAMILY  
Calhounian counterpart.

the war and on integration—although, as the son of an impoverished turpentine distiller from Gumville, he has voted frequently for Lyndon Johnson's Great Society programs. His constituents were not unsympathetic 18 months ago when he proposed that the U.S. "blatten Hanoi and let world opinion go fly a kite." In 1948 he cried that Harry Truman's anti-lynching bill would "lynch the Constitution," and as late as 1956 was defining N.A.A.C.P. as "the National Association for the Advancement of Communist Propaganda."

**Hero's Style.** Only once in the past have the First District's Negroes—43% of the population—challenged the chairman. Rivers trounced their 1950 candidate, a Negro attorney, in that year's Democratic primary. This year, in the aftermath of Martin Luther King's assassination, another Negro attorney, George Payton Jr., 39, decided to try. Scraping together the \$2,000 registration fee with loans from relatives, Payton attacked Rivers as a "warmonger and superhawk," stumped for a \$2 minimum wage, expanded social security, and liberal federal housing programs.

Almost inexplicably, Rivers, who wears his silver mane in the style of his South Carolinian hero John C. Calhoun, ran scared, plastering Charleston with billboards and TV spots. Ten days before the primary, Rivers arranged to have 15 members of his committee flock to Charleston along with Admiral Hyman Rickover to inspect a Polaris missile facility and laud Mendel.

The militant campaign was hardly necessary. Last week Rivers' Democrats, along with several thousand Republicans who crossed party lines, gave the chairman 65,842 votes against 18,883 for Payton. The G.O.P. will not even bother to oppose Rivers in November.

AS a thief, James Earl Ray's specialty was botching his getaway. After heisting \$190 from a St. Louis supermarket in 1959, Ray left tracks that the most flat-footed cop could follow: he even parked a car used in the stick-up outside his lodgings. That was characteristic of Ray, whose most profitable known caper, grossing only \$2,200, was bungled when the escape car crashed. The cruelest of his convictions was for the \$11 stick-up of a Chicago cab driver in 1952.

After he escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary in 1967, Ray's style changed: he seemed to have become a *cum-laude* graduate in criminality. Flush with unaccustomed cash and astute at spying loopholes in the law's vigilance, he rambled across the country using a collection of aliases. Then, after a .38-06 bullet killed Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis on April 4, spurious radio messages sent Memphis police chasing the wrong way after Ray's 1966 white Mustang.

From that day, until a British detective politely questioned a Brussels-bound passenger at London's Heathrow Airport on June 8, Ray eluded a worldwide professional manhunt fortified by a \$100,000 reward for his capture. Last week, with the accused assassin immured in a maximum-security cell in Southwest London's Wandsworth prison, policemen unraveled the nexus of plastic faces, borrowed identities and bogus papers that he had woven for two months across two continents.

**Canadian Pattern.** Four days after King's murder, Ray had hightailed across the Canadian border, and was renting a \$10-a-week room from Mrs. Fela Szpakowsky on Toronto's polyglot Ossington Avenue. Just why Ray chose Canada is not entirely clear, but, almost surely, one reason was the knowledge—widely circulated among convicts in the U.S.—that it is ridiculously easy to get a Canadian passport. All that is needed is the gall to ask for one and a birth certificate—and the certificate is not strictly necessary.

In a consistent if bizarre pattern over several months Ray had appropriated four aliases from Torontonians, all from men who live around the suburb of Scarborough and bear varying degrees of likeness to Ray. In July 1967, Ray took the name of Warehouse Supervisor Eric St. Vincent Galt, 54, whose signature

*Eric St. Vincent Galt*

he had apparently misread as Eric Starvo Galt. As does Ray, Galt has scars on his forehead and right palm and could pass for 40, Ray's age. John Willard, 42, the name used by the man who rented the room in Memphis 13 paces away from the bathroom where

King's assassin hid, is an insurance adjuster who is shorter and slighter than Ray's 5-ft. 9-in., 175-lb. frame, but looks not unlike him. Paul Bridgman, an educator, and Ramon George Sneyd, a policeman, whose names Ray used after he arrived in Toronto, are both 35 and have Ray's build. Police are still puzzling over how they were chosen.

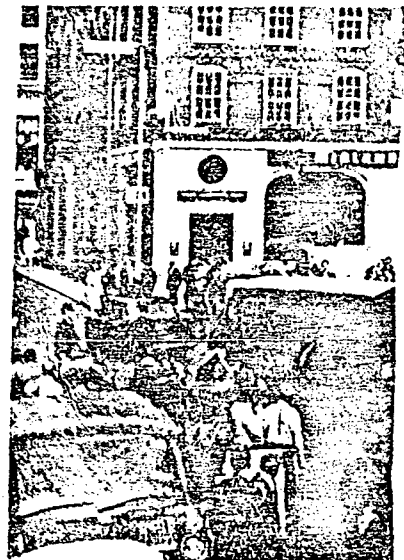
**In the Library.** On April 16, Ray paid \$8 for a Canadian passport in the name of Sneyd. "He blended into the wallpaper," recalls Lillian Spencer, manager of the Kennedy Travel Bureau, who handled the simple declaration that Ray signed, affirming that he was a Canadian citizen. Next day, on Miss Spencer's say-so, Travel Agent Henry Moos notarized the form and forwarded it to Ottawa.

Ray was also aware of Ontario's lackadaisical procedure for issuance of birth certificates and mailed off \$2 money orders for certificates for both Bridgman and Sneyd. For these, he needed the maiden names of their mothers. Announcements of their births in library copies of old newspapers supplied the information Ray required.

Ray never collected the birth certificate mailed back for Bridgman—where, as Ray apparently learned, already had a valid passport. On April 18, the fugitive got a phone call and next day moved three blocks away to a Chinese-run boardinghouse on Dundas Street West, where he had rented a room in advance for \$9 a week from Mrs. Yee Sim Loo. On May 2, Ray picked up his new passport and paid \$345 in cash for a return excursion flight to London. Four days later, he left Canada.

"Nico Guy." On May 8, Ray flew from London to Lisbon, perhaps in the hope of a payoff, perhaps in an attempt to contact recruiters for white mercenary fighters in Africa, or else to

POLICE VAN CARRYING



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as he died in the killing. The Los Angeles County coroner testified that Senator Kennedy was struck with three bullets, rather than two as originally thought. The third landed in back of the right armpit, near the second. The shots had apparently been fired at point-blank range, at least one of them only two or three inches from the victim.

The week also produced a mixed bag of claims from people who said they had some special knowledge of the sullen defendant. A former Castro commandant, José Duarte of Miami, said he had scuffled with Sirhan a month ago in Los Angeles when he heard Sirhan tell a group of leftists: "What the U.S. needs is another Castro." In London, Journalist Jon Kinche, who is known mainly for his sensational anti-Arab diatribes, wrote in the Evening Standard that Sirhan had returned to the Middle East twice, in 1964 and 1966. The story was flatly denied by the FBI and State Department. In fact, the peripatetic Sirhan to whom Kinche was alluding may be an American citizen named Sirhan Selim Sirhan, ten years older than the accused and no kin, who frequently visits the Middle East.

**Every Scintilla.** While all this second-guessing was going on, Los Angeles officials were diligently scrutinizing every scintilla of evidence, mindful of the 1963 mess made by their counterparts in Dallas. Twenty-three of L.A.'s top cops have been assigned full time to the case, while a special three-man legal team, whose members have handled 200 homicide cases for the D.A.'s office, will make sure that neither Sirhan's rights nor potential evidence is perjured. Interviewing the defendant are two court-appointed psychiatrists. A trial date will be set at a June 28 hearing, and Sirhan will plead either guilty, no contest, not guilty, or not guilty by reason of insanity.

## RACES

### Black Separatist

Integration has been the aim of the Congress of Racial Equality since CORE was born in 1942. Its intramural squabbles have never been concerned with the principle of desegregation but with its pace. Two years ago, Floyd McKissick replaced Founder James Farmer because he was not moving fast enough. Last week McKissick, in turn, was supplanted by a more aggressive lieutenant, CORE's new chief, however, advocates rigid separation of the races.

Roy Innis, a Harlem-honed black nationalist, will formally replace McKissick next month at CORE's convention in Columbus. Innis, 34, is a bearded manifesto maker who holds that "separation of unlikes is the natural condition of society," and says that blacks generally favor nonviolence, but "not over the achievement of nationalistic objectives." He professes a fear of genocide, not "by the gas chamber but by



CORE'S INNIS  
Kamikaze, yes; hara-kiri, no.

the slow taking away of our existence" through racial amalgamation. Appealing to Negroes to improve their own lot rather than die in all-out conflict with the white man, Innis adds nonetheless, "We believe that if we must die, it will not be by hara-kiri but by kamikaze—take as many with us as we can."

By accepting Innis' incendiary view, CORE alienates not only whites but black moderates as well. Thus it joins the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in a militant shift to the left.

## TRIALS

### Cost of Counseling

Pediatrician Benjamin Spock, who is more concerned these days with pacifists than pacifiers, seemed openly to seek arrest in hopes that he could eventually test his crusade against the Viet Nam war before the Supreme Court. Last week at Boston's Federal District Court, he moved closer to that goal. An all-male jury pronounced Spock, 65, guilty of conspiring to counsel and abet young men in evading the draft. Also found guilty: Yale Chaplain William Sloane Coffin Jr., 44, Harvard Graduate Student Michael Ferber, 23, and Writer Mitchell Goodman, 44. The fifth member of "the Boston Five," Marcus Raskin, 34, a former White House disarmament aide, was acquitted.

The trial, which gained notoriety from Spock's presence, had dragged on for 19 days, and would probably have lasted longer had not 85-year-old Judge Francis J. W. Ford pushed the pace by regularly growling, "That's irrelevant." The plethora of evidence gathered by the prosecution included literature and statements, as well as a film of a draft-card burning attended by some of the defendants. The de-

fense sought to counter the conspiracy charge by claiming that the five were acting as individuals (the jury agreed in Raskin's case), and that their approach was a form of free speech.

Coffin greeted the sentence with a droll "I think they have confused the lightning bugs with the lightning." Of the guilty four, draft-age Ferber stands to lose least from the verdict. While appealing the case, he is a free man; had he been let off, he would have faced immediate induction. Presumably, Ferber would have refused to serve, and thereby become liable for prosecution under the Selective Service Act.

## MARYLAND

### Death of a Company Town

Tiny Daniels, Md. (pop. 381), is one of the last examples of that almost vanished bit of Americana, the company town, which once ranged from Western mine and lumber settlements to Southern cotton camps. Somehow, Daniels, nestled in a wooded hollow along a back road eleven miles west of Baltimore, has managed to survive. Its company store, company houses, company-dominated churches and company mill—its *raison d'être*—all remained intact in the age of the megalopolis.

Intact, that is, until last month, when the C. R. Daniels textile company, which wholly owns the 128-year-old community, started demolishing it in line with a decision made last year that it was too expensive to maintain. The \$15-million-a-year mill operation will be unaffected by the policy, since most of those losing their homes are too set in their ways—or too old—to look for new jobs. A good number of the 94 displaced families, accustomed to living in their own homes at \$16-a-month rent, may be forced to move into Baltimore public-housing projects.

Although probably justifiable on economic grounds, the death of Daniels creates a sad and unusual social problem that has prompted several groups to try, unsuccessfully, to save it. Some large families and retired couples will undoubtedly wind up on food stamps and welfare. Oliver Overington, 74, retired from the mill in 1960 and lives with his wife on a company pension of \$6.25 a month and \$1,800 a year in social security. Though their Daniels house had minimal facilities (no hot running water), the Overingtons had taken pains with the painting and papering and were convinced that they would live there the rest of their lives. Last week they moved to a \$75-a-month apartment which they can ill-afford.

At the other end of town lives Richard Landacre, 62, with his wife and grandchild. He makes \$1.60 an hour at the mill, spends much of his leisure time working in his large vegetable garden. "We're both sickly," says Mrs. Landacre. "He takes nine kinds of medicine and me five." Where will they go? "I guess we'll just find a room," she says resignedly, "and sit there."

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