

EXHIBIT A-3

Actually, Ray is 40 years old.
Confused? So are the authorities.

Also, two white Mustangs showed up . . . and two rifles as well as two driver's licenses and other confusing "evidence."

The assassin has been reported in Mexico . . . Cuba . . . South America . . . and at the bottom of a lake attached to a large concrete block.

The FBI, although keeping fairly mum about its investigation, has looked into the possibility that some of the "clues" may have been planted to throw the investigation off on the wrong track.

If so, there goes the first theory that the killer acted alone in this crime.

One theory popped up concerning the Memphis police department. The department was charged in some quarters as being "nigger haters" and some even went so far as to suggest that persons within the department either committed the crime, helped set it up, or aided the actual killer in his escape.

And speaking of fingerprints, when James Earl Ray escaped from prison a year ago, an erroneous set of fingerprints was circulated to law enforcement agencies. The warden said a new set of prints was sent out later but law enforcement officials in Georgia and Alabama said they never received the second set.

So far, in the search for Ray, all trails lead to the same place - nowhere.

James Earl Ray, the man being sought around the world for the slaying of Dr. King, has been described as a drunken drifter, prone to thievery and violence, a failure at everything.

HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUT

Ray was born March 10, 1928, in Alton, Ill., a manufacturing town of 53,000 persons, along the Mississippi River, 20 miles north of St. Louis.

Records of Madison County show that James Earl Ray was one of several Rays who



A similar restriction on gun sales was enacted a month.

Final action on the bill was put off until Monday. Still pending are many of the more than 100 amendments that have been offered, both to strengthen and to weaken the bill.

Senate Passage Predicted
Congressional leaders predict that the bill will emerge from the House virtually intact, would then go to the Senate for almost certain passage.

Supporters of strong gun legislation are expected to seek to attach a registration amendment to the bill in the Senate. However, they face almost certain defeat.

Gun registration went down to defeat in the House on two decisive votes.

Representative Robert M. Kelly, Republican of Illinois, continued on Page 11, Column 2

South Vietnam troops were withdrawn from South Vietnam.

This hope was disclosed by South Vietnamese officials here in brief interviews. They added that Mr. Thieu hoped to persuade Mr. Johnson that South Vietnam should play "the major role" in any future negotiations with Hanoi on a political settlement of the war.

The chances that Saigon will obtain either commitment are slim. The United States has resisted the concept of a South Vietnamese veto on diplomatic policy as consistently as South Vietnam has tried to obtain it over the years.

[In Saigon, the military command warned of a possible terrorist campaign in the next 24 hours during the annual South Vietnamese observance of the anniversary of the signing of the 1954 Geneva accords.]

United States officials said that the two Presidents would discuss the question of a cessation of bombing and of the "essential elements of a peace settlement," but one of the officials expressed doubt that firm decisions would be taken at the meeting.

In the prolonged discussions in Paris, the North Vietnamese have insisted so far that the United States unconditionally stop all bombing in the North before the talks move on to other "relevant" questions such as a political formula for bringing peace to Vietnam.

"We would like to hear President Johnson say that he will not stop the limited bombing in North Vietnam until North Vietnam removes its troops

Continued on Page 4, Column 3

Memphis Jail Under Heavy Guard After Return to U.S.



James Earl Ray, handcuffed to belt, is led to cell in Memphis jail by Sheriff William N. Morris. Ray wears a bullet-proof vest and what was described as "safety pants."

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New York Times - Front Page, July 20, 1968

EXHIBIT B

EATHER

warm, humid.
igh in 80s,
w in 60s.
s on Page 5-AA

THE PLAIN DEALER

Section

OHIO'S LARGEST NEWSPAPER

7TH YEAR—NO. 182

* * *

CLEVELAND, SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 1968

236 PAGES

25 C

Ray Learned Life in Slums, Jail

DORIS O'DONNELL

mystery of James Ray is as cryptic as a puzzle whose pieces ttered over half of the States, Canada and of Europe.

matter that Ray — the name of Ramon Sneyd — sits today London jail charged killing Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King in Mem-fenn., last April 4.

The fact does not solve the enigma of the man who joblessly lived it up as a fugitive from the Missouri State Prison for nearly a year before the slaying of the Nobel Peace Prize winner.

THAT FACT of the accusation, with fingerprint evidence on the murder rifle produced by the U.S. government in the Bow Street magistrates' court last

Thursday, does not shed light on why Ray allegedly killed Rev. Dr. King. Whether it was a lone assassin or a domestic, political or international conspiracy.

Who is this slum boy who grew to manhood in prison cells?

Where did Ray get money for alligator shoes? For a white 1966 Mustang? For

To find what kind of man is James Earl Ray, accused of the murder of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., The Plain Dealer assigned Reporter Doris O'Donnell to take his trail. She visited Jefferson City, Mo., where he escaped prison; St. Louis, where he spent part of his life, and Toronto, where he lived before fleeing to Europe.

cross-country trips? For airplane tickets? Who kept Ray on ice, safe from the long arm of the Missouri state officials for 13 months after he escaped from the old

walled penitentiary at Jefferson City, Mo.?

There is one man who knows all the answers. That is Ray himself.

THE REST IS a patch-

work of random facts, guesses, conjectures and projections.

The Plain Dealer tried to pull the strings of the mystery bag of James Earl Ray together.

Newspaper reporters all over the country, in Canada, England and Portugal have backtracked on Ray's activities which already were closely examined by

the FBI, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Scotland Yard, not to mention supporting roles of local police the world over.

The Plain Dealer backtracked, too, and came up with more details to put flesh and blood on the formerly flat image of James Earl Ray, alias James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron, James O'Connor, Eric Starvo Galt, Paul

Bridgman, John Harvey Lowmyer course, Sneyd.

TO FILL IN the about Ray. The PD find persons who kn —in prison, in his of borhood in South S in Toronto.

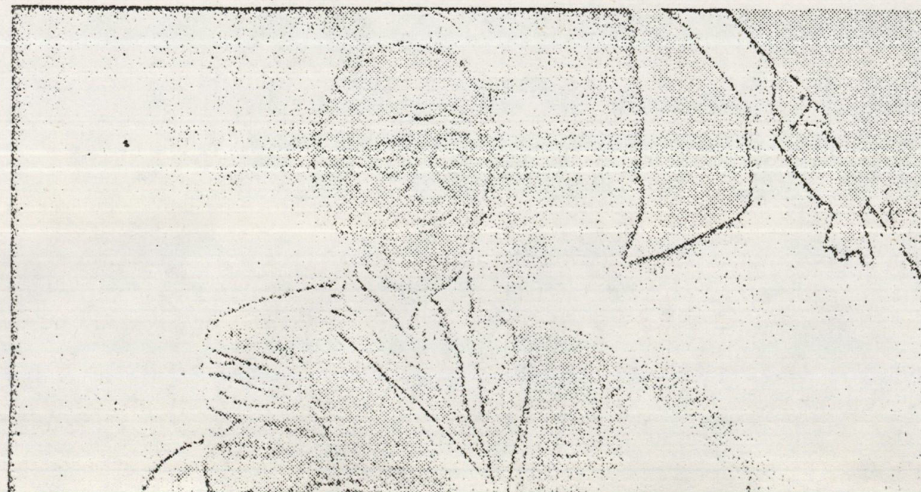
Fred T. Wilkinson tor of the Missouri ment of Correction Continued on Page

Nixon Primes lege Guns for is Campaign

By JOHN P. LEACACOS

Plain Dealer Washington Bureau Chief

NEW YORK — Richard M. Nixon will go on the of- e in July to nail down his party's presidential nom-



Asks Soviet Aid

LBJ Seeks End to Missile Race

© New York Times Service

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — President Johnson called upon the United States and the Soviet Union yesterday to bring under control the

viet Union to continue on the present course — of piling weapons system on weapons system — diverting billions upon billions of dollars — while adding nothing to the security of either

—a term he had t fore but has not el upon recently—John the United States n concentrate on preserv reation areas near Too many America

Ray Learned Life in Slums and Prisons

★ From First Page

erson City, knew Ray as one of about 1,500 men behind the walls, a few short blocks from the state capitol and the governor's mansion on the Missouri River.

"He was as near a non-entity as any person I ever met," Wilkinson said. "He was innocuous."

Wilkinson is an expert in his field. He has spent 30 years in the federal prison system, including a five-year term with the Bureau of Prisons in Washington.

"HE WAS LIKE anyone else," Wilkinson said. "His pattern of existence in the penitentiary. Owens got ships, no enemies. He was a passive personality. He gave the appearance of indolence. His attitude was 'Here I am, so what?'"

Ray, incidentally, had been arrested with an accomplice, James Owens, for the robbery of a Kroger Co. store on Ohio Avenue in South St. Louis. he was sentenced on two counts — armed robbery and auto theft — to 20 years in the penitentiary. Owens got only seven years. During the fifth day of his trial before Circuit Court Judge John C. Casey in St. Louis, Ray tried to escape. He was caught by sheriff's deputies in an elevator in the Municipal Court Building.

Attempted jail escapes, said Wilkinson, took Ray out of the innocuous class several times.

"He tried to attract atten-

But officials finally discovered that a 3x5-foot bread box, in which bread was trucked twice a week from the prison to the prison farms, was Ray's hiding place to the outside.

Wilkinson said he is convinced Ray had the aid of another inmate, who also worked in the kitchen with Ray.

RAY, WORKING in the kitchen slicing bread, wore white clothes, not the green dungarees with black stripes worn by regular prisoners.

No one knows, Wilkinson said, how Ray left Jefferson City. No leads have developed on whether he left by foot, car or airplane.

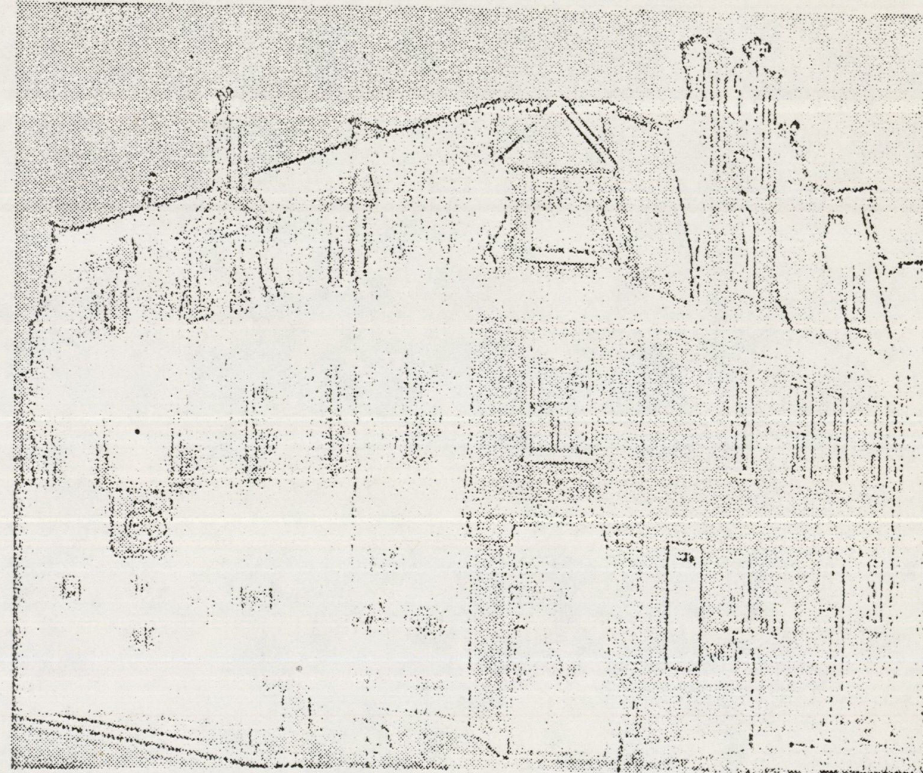
A brother, John Larry Ray, had visited Ray for 4½ hours the day before Ray disappeared. He made his escape about 8:30 a.m. and a check was not made until 1 p.m.

John Ray told a St. Louis Post-Dispatch reporter that: "He and I both are strong supporters of George Wallace," former Alabama governor and a states rights candidate for president.

Wilkinson saw nothing significant in the Ray brothers talking politics or talking George C. Wallace.

"FOUR AND a half hours is a long time," Wilkinson said. "Even the closest of relatives run out of things to talk about."

Wilkinson said sometimes a probing bar is used in the bread boxes when the truck is in the sally port, a tunnel through which the truck



RAY'S PLACE—The Grapevine Tavern in south St. Louis which is operated by John Larry Ray. AP Wirephoto

Pen claim Ray could have left with a bankroll as high as \$2,000.

One prisoner told me: "I saw a man with \$7,500 on him the other night."

But Wilkinson's records show the most Ray ever "had on the books" was two entries of \$5 each which he sent to a brother in 1963.

"THAT'S THE biggest money he ever dealt with," Wilkinson said.

Ray ordered items from Sears, Roebuck — tennis

Ryan, and his grandmother as Mrs. Mary Mahler, 1913 Hickory Street, St. Louis.

Both women are dead, but they are not forgotten on the hot, dusty street in South St. Louis.

NO. 1913 Hickory Street is a doorless rundown two-story brick house with the French architectural influence of 75-100 years old. This section off Missouri Avenue was once the proud tre-lined properties of well-to-do merchants.

he's gained lots of weight."

(One of the London boarding house landlords claimed a hypodermic needle was left in Ray's room.)

But the neighbors on Hickory Street had to admit they saw little of James Earl Ray during the past 12 years.

Ray enlisted in the Army in 1946 and was out in 1948. He served three months at hard labor for being drunk and resisting arrest.

IN 1949, HE was given a 90-day sentence in Los An-

Ray a "loser, a punk," but his prison colleagues describe him as a "real pro."

"HE HAD money on him in prison," an ex-convict said. "Guys like that are always targets. But no one ever stole or tried to steal from Ray. There was something about him. Like he'd kill, if you'd try anything."

Ray's brother, John Larry Ray, operates a bar at the corner of Arsenal and Illinois avenues, in South St. Louis. The liquor license is in the name of Mrs. Carol Pepper, Ray's sister, who reportedly "is married very well."

The bar, the Grapevine, catering to neighborhood walk-in trade, is a down-at-the-heel place. A padlock was on the front door the day I waited about 10 hours to see John Ray. He never even opened the bar that day.

John L. Ray is described as a "weirdo" by persons who know him and the Grapevine saloon.

"THERE'S SOMETHING in his head that doesn't connect too well," a friend of his said. "He blows up fast. You have to be careful what you say to him. He'd shoot you as soon as talk to you."

John Ray recently was acquitted on a shooting scrape.

Neither John nor Jerry Ray — like James Earl — is married. But all have reputations for liking women. In fact, the FBI all-points alert for Ray included the information that he would likely be seen in the

THE GRAPEVINE receipts might be rolled James Ray brother and sister decided to be gone one knows if they

Up the river Louis is the town across the N River, another of the United States

July 13, 1967, the Alton was held up men wearing masks. The total \$27,000.

"RAY HAD nothing with it," said Ed the Alton Evening graph, who worked Ray angle.

Bank employee shown Ray's picture FBI. It was impossible identify him or any of the employees said of the facial caused by the nylon.

No one knows Ray held up the jobs before.

"If Ray and another got \$27,000, Ray got said Ray's friend. "That's the guy he was. Or he money by holding who couldn't or work part it to the gambling games. Things like that."

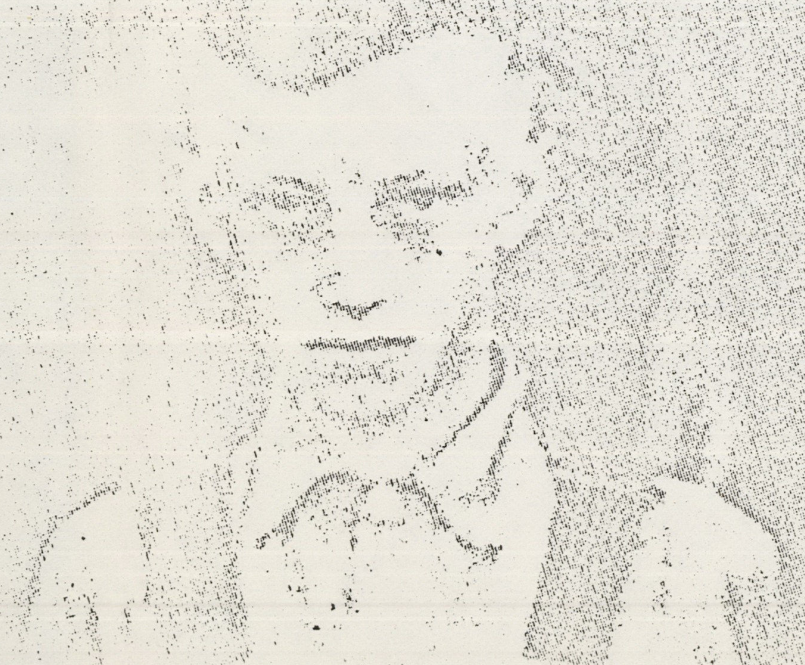
Prisoners tend to lawn at the governor did not believe Ray King. Even person authority doubted Ray King. The fee that Ray was seen

LIFE

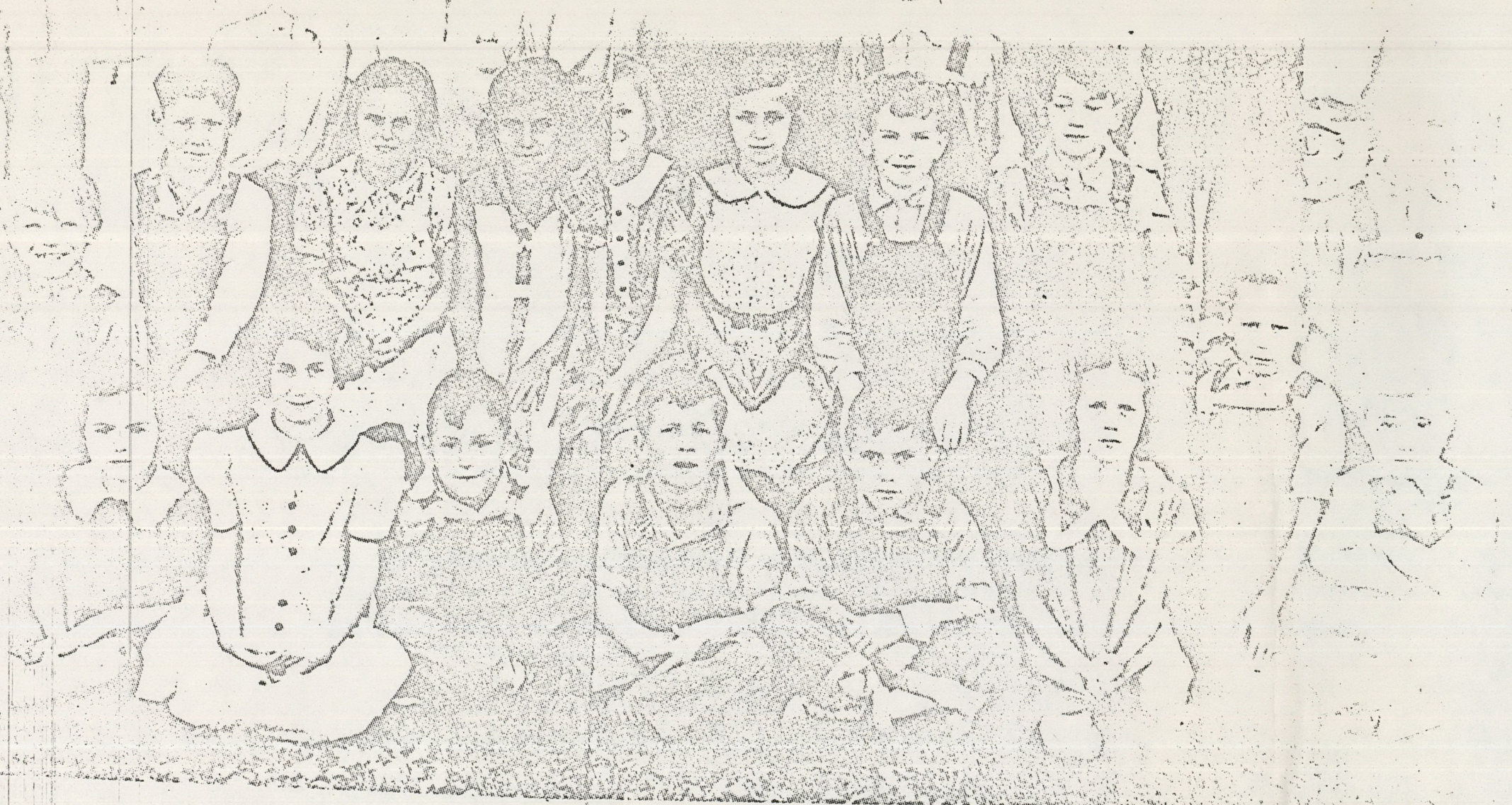
THE ACCUSED KILLER

RAY alias GALT

The
Revealing Story
of a Mean Kid



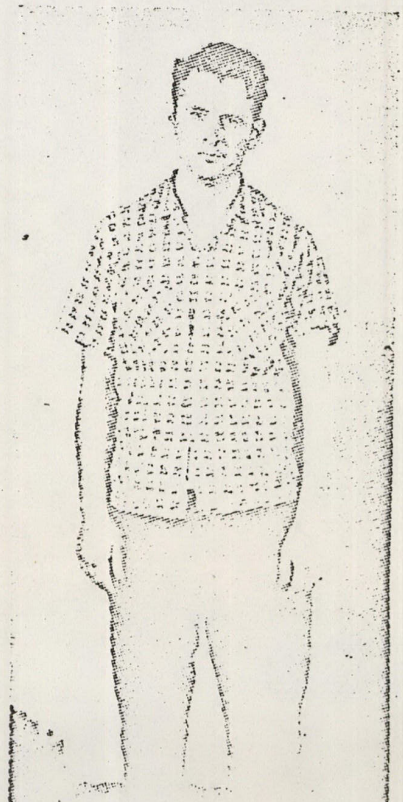
LIFE MAGAZINE, MAR 3, 1968



Character Shaped by a Mean Life



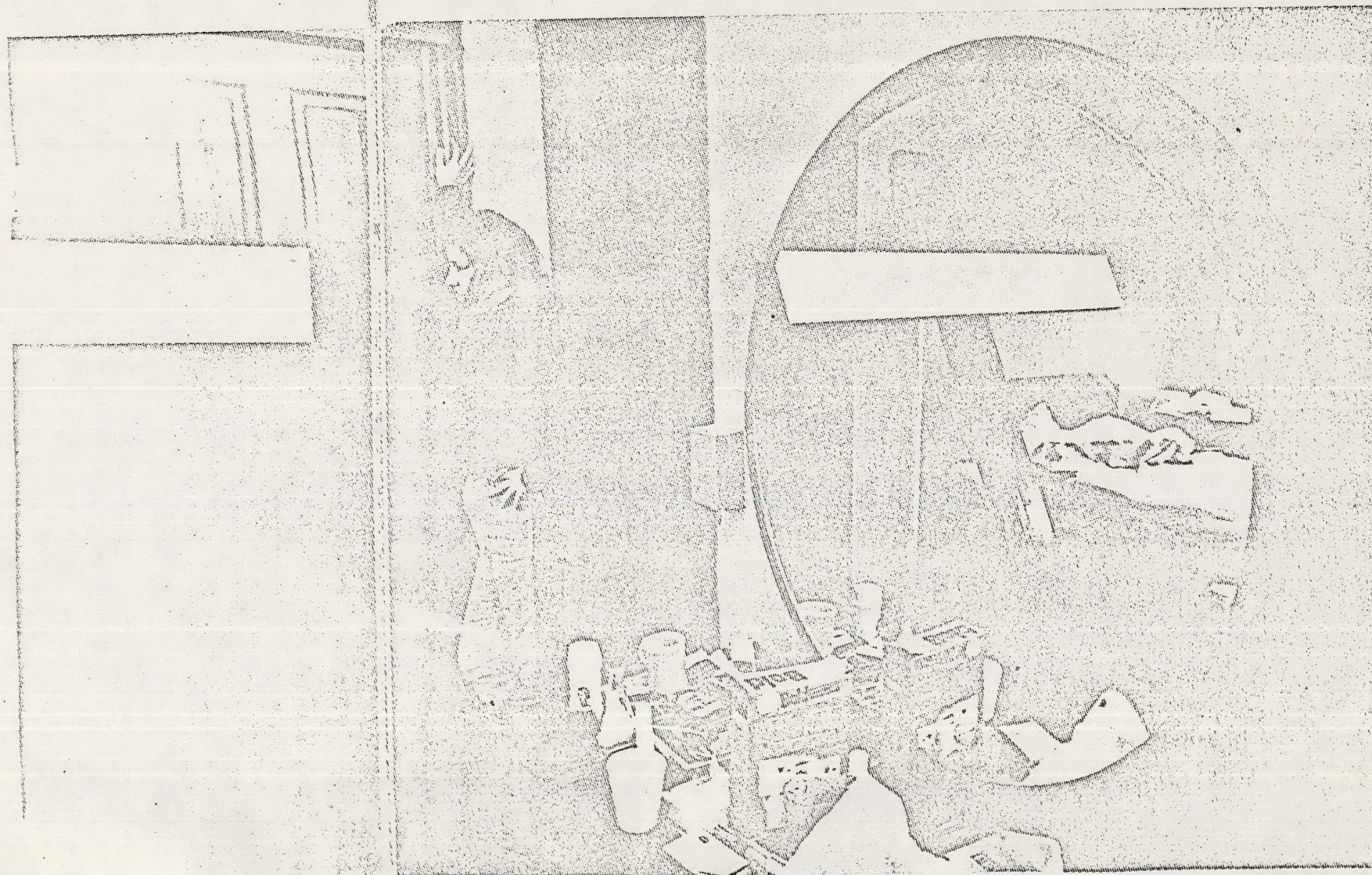
When the Ewing, Mo. grade school gathered for the picture at left in 1938, third-grader James Earl Ray (in third row at left of girl in polka dot dress) peered half-hidden over a classmate's head. Among the two dozen former schoolmates and teachers who identified Jimmy Ray was Carlisle Washburn (front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



1 Mean Life

Growing up

in a series of ramshackle river towns



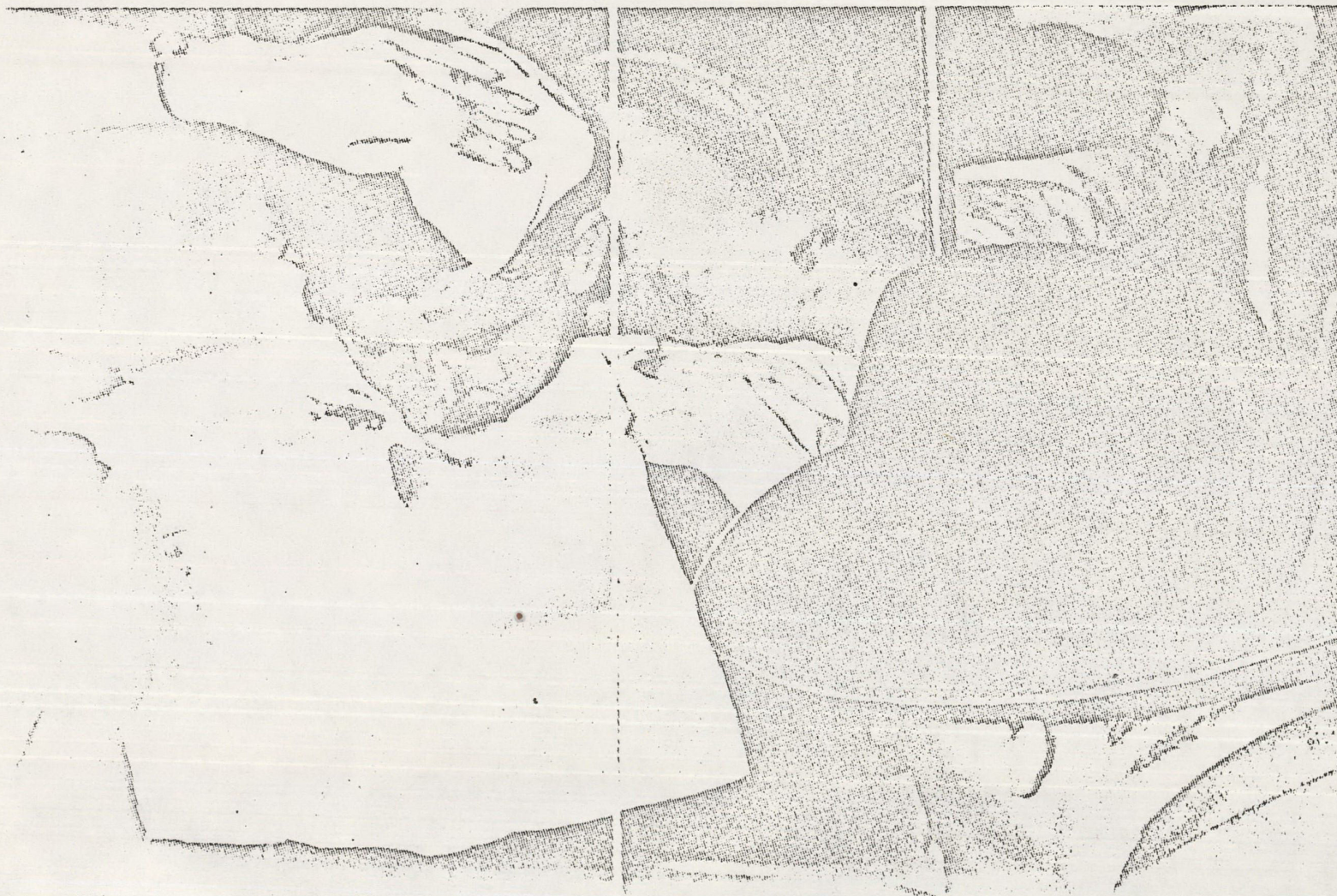
CONTINUED

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

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

The school record was considerably more brusque. James Earl Ray was only in the second grade by the time he was being judged

the head-on encounter with cops after another



CONTINUED

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

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

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

parents. The family never's example.

Susan Jane, 40, now been pinned to the scattered Ray clan of common notoriety. Locked screen doors, their laments of pride against Jimmy Ray. But clear which the family hate most: that Ray may responsible for such a or that their neighbors lean the truth of their in Ewing and Quincy. O haps, after years of abs estrangement, this event the Rays together again.

Then there is Gerald who says simply, "Jim brother." Over the year been in trouble as old my. But Jerry, who lives ing, Ill., today has grown to their separati the family is probably of brother. "After we he says, "about the could see him was visiting me in jail or visit him. One of the was in jail most of the wrote me a lot."

Jerry is, with his bra low professional ("

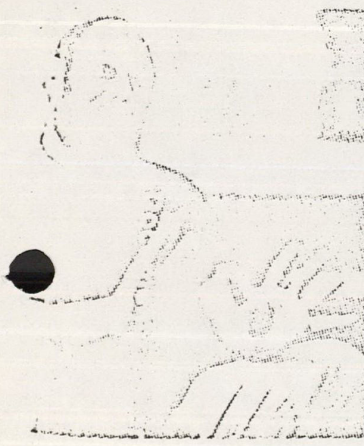
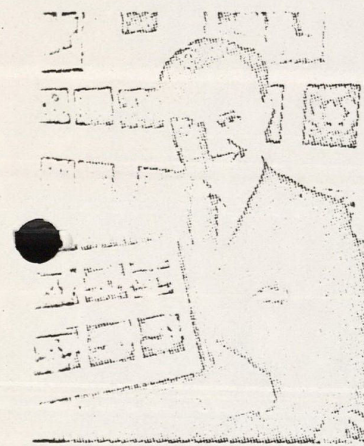
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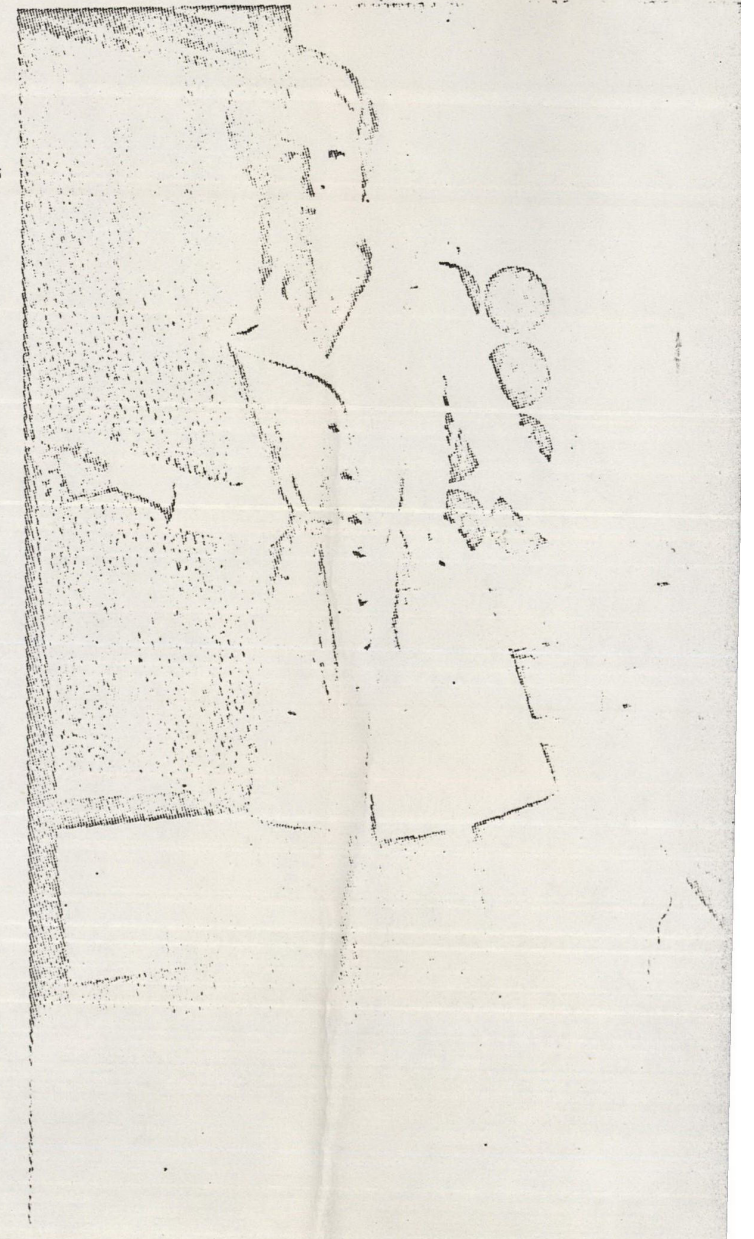
But at Ray... got caught
and returned only to lose another
day, he did so with persistence.

... finally, with his... and
bleeding, he ran some...
to a relative's house.

A spell of high living with a roll of 20s



and an assumed name



... in Los Angeles who got to
... James Ray as Eric Galt last
... him as a loner,
... cash. Songwriter
... (bottom left) de-

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

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

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

CONTINUED

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

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

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

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

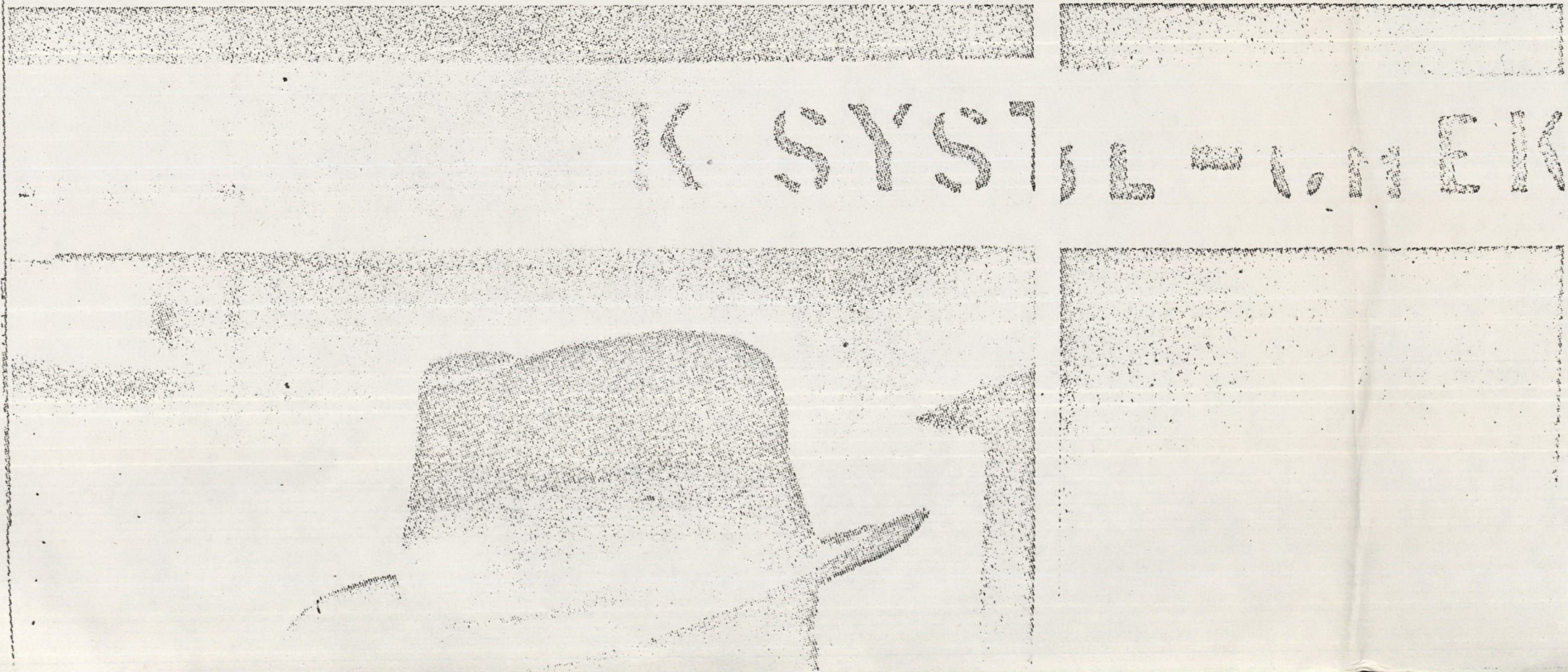
In the curiously lit world that includes a sleek, bleached strip of North Hollywood, Eric Starvo Galt might have seemed 34 or even 28 years old, depending on the shade, the time of day or how close he was sitting to the bar lamp at the Rabbit's Foot Club. Galt, who was 40, looked like a man learning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

From a grocery store bandit caught by a hidden

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

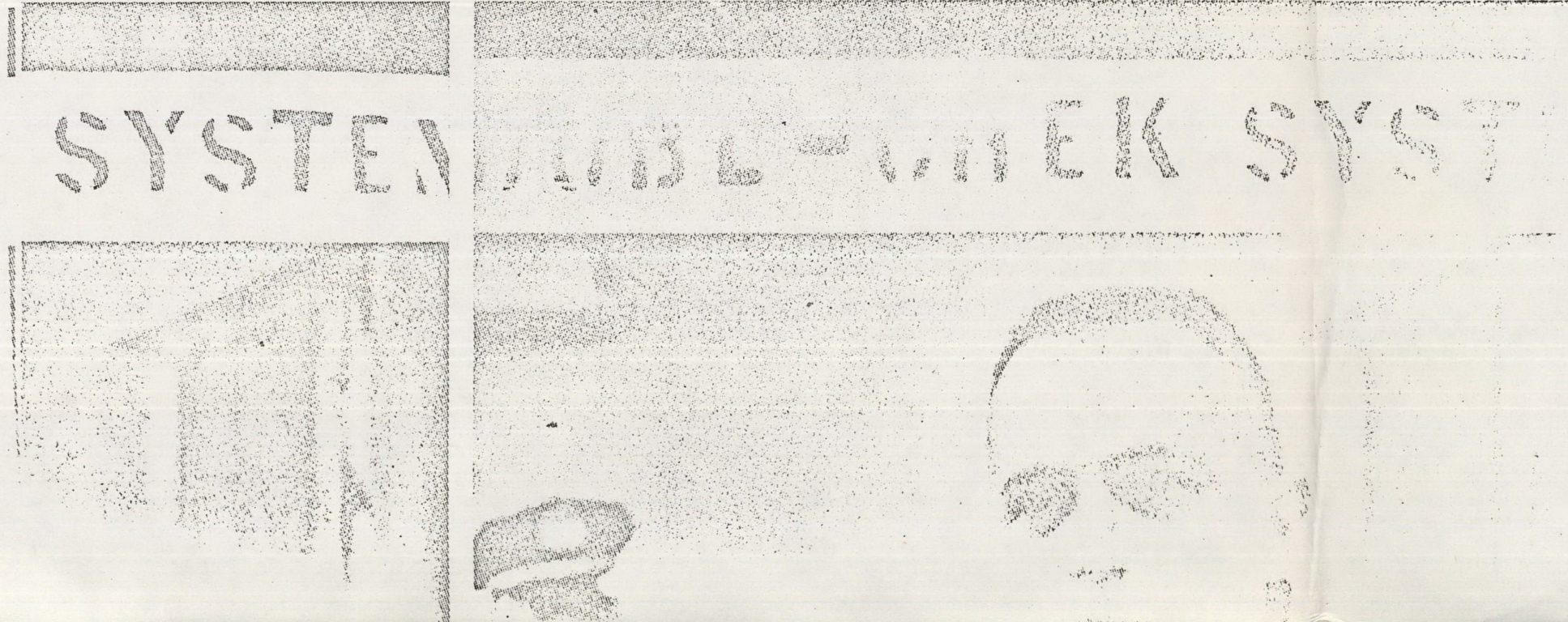
seemed to walk on a slant, was once penny ante. But, says the FBI, on April 4 in Memphis, at the moment Martin Luther King died, all the bills for the Mustang, the shoes, the dancing lessons and a \$150 30.06 Remington --and maybe the bitter childhood --came due.

camera to the most hunted man in the country

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

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

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



How To Solve Guns And Law

Morrie Ryskind, Pulitzer Prize winning playwright, will substitute for William F. Buckley Jr. during the latter's vacation.

BY MORRIE RYSKIND

REASON WOULD suggest that the bullet which felled Senator Kennedy emerged from a gun which might have been unobtainable if a proper gun control law had been in effect. John Kennedy's slayer ordered his gun through the mail; the ex-convict who ~~killed Martin Luther King bought his~~ over the counter; the snipers who shot at policemen and firemen in the recent riots presumably got their weapons just as easily.

Noting which, I recently suggested it was high time for a federal law, one with harsh teeth in it, to prevent the indiscriminate sale of firearms.

Conceding my lack of expertise on this controversial subject, I saw no reason why a purchaser with a legitimate use for a gun should object to strict regulation, down to getting a police okay and being fingerprinted.

"Surely the rights guaranteed by the Second Amendment were not intended to provide criminals with an arsenal," I wrote, and added I realized no law could ever stop a determined killer from obtaining a gun, but that such a statute might cut our appalling crime rate.

The first response to that piece came from a reader in Amarillo who agreed courteously but vigorously about my lack of expertise on the matter, and predicted I'd get enough protests against my stand to last me a lifetime.

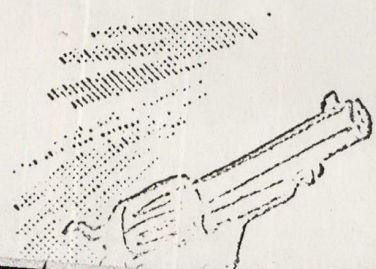
Almost Unanimous

HOW RIGHT he was! To date, of 168 letters on that column, only two back me; the rest vary all the way from calling me misguided to hinting I'm guilty of subversion.

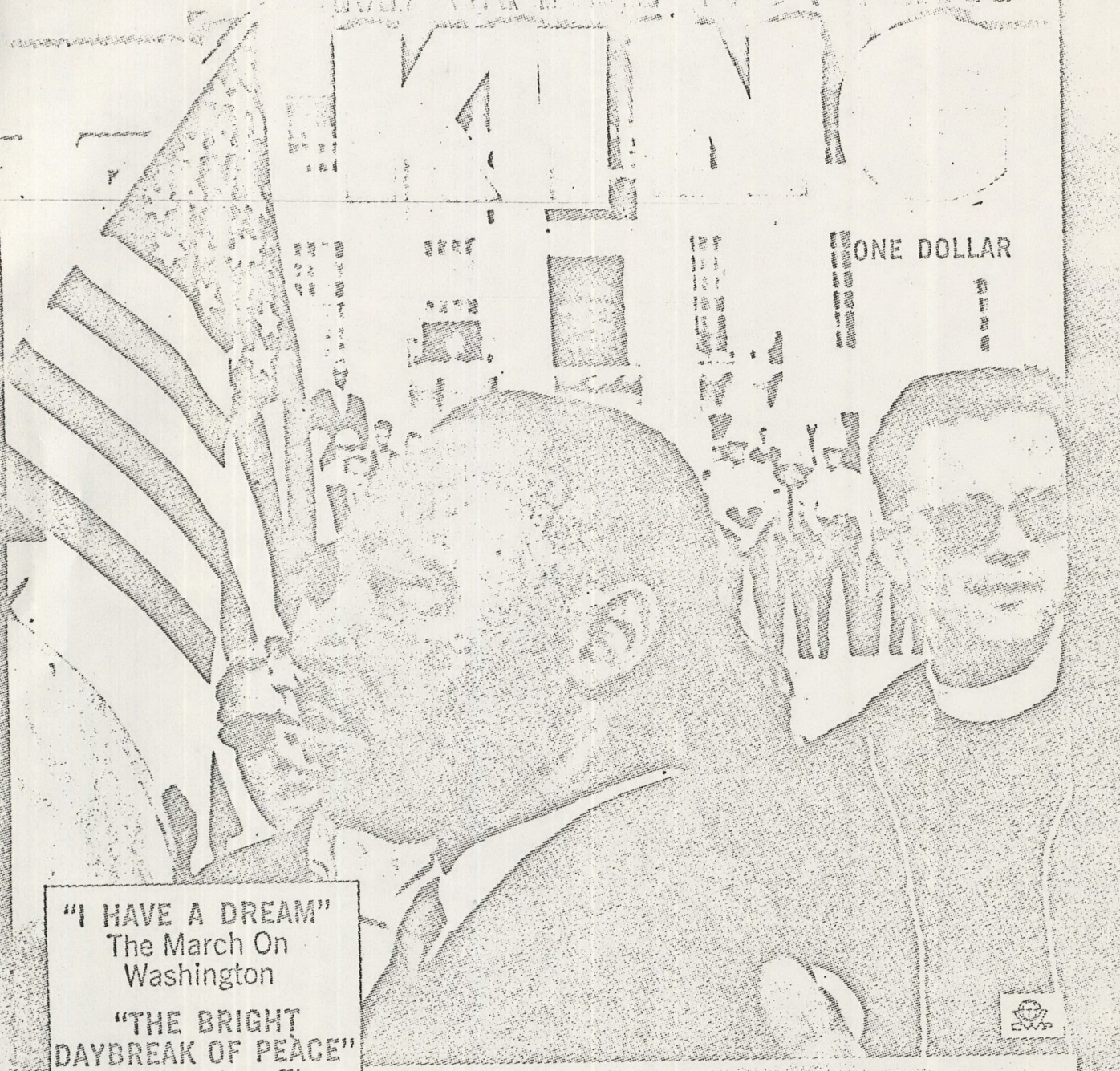
Some point out that our own Communists have long advocated just such a law; others that Hitler enacted a similar measure. The intent in both instances being to disarm the decent citizens and leave them defenseless against the weaponry of uniformed gunmen serving the police state.

I realize how touchy the subject is when such an implication can be read into my piece. I never even remotely suggested that the honest citizen be deprived of arms with which to defend himself against danger. I asked only, especially in view of recent happenings, that there be a strict supervision over the sale of firearms, lest they fall into bad hands — as obviously was the case in the slaying of Robert Kennedy.

As a matter of fact, I have strong personal motives for wishing those with bona-fide reasons to possess arms the right to do so. For my son, who lives in Washington, has for over a year had a



MEMORIAL MARTIN LUTHER KING



"I HAVE A DREAM"
The March On
Washington

**"THE BRIGHT
DAYBREAK OF PEACE"**
King Receives The
Nobel Peace Prize

**"WE MUST USE THE
WEAPON OF LOVE"**
He Inspired His
Followers With Faith

**"I HAVE SEEN THE
PROMISED LAND"**
King's Vision Of
The Future

THE ASSOCIATION OF PHOTOGRAPHERS
- Memphis - King's Last Hours
- A Family Mourning - Mrs. Martin Luther King
and Her Children
- A Shocked and Grieving Nation
Pays Its Last Respects
- Jacqueline Kennedy
- Weeps for Mrs. King and her Children

"They get me excited, they get the bus
and they get the traffic stopped. They get
to make me free." - Martin Luther King

CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

September 4, 1968
ATTENTION: Mr. Pollak

JAMES EARL RAY, AKA; DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY

over

8/28/68

JOE C. HESTER
MEMPHIS

8/22/68

XXX (D) REL/hdc

September 4, 1968

CRIMINAL DIVISION

ATTENTION: Mr. Vinson

JAMES EARL RAY; DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY

our

8/28/68

JOE C. HESTER
MEMPHIS

8/22/68

XXX (D) REL/hdc

SYNOPSIS: Following subject's arrest on 6/8/68 by officers of New Scotland Yard, London, England, extradition proceedings were begun by the United States Department of State, and on 7/18/68 subject was released to FBI Agents for return to the United States via military aircraft. Subject landed, United States Naval Air Station, Millington, Tennessee, on 7/19/68, and was released to custody of Sheriff, Shelby County, Tennessee. Subject now lodged Shelby County Jail, Memphis, Tennessee, awaiting trial for murder. Investigation in Mexico set forth.

MURKIN
DISSEMINATION
Folder

September 4, 1968

CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

JAMES EARL RAY;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY

our

9-4-68

XXXXX a memorandum
Memphis

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
8-29-68

XXX (B) REL:jms

8/29/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

MURKIN

Re Memphis airtel to Bureau 8/19/68 and Bureau airtel to Memphis 8/27/68.

Enclosed for the Bureau are 4 copies of a LHM pertaining to information furnished by ME 313-R on 8/19/68 to SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK.

Information contained in the enclosed LHM has been orally furnished to Mr. PHIL CANALE, State Attorney General, Shelby County, Tennessee.

Close contact is being maintained with ME 313-R.

3 - Bureau (Encs. 4)
3 - Memphis
 (2 - 44-1987, MURKIN)
 (1 - 170-154 Sub, ME 313-R)
JCH:gmh
(6)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Memphis, Tennessee
August 29, 1968

Re: **JAMES EARL RAY;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY**

During August, 1968, a confidential source advised that during that same month Robert M. Shelton, described by the source as being the Imperial Wizard of the United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (UKA), of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, had stated that he had been approached by Arthur Hanes, the attorney for James Earl Ray, who told Shelton that Ray had no money. Shelton wondered if Klan members in Tennessee would be agreeable to donating money for Ray's defense, and Shelton stated that he intended to look over a jury list that was to be furnished him by Mr. Hanes.

(A characterization of the United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (UKA), is set forth in the Appendix section.)

UNITED KLANS OF AMERICA, INC.,
KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN (UKA)

Records of Superior Court of Fulton County, Georgia, reflect that this Klan organization was granted a corporate charter on February 21, 1961, at Atlanta, Georgia, under the name United Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of America, Inc.

A source advised on February 27, 1961, that United Klans was formed as a result of a split in U. S. Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc. According to the source, the split resulted from a leadership dispute and United Klans has the same aims and objectives as the parent group. These are the promotion of Americanism, white supremacy, and segregation of the races.

The first source and a second source advised in July, 1961, that United Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of America, Inc., merged with Alabama Knights, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. The merged organization established headquarters in Suite 401, Alston Building, Tuscaloosa, Alabama. (The organization is directed by ROBERT SHELTON, Imperial Wizard, and is the dominant Klan group in the South, with units in several southern states.)

Second source advised that at a meeting in Prattville, Alabama, on October 22, 1961, the U. S. Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, merged with the United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

Third source advised on May 7, 1968, that the UKA is currently an active organization with klaverns in several states. This source said that ROBERT M. SHELTON is the Imperial Wizard of this organization and was elected to this position on September 3, 1967, at a National Klonvocation in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Source stated that during April, 1966, the national office was moved from Suite 401, Alston Building, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, to the carport of SHELTON's residence, #18 Lake Sherwood, Star Route, Northport, Alabama, which space he had converted into a room.

**JAMES EARL RAY;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM**

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Memphis, Tennessee
August 29, 1968

Title	JAMES EARL RAY; MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
Character	CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY
Reference	Memorandum prepared at Memphis, Tennessee, dated and captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

MURKIN
Dissemination
Folder

September 3, 1968
ATTENTION MR. OWEN

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Los Angeles Times

Los Angeles, Calif. 8/16/68

XX

Ray Contracts With Writer to Tell His Story

**Alabama Author Indicates
Accused Slayer of King
Paid Lawyer From Funds**

BY NICHOLAS C. CHRISS
Times Staff Writer

MEMPHIS—An Alabama author has signed contracts with James Earl Ray, accused of slaying Dr. Martin Luther King, giving him publication and motion picture rights to Ray's experiences.

The author, William Bradford Huie, told The Times Thursday that he had paid Ray money for information Ray had given him under the contracts, and indicated that Ray had used the funds to pay the Alabama lawyer who is defending him.

However, Huie and the lawyer, Arthur J. Hanes of Birmingham, disagreed over what role, if any, Hanes played in negotiations toward the contracts.

Huie, in a telephone interview from his home in Hartselle, Ala., said that Ray had given the writer a 10,000-word personal account of his recent experiences and that this information will be the basis for several articles Huie plans to write soon.

Guidelines Pose Question

The question arose as to whether the transfer of this information conformed with strict guidelines ordered by the judge who will hear Ray's case. Huie was in Memphis Wednesday and talked with the judge, W. Preston Battle, about that point.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Judge Battle has ordered all parties to the case not to release to the public extrajudicial information about the case. There have been reports here that these guidelines may be amended to prohibit further transfer of information among Ray, Hanes and Huie.

But Huie said he was prepared to defend in court, if necessary, Ray's right to talk to whom he pleases and to tell his story.

And Hanes commented heatedly, "I'm not going to abide by anybody's order if my client is treated unfairly."

Judge Battle declined to discuss the issue.

However, Huie indicated that his initial writings about Ray will not deal with the period between March 25 of this year and after April 4, when Dr. King was assassinated in Memphis. Huie's contracts with Ray

Handwritten signature

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. DeLoach _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Bishop _____
- Mr. Casper _____
- Mr. Callahan _____
- Mr. Conrad _____
- Mr. Felt _____
- Mr. Gale _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Sullivan _____
- Mr. Tavel _____
- Mr. Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Miss Holmes _____
- Miss Gandy _____

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

I-1 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 8/16/68
Edition: Home
Author: Nicholas C. Chriss
Editor: Nick B. Williams
Title: MURKIN

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

give him rights to Ray's experiences since he escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary in April, 1967.

It was Hanes' part in the Huie-Ray negotiations and his legal fees that raised the most puzzling questions. Huie said he had not met Ray personally, although he had asked Judge Battle for permission to see Ray in his Memphis jail cell.

Huie confirmed that Hanes had been a party to the negotiations, and that Hanes contacted him when the author was visiting London shortly after Ray's arrest there June 8.

Ray's Suggestion

Huie said Hanes had told him that it was Ray who suggested that Huie be contacted. Ray apparently had read some of Huie's books, some of which dealt with racial problems in the South.

Hanes, however, in a telephone interview from Birmingham, said he played no role in the negotiations and had nothing to do with the 10,000-word account Ray had written for Huie.

That account, Huie said, is a "day-by-day" record of Ray's story, "his escape, the people he contacted, where he went, whom he saw, his way of life."

Huie did not specify in what manner he will use the material, but presumably he will assemble it into a book to be written after Ray's trial, which is scheduled to begin Nov. 12 in Memphis.

Lonely Life

Huie said Ray's account characterizes the accused assassin as a man who led a lonely life of crime, a literate writer and a reader of books "who was used by forces he didn't understand."

He said Ray does not fit into the image of a racist who would kill a Negro in an attempt to slow down the tide of racial change.

He said he does not believe Ray is a racist and that "there is a great deal of difference between him" and white racists who had killed Negroes in civil rights slayings in the South.

*put with dissemination T's
in Markin case*

August 28, 1968

Criminal Division

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

EJM:ald

NOTE: Enclosed are twenty additional reports in this matter. Copies of these reports have also been furnished to the Attorney General and the Civil Rights Division in accordance with the request of Mr. Pollak.

August 28, 1968

Civil Rights Division

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

EJM:ald

NOTE: Enclosed are twenty additional reports in this matter. Copies of these reports have also been furnished to the Attorney General and the Criminal Division in accordance with the request of Mr. Pollak.

Civil Rights Division

August 14, 1968

ATTENTION: Mr. Pollak

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

/////

a memorandum
Birmingham

////////////////////////////////////

8/12/68

XXX B REL/cs

NOTE: In a conversation between Mr. Stephen J. Pollak and Special Agent Richard E. Long on August 9, 1968, Mr. Pollak was informed that in view of the fact it has not as yet been determined if Federal process will be dismissed, we are alerting

NOTE CONTINUED - OVER....

NOTE CONTINUED:

the Birmingham authorities of the threats made to Donald Wood and in view of the fact of the Tennessee authorities prosecuting Ray on State charges, we are also notifying Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Tennessee, of these telephone calls. Mr. Pollak advised he did not desire any further action, however, he would desire that our Birmingham Office apprise the United States Attorney in Birmingham of the calls and the fact that the FBI is conducting no investigation. Mr. Pollak also stated that if Mr. Wood further informs the FBI of any threatening calls received by Donald Wood, they should be channelized in this same manner.

8/12/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

**MURKIN
CR
OO: BH**

Enclosed are five copies of letterhead memorandum suitable for dissemination, setting forth information received from Mr. BOB WOOD, owner of Aeromarine Supply Company, Birmingham, Alabama.

Information contained in this letterhead memorandum has been furnished to Chief of Police, Birmingham, and Sheriff, Jefferson County, Alabama.

③ - Bureau (Enc. 5)
2 - Birmingham
NPS:epg
(5)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Birmingham, Alabama

August 12, 1968

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

**RE: JAMES EARL RAY;
REVEREND MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
Civil Rights**

On August 9, 1968, Mr. Bob Wood, Owner of Aeromarine Supply Company, advised the Birmingham Office of the FBI that he and his son have been receiving threatening telephone calls for the past few weeks, especially since an article appeared in the "Birmingham News" under Tom Lankford's byline wherein he indicated that Don Wood was to be the government's principal witness in the trial of James Earl Ray.

Wood stated that since the publication of this article, his son has received several telephone calls of an anonymous nature wherein the caller states, "You will not live to testify in this trial" and "You will not live to go to court."

Wood stated also that earlier this date one of his employees received an anonymous telephone call from an individual whom, she believed to be a Negro, who advised that he was a member of the "Black Pamphlets" (presumably Panthers) which was "black power". The caller stated, "You'd better stock up with sawed-off shotguns because we are going to burn you out."

Wood indicated that he did not fear for the personal safety of either his son or himself, but he did want to make these threatening calls a matter of record. He advised that he had already reported these calls to the local authorities.

**RE: JAMES EARL RAY;
REVEREND MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
Civil Rights**

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nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property
of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and
its contents are not to be distributed outside
your agency.**

2*

CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

AUGUST 1, 1968
ATTENTION MR. POLLAK
Copy sent to Mr. Vinson

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

our

7/10/68

XXXXX a memorandum
NEW ORLEANS

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
7/25/68

XXX (F) EJM/hdc

CRIMINAL DIVISION

AUGUST 1, 1968
ATTENTION MR. VINSON
Copy sent to Mr. Pollak

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

our

7/10/68

XXXXX a memorandum
NEW ORLEANS

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
7/25/68

XXX (F) REL/hdc

F B I

Date: 7/25/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
 FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673) (P)
 SUBJECT: MURKIN
 (OO: Memphis)

Re Memphis airtel to Bureau, 7/13/68, and
 Atlanta teletype, 7/3/68.

Enclosed to the Bureau are four copies of a LHM,
 and to Memphis two copies of the LHM, an interview with
 Mrs. NELL BURNETT, Monroe, La.

Mrs. NELL BURNETT, formerly Mrs. CHARLES C.
 WILLEY and wife of the late CHARLES C. WILLEY of
 Altheimer, Ark., was interviewed at her temporary
 residence, Apartment 3, Layton Castle, 1133 South
 Grand St., Monroe, La., on 7/22/68, and she stated
 that she did not know RAYMOND CURTIS, now an inmate of
 Whitfield County Jail, Dalton, Ga., and that to the
 best of her knowledge, her late husband did not know
 such a person. She stated that she was nearly always
 with her late husband when he was on their boat, and
 she felt sure that he did not know such a person as
 RAYMOND CURTIS. Mrs. BURNETT stated that her late
 husband, CHARLES C. WILLEY, died three years ago,
 and in January, 1966, she sold the boat to Cartwright
 Nurseries, Collierville, Tenn. Mrs. BURNETT had never
 heard of JAMES EARL RAY prior to the recent publicity
 connecting him with the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER
 KING, JR.

③-Bureau (Enc. 4)
 1-Atlanta (44-2386) (Info.)
 1-Jackson (157-9586) (Info.)
 2-Little Rock (157-1215)
 2-Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 2)
 2-New Orleans
 EC-kbz
 (11)

CARBON COPY

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



*In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New Orleans, Louisiana

July 25, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY;
DOCTOR MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -- VICTIM

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/25/681

Mrs. NELL BURNETT, Apartment 3, Layton Castle, 1133 South Grand Street, Monroe, Louisiana, furnished the following information:

Mrs. BURNETT was formerly the wife of the late CHARLES C. WILLEY, who died three years ago. She and her late husband owned plantations and farm properties near Altheimer, and Wabbaseka, Arkansas, and he was formerly President of the First National Bank of Altheimer, Arkansas. In 1958 they bought a boat, a fifty-eight foot steel hull boat, which they named "The Nell Willey," and they spent a great deal of time on the boat from 1958, to 1965. During that period of time, the boat was often docked for long periods of time at Greenville, Mississippi; Monroe, Louisiana; and New Orleans, Louisiana. In January, 1966, Mrs. NELL BURNETT, then Mrs. CHARLES C. WILLEY, sold the boat to Cartwright Nurseries, Collierville, Tennessee, and delivered it to Memphis, Tennessee.

Mrs. BURNETT stated that she had never heard of RAYMOND CURTIS (now an inmate of Whitfield County Jail, Dalton, Georgia), and she was reasonably sure that her late husband, CHARLES C. WILLEY, did not know him. She stated that he was not a crewman or passenger on "The Nell Willey" during the period 1958, to 1966, when she and her late husband owned it, and she was sure that no arrangements were made to use the boat during that period to transport any criminal along the Mississippi River. Mrs. BURNETT stated that she had never heard of JAMES EARL RAY until his name appeared in the news in connection with the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

On 7/22/68 at Monroe, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SA EARL COX-kbz -2- Date dictated 7/22/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

JAMES EARL RAY;
DOCTOR MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM

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nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI
and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to
be distributed outside your agency.

Civil Rights Division
Criminal Division

7/26/68

ATTENTION: Mr. Pollak
Mr. Vinson

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

XXX F REL/cs

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO...

NOTE:

Attached are one copy each of the following:

1. Letter from subject as R. G. Sneyd, addressed to Mr. Ramsey Clark, Attorney General of the United States;
2. Letter from subject as Ramon G. Sneyd dated 7/4/68, addressed to a Mr. J. B. Stoner, Attorney-at-Law, Savannah, Georgia;
3. Letter addressed to Mr. Arthur J. Hanes, Birmingham, Alabama, from subject as R. G. Sneyd. Letter dated 6/29/68;
4. Letter from subject to Mr. Edward Heath, member of Parliament, letter undated and from subject as Ramon George Sneyd;
5. Letter from subject as Lord R. G. Sneyd addressed to John Ray, Maplewood, Missouri. Letter undated;
6. Letter dated 6/15/68, from John Ray of Maplewood, Missouri to the subject;
7. A report dated 7/5/68, from a prison official which concerns the activities of the subject;
8. A prison official's report dated 6/17/68.

A copy of these documents furnished are being done so with specific request that they be considered confidential and the possession of them not be made known to any outside source. These documents or the contents thereof should not be discussed outside your agency.

A copy of each of the enclosed is also being furnished to Mr. (Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Criminal Division) Stephen J. Pollak, Civil Rights Division.

24/6-0-2

In replying to this letter, please write on the envelope.

Number 03918H Name SINTE

H. M. PRISON,
HEATHFIELD ROAD,
WANDSWORTH,
LONDON, S.W.18.

DEAR SIR;

I AM AT PRESENT BEING KEPT
IN WANDSWORTH PRISON AWAITING THE
COMPLETION OF AN EXTRADITION
HEARING AND PROBABLY DEPARTATION TO
THE U.S.A. ON THUR. 21-1968
MR. ARTHUR J. HANES MY ATTORNEE
FROM THE UNITED STATES CAME
TO LONDON FROM THE U.S. TO
SEE ME, ONE OF THE PERSONS
HE CAME HERE WAS TO CONSULT
WITH ME ABOUT A MURDER
CHARGE AGAINST ME IN THE U.S.
UPON MR. HANES ARRIVAL IN LONDON
HE CONTACTED MY ENGLISH LAWYER
MR. ROGER FRISBY AND ASKED MR.
FRISBY TO ARRANGE FOR HIM TO
VISIT ME AT THE PRISON, MR.
FRISBY THEREUPON REQUESTED
PERMISSION FROM THE HOME OFFICE
OVER

No. 243 (29150-3-10-62)

A.

FOR MR. HANES TO CONSULT
WITH ME. THE HOME OFFICE
REFUSED ON THE GROUNDS
OF SECURITY THIS SEEMS A
VERY LAINE EXCUSE AS THEY
HAVE A SPECIAL PLACE HERE
FOR JUST SUCH PURPOSES IT
CONSISTS OF A PARTITION OF A
SMALL WINDOW AND YOU TALK
THROUGH HEAVY SCREENS.
I THINK FORMER HOME SECRETARY
MR. SANDS WOULD CONFIRM THIS.
FURTHER ~~THE~~ POLICE AND OTHER
PEOPLE CAN VISIT ME.
THERE HAS BEEN MUCH EVIDENCE
GIVEN AT MY HEARING IN
MAGISTRATE COURT AND ITS POSSIBLE
MY CASE HAS BEEN PREJUDICED BY
NOT SEEING HIM SINCE THE
HEARING AND MY TRIAL IN THE
U.S. ARE INTERRELATED.
SINCE THESE CHARGES ARE
INTERRELATED I THINK IT IS
HIGHLY UNUSUAL FOR THE BRITISH
GOVERNMENT TO DENY ME THE
RIGHT TO SEE MY U.S.
ATTORNEY, EVEN IN THE
SO CALLED EARN CURTAIN
COUNTRIES YOU CAN HAVE

VISITORS FROM ONE'S OWN
COUNTRY, I HAVE WRITTEN
TO THE HOME OFFICE AND
PLANT FILED BY AN OFFICER,
THEREFORE AND WRITING YOU
WITH THE THOUGHT YOU MIGHT
MAKE INQUIRES, AND IF THE
GOVERNMENT ACTION BE ILLEGAL
YOU MIGHT PREVENT IT FROM
HAPPENING IN THE FUTURE.

SINCERELY

Robert George Joseph

MR. EDWARD HEATH, M.P.
HOUSE OF COMMONS
WESTMINSTER

REC
DEL

Mr. J. B. Stoner
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 6263
Savannah, Georgia
U. S. A.

4/7

In replying to this letter, please write on the envelope:—

Number 059185 Name SNEYD

H.M. PRISON,
HEATHFIELD ROAD,
WANDSWORTH,
LONDON, S.W.13.

7-4-68

Dear Mr. Stoner;

I was shown a letter yesterday (3.5.68) written by you on a legal pad which you represent if I remember correctly offering legal assistance in relation to the charge against me in the U.S. as you have probably read in the papers I have returned Mr. Arthur Thomas of Birmingham Alabama therefore I would rather wait until I return to the U.S. and get his advice before I take any other action as far as my personal views on the case I am more concerned with the personal charges made against me by the leftist press than the murder charge which in the past I haven't given to much attention to the political side of papers

No. 243 (28150-3-10-62)

2

it seems to me now that
they charge you with everything
they represent then try
to connect you with some
organization they disagree with.
In closing I would like to say
I appreciate your offer of assistance.
Also if you should write again
send it to me directly at the
prison as the other letter
you sent was dated the 1st of June
and I did not receive it until
JULY-3-

Sincerely

Raymond D. Sneyd

In replying to this letter, please write on the envelope:—

Number 059184 Name SNEYD

H. M. PRISON,
HEATHFIELD ROAD,
WANDSWORTH,
LONDON, S.W.18.

DEAR SIR;

6-29-68

I thought I would write you
in regard to my extradition
hearing which began Thursday,
Today seems to be running for
a while and at this point I think
it will be a mistake to
contact extradition I won't go into
details as you probably have read
the details in the paper.
I suppose you read the paper
that my English attorney sent
you concerning Mr. Wilson's press
conference in my absence on
Thursday. Supt. Butler of Scotland
yard stated when Wilson left
off but I was correct as far
of it Tuesday when the hearing
resumed. I read the letter you
sent me and I have no
intention discussing the case

No. 243 (25150-3-10-62)

with anyone, I would also
like to say that I have
no intention of making any
oral statement just that
I have nothing to hide, but
I would rather tell my
version to a court of law.
I am also going to write Mr.
General Clark to the effect
as it suits stop them from
dreaming up something while
they are taking me from
London to the U.S.
That was highly wrong for
the British government not
letting you visit means they
have a special place for
so called security cases.
From what I gather from my
English lawyer the U.S. government
had something to do with
keeping you from seeing me.
Do you think it would be
worth while to take it up
with a congressman?
I am writing my brother and
asking him to send you a
return. I'd love to see you
when I see you.

also I have read where
they are getting a special
place reserved in the Memphis
post for television coverage
I think I handled enough
publicly would there be any
way to prevent this or do
you think it necessary to prevent
it
that all I can think of at the
present

Sincerely

R. G. Inghel

Birthplace no.
M.F. 59152 MAPLEWOOD MISSOURI

P.S. Keep letter for reference

Air Mail 5

M. R. ARTHUR J. HANES
ATTORNEY AT LAW
617 FRANK NELSON BLDG.
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35203
U. S. A.