

He called himself a car salesman and gave Bridgeman's name with a phony address as a person to notify in case of accident. Miss Spencer filled out a passport application for him.

On April 19, using the name Bridgeman and calling himself a hospital worker, Ray moved to another rundown building in a poor Negro-Italian neighborhood.

There he rented a \$9-a-week second-floor rear room from Mrs. Sun Loo. Mrs. Loo said he slept in the daytime and stayed out at night.

He got one letter, and moved out May 6, the day Miss Spencer said his flight left for London.

HIS PASSPORT, as Sneyd, was approved on April 25 and he picked up his ticket on May 2.

He had obtained the passport by using a Sneyd birth certificate. He also had obtained, somehow, Bridgeman's birth certificate.

Going thru more than 200,000 passport photos issued in the last year, 10 Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers working 10 to 12 hours a day for 10 days found the "Sneyd" picture. It matched Ray's FBI photo.

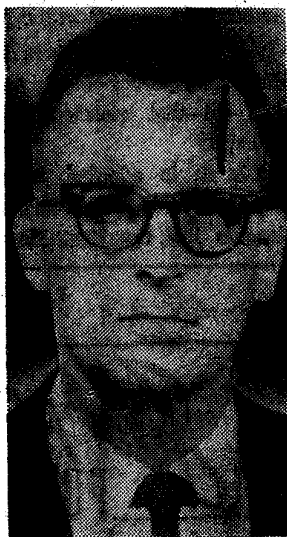
Upset over the ease with which Ray obtained one passport here—and another from the Canadian embassy in Lisbon—External Affairs Minister Mitchell Sharp said yesterday he would begin an immediate reappraisal of passport regulations.

Police also are trying to find out how Ray had applied for the Bridgeman birth certificate by using information about Bridgeman apparently obtained from unknown sources.

Finding that Bridgeman already held a passport, Ray obtained Sneyd's birth certificate.

Ray did not appear at the hall of records for the Sneyd birth certificate, but sent an

unidentified blonde, about 50, who posed as his aunt. Police were searching for this woman and other persons who were seen with Ray in night spots during his stay here.



THIS PICTURE of James Earl Ray, appears on a passport issued in Toronto to "George Sneyd," one of two aliases Ray used while hiding out in that city. FBI believes Ray arrived there no later than April 8.



TORONTO—Mrs. Fela Spidowski stands near "Home Sweet Home" sign on wall of room she had rented to James Earl Ray.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Ray arrest raises new hints of conspiracy to kill King

By William Clements

Was the murder of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. a conspiracy carried out by someone hired months in advance and paid thousands of dollars?

Or was it the work of a lone assassin with a personal vendetta against Negroes?

If a conspiracy, who else is involved?

If not, then where did James Earl Ray—the man accused of the crime—get the money he spent so freely on travel, lodging, food and drink during the months before his

arrest last Saturday in London?

Authorities in the United States, Canada and Great Britain searched for answers to these questions Tuesday.

WARDEN Harold R. Swenson, who knew Ray well during the time he spent in the Missouri State Prison at Jefferson City, believes Ray incapable of pulling off a major crime, let alone a murder.

When told the FBI had identified Ray as the killer of Dr. King, Swenson commented:

"I am floored—this guy's penny ante, innocuous. It just doesn't shape up."

Yet, during a period of wild spending on the West Coast last fall—where Ray went to a bartending school and took modern-dance lessons—he acquired a reputation as a loud-mouth racist.

At the Rabbit's Foot lounge on Hollywood Blvd., where Ray drank screwdrivers topped with beer, one patron described him as fanatical.

"Yes, I believe him to be quite capable of violence," he said.

RAY, born in Alton, Ill., on March 10, 1928, has a criminal

record dating back to 1949.

But as a criminal he was not very successful, often bungling jobs by leaving behind telltale evidence, or simply rushing into bad jobs that netted him little, if any, money.

In Chicago in 1952, for instance, he robbed a cab driver of \$11 at gunpoint. Then he was shot in both arms trying to elude police by jumping head-first through a basement window.

Years later, in California, he was linked to a robbery through shoes that he had left on the scene.

The list goes on.

IS THIS, then, the same man whom the FBI says unaided meticulously established a second identity, plotted the murder of Dr. King, shot him in downtown Memphis, fled the country and for two months eluded the largest manhunt in recent history?

The FBI says yes, publicly discounting the conspiracy theory.

Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark, in repeated statements issued since Ray was linked to the murder by fingerprints and ballistics, said the bureau has no reason to believe the killing of Dr. King on April 4 was part of a conspiracy.

Clark said during the second week of April that Ray was still in the country. It is known now, however, that Ray already had fled to Toronto and was living in a boarding house.

If Clark was wrong about that, some people are asking, could he also be wrong on the lone assassin theory?

WITHIN the larger question of whether Ray was capable of carrying out a complex crime like the murder of Dr. King are intriguing smaller

ones.

The investigation might well start on April 23, 1967, when Ray hid in a bread box on a truck that was leaving the prison.

to escape from the prison, he finally succeeded.

Little is known of Ray's whereabouts between then and early July, 1967, when he turned up in Montreal, and rented a room on St. Germaine St.

This is where he first used the name Eric Starvo Galt in an attempt to establish a second identity.

Ray-Galt kept the room until late August or early September.

On Aug. 26, 1967, Ray rented a room at the Economy Grill and Rooms on Highland Av. in Birmingham, Ala., again using the name Eric Starvo Galt.

The next day he spotted an ad in the local newspaper offering a 1966 white Mustang. The ad was placed by William D. Paisley, a lumber executive who said Galt drove the car around the block once and decided to buy it.

Galt returned on Aug. 30 and paid for the car in cash, \$1,995 drawn from his safe-deposit box in the Birmingham Trust National Bank.

Where did the money come from?

THE NEXT segment of Ray's life unfolds last fall in California, where again he was spending money. He paid, in cash, \$456 for the dance lessons and \$250 for bartending school.

On Dec. 15, he drove to New Orleans. Accompanying him was a bearded songwriter named Charles Stein, who said that at one point Ray stopped to make a telephone call to "an important New Orleans industrialist."

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

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The identity of the industrialist has not been established.

Ray graduated from bartending school in California on March 1. At the same time, in Birmingham, somebody picked up a letter mailed to him at the Economy Grill.

The letter was from the Alabama highway patrol, containing a duplicate license Ray had applied for.

The letter was returned to the patrol with the 25 cents it had requested.

Who picked up the letter and sent it back? Nobody seems to know.

ON APRIL 3, Ray apparently checked into the Rebel Motel in Memphis after a flight from Birmingham. The next day he also rented a room at the nameless rooming house behind the Lorraine Motel where Dr. King was shot.

Here again there is mystery.

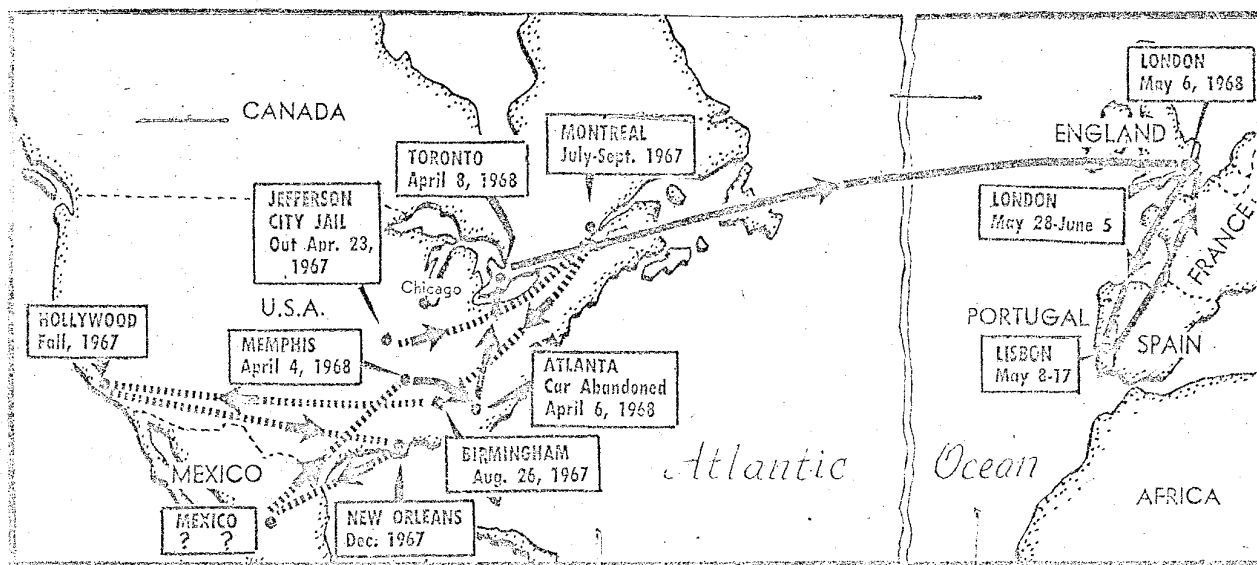
The woman who rented Ray a room at the rooming house said he came in without luggage, paying her with a new \$20 bill.

But moments after Dr. King's murder, Ray was spotted walking away with a blue suitcase and a rifle wrapped in a bedspread.

Later, on the sidewalk not far from the rooming house, the luggage and gun were found.

Were they placed in the house by someone other than Ray? Again, there is no answer.

PERHAPS the most perplexing question now being asked by FBI and Canadian authorities is how Ray was able to slip out of the country after Dr. King's murder.



Itinerary of man identified as James Earl Ray beginning April 23, 1967, when he escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City. Dotted lines are travels

before the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.; solid lines, travels after the assassination. (Map by Frank San Hamel)

## ALWAYS ON THE JOB

The capture in London of James Earl Ray, object of a search as the sniper who assassinated Dr. Martin Luther King in April, was the result of a painstaking and unrelenting pursuit of the fugitive. Ray was traveling on a fraudulent Canadian passport. When all other leads proved fruitless, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, after combing thru 100,000 passports, enlisted the help of the royal Canadian mounted police, who got on Ray's trail after they had sorted thru 200,000 more passports.

We sometimes hear that Director J. Edgar Hoover of the FBI is getting too old

for his job, and that his organization has become encrusted in sterile routine. But most Americans will feel that, as long as Mr. Hoover and the FBI maintain the standards of performance that have produced unfailing results for almost 45 years, the security of this country is in safe hands.

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... Efforts to extradite suspected Martin L. King assassin, James Earl Ray, from London, might ~~be~~ eased off. Over there, they ~~will~~ surely send Ray up for toting an unregistered gun. That's often a 5-year sentence. What'll happen to him here is up for grabs. ...

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# TOWER TICKER

By Herb Lyon

**L**YON ON THE PROWL: The cost to the networks to curtail all commercial programming and follow the long-drawn-out Kennedy funeral was astronomical. As was Dr. Martin Luther King's a couple of months ago. [Maybe 15 million bucks each time.] They may never go the whole route again. One net exec was extremely hurt when he heard a City of Resurrection leader say on the air: "Heck, they didn't do this much for Martin King." Yes they did, sir. . .

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# America's image on trial

The manner in which the United States deals with the world's two most prominent murder suspects can do at least a little to restore some of the shattered faith in the country, both at home and abroad. It could also damage it more.

It is absolutely essential that justice be done to the individuals immediately concerned, and the quality of this justice must be visible to the entire world. Intense emotions surround the assassinations of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. But these understandable feelings do not alter the core principle of the American system that Sirhan Sirhan and James Earl Ray are innocent until proved guilty before an impartial court.

With the notable exception of Mayor Sam Yorty's loose lip, the record in the Sirhan case has been good. The voluntary restraint imposed by press, police, and prosecution has not prevented the disclosure of information to which the public is entitled. The result has been a rare and deserved commendation from the American Civil Liberties Union.

The proceedings against Ray, provided he is extradited from Britain, promise to be even a greater test. The number of Sirhan's secret well-wish-

ers on the neanderthal fringes of American society is fewer than those for Ray. A murder trial in Tennessee could become a measure of the nation's conscience.

Justice must be done to the individuals, but there is more. At least equally important is the necessity that the investigations and any subsequent trials establish beyond any reasonable doubt the motives for these killings and whether or not there were conspiracies. The Ray case already is throwing up disturbing implications. These must be thoroughly and convincingly exposed. The legends that will not die around Lee Harvey Oswald are a sickening reminder, if any were required.

The quality of the police work in the Ray case is its most encouraging feature so far, and much of the credit apparently goes to the Canadian authorities. Careful hard work in co-operation with the FBI and the British paid off in the arrest in London.

There are those who may be impatient with the procedural restraints, or the exaggerated security measures. For the sake of the individuals themselves and for the American image everywhere, no precaution that contributes to a fair and impartial finding is too great.

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# British George Ray in slaying

By William H. Stoneman  
Daily News Foreign Service

LONDON — The British government issued a provisional warrant Monday night charging James Earl Ray with the murder of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

But it was intimated in London Tuesday that it would take one to six weeks for the United States to extradite Ray.

The expectation is that a formal application for extradition will be filed with the British Home Office Thursday, or as soon as the necessary documents reach here from Washington. U.S. officials have been working on the documents since Sunday.

**THE PROVISIONAL** warrant came after a two-minute appearance by Ray in Bow Street Court. He was granted a court-appointed lawyer, Michael Dresden, in what could be a first move to fight extradition.

Court action cannot take place before June 28.

If the extradition order is granted, Ray will have 15 more days to file an application for a writ of habeas corpus. If this application is refused, he can still appeal to the House of Lords on any points of law that his counsel may raise.

The House of Lords, in turn, could be expected to act on his appeal within about two weeks but it might take much longer.

**RAY'S EXTRADITION** is requested by the United States on two charges: murder under Tennessee law, where he has been indicted for the

slaying of Dr. King on April 4, and escaping from prison under the laws of Missouri. Both offenses warrant ex-

tradition under a 1931 treaty between the United States and Britain.

Civil rights offenses, including conspiracy, do not warrant extradition.

**SOME LEGAL** experts suggested the British government might speed the process by deporting Ray as an undesirable alien. But other lawyers said there is a strong tradition against this procedure as a substitute for extradition.

Some experts saw a precedent for the deportation of Ray in the case of Robert Soblen, who fled from the United States to Israel in 1962 after being sentenced to life imprisonment on a charge that he was a Soviet spy. En route back to America, he stabbed himself and was taken off a plane at London for treatment.

The British government ordered Soblen out of the country as an undesirable alien and an appeals court ruled the move legal. But Soblen took poison while being sent to the airport and died.

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# Ray backed away from robbery

By Gary Ralph

Special to The Daily News

TORONTO—James Earl Ray cased a grocery store in Toronto's west end during his month in the city, but backed out of a possible holdup.

The suspected killer of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was seen prowling about the back room of a grocery

store on April 23. But, after being questioned by the store's assistant manager, he left.

On April 23, the Tuesday on which Ray paid \$9 rent for a seedy Dundas St. room, he was seen in the grocery store.

"I was just going into the back room of the store," said assistant manager Samuel Marshall, "and there was this guy coming out of the back

room through the swinging door.

THE MAN was Ray, Marshall said.

Asked if he could be helped, Ray said, "I'm looking for a job."

He added, "I've got two years' experience in a supermarket south of the border," Marshall said.

When asked if he was interested in part-time work Ray said, "full-time only."

But when Manager Emerson Bennis approached, Ray walked out of the store.

Marshall said Ray had been completely calm.

MARSHALL told Bennis to "Watch that guy," and Bennis followed Ray about half a block until he turned into a corner bank. He stood in the bank for a few minutes looking out.

"Then he saw me," Bennis said, "and he jumped out of the bank and jumped on the first streetcar that went past."

The back room of the store leads to the upstairs office, Bennis said, where the cash is kept. The two men were leery of finding anyone there because of a holdup there two years ago.

"I think he was going to hold up the store," Bennis said. "He moved fast when he saw me."

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**En route to Belgium**

# **Was Ray on way to join racist mercenary troops?**

By Donald R. Shanor  
Daily News Foreign Service

PARIS — James Earl Ray, accused in the slaying of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., is believed to have been on his way to join a white mercenary organization in Belgium when he was arrested.

Ray was en route to Brussels from Lisbon when he was arrested at London's Heathrow Airport Saturday.

Sources in Paris noted that both Portugal, where Ray had

been, and Belgium, where he was trying to go, are involved in African mercenary operations.

PORTUGAL is fighting a colonial war in Angola and Mozambique. Belgium, former colonial ruler of The Congo, is still considered Europe's main recruitment center for mercenaries.

But if Ray had succeeded in contacting these recruiters in Brussels, the sources here believe, he would not have been accepted.

Even the most bitterly racist regimes of Africa would not want the stigma of the accused assassin of Dr. King, they said.

THE SAME objection holds true for Arab countries, which have welcomed war criminals and other renegades.

"Someone with Ray's reputation would be another to the Arabs if they wanted to have any hope of African solidarity," one source here said.

The sources rejected suggestions that Ray had been financed by European racist or Fascist organizations and then rescued from the United States by them.

These organizations are themselves dependent on financial help from American extremists, they said. They viewed Ray's flight to Europe only as an attempt to disappear into the anonymity of the mercenary ranks.

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# Ray's false documents cost \$12

By Gary Ralph  
Special to The Daily News

TORONTO — For \$12, James Earl Ray bought the standard Canadian international fugitive kit — a passport and two phony birth certificates.

The kit took him to England and Portugal in a two-month-long flight from Memphis. He even picked up a second passport along the way with no more trouble than buying a bottle of good booze in an off season.

In spite of the ease in which Ray equipped himself with two false identities during a month of hiding out in Toronto, Canadian officials said they have no intention of changing regulations.

EXTERNAL Affairs Minister Mitchell Sharp said Saturday, the day of Ray's arrest, that the federal government does not want to interfere with the right of Canadian citizens to remain one of the most traveled peoples in the world.

Canadian immigration has weathered the storm before when this country's passports were misused by criminals and soviet spies.

Spy Gordon Lonsdale, a Russian citizen, had a Canadian passport when he was arrested in London.

An officer in the intelligence branch of the Soviet Navy came to Canada in 1954. In less than a year he had a passport and birth certificate, went to Britain and set himself up in business.

THERE ARE many other stories, some alarming, but the fact remains, it is ridiculous

to buy a passport.

You send in a filled-in form with two pictures of yourself.

Ray even had travel bureau clerk Lillian Spencer fill in his forms as a convenience to him. He paid \$3 extra for the service.

One requirement states you must have the signature of a sponsor, listing a number of occupations for such sponsors, including, for example, accountants, policemen, lawyers, doctors or judges.

TO GET around the requirement, however, it is a simple matter to make a declaration that you have known no one like that for the required two years. The declaration has to be notarized but in Ray's case a notary at the travel agency signed his form without even seeing him.

As Mrs. Spencer said, "well it could be . . . not exactly dangerous . . . but highly embarrassing," if one of the declaration forms went awry.

"If you're in a hurry you can get a passport in Ottawa, the capital, with only a few hours' cursory check. Otherwise it takes about five days to a week to mail your application (no fingerprints needed) and get your completed passport.

THE FEDERAL government attempted to pass a law recently giving a sentence of up to 14 years in jail for misuse of a passport, but the coming federal election killed the bill.

As it stands, no one cares what you do with your passport — outside Canada.

Getting a provincial birth certificate in Ontario is almost as easy if you have an old copy of a newspaper, as did Ray.

Give a name, birth date, date of birth and mother's maiden name from a birth announcement, as Ray did for Paul Bridgman, born 1932 in Toronto, enclose \$2 and send another form. Wait a few days and you have a whole new identity.

is done by mail, a boon to those under 21 who apply for false certificates to use to get into local bars.

The second phony birth certificate was in the name of Ramon George Sneyd.

Ray was carrying the phony certificate when he was arrested in London.

FBI OFFICIALS and Ontario government registrars believe Ray may have gotten one certificate in Bridgman's name in order to return to the United States through Buffalo. A birth certificate, by some quirk of customs officers, is a better means of identity when crossing the Canadian-U.S. border than is a passport.

About 1 of every 10 border crossers are checked for identity on a busy Saturday night, immigration officers said.

It is harder to prove you are old enough to drink in Ontario (by signing forms and showing identification) than it is to outfit yourself with official documents.

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# STORY OF RAY ARREST CHANGES

From Sun-Times Wires

LONDON—Contrary to previous reports, James Earl Ray, the fugitive wanted in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was picked up at the departure lounge of London Airport last Saturday as he waited for a flight to Brussels. Previously, it had been reported that he was arrested in the transit-passengers area, having just arrived from Lisbon.

Ray had been in this city for three weeks, moving from one nondescript tourist hotel to another and making frantic telephone calls to a London newspaperman in an effort to find out how to join white mercenaries in Africa.

Why Scotland Yard and airport officials allowed the initial false impression to stand must be counted as a further minor mystery in the greatest manhunt of modern times.

Ray seemed to be an easy going fugitive until something alarmed him three days before his arrest. Then, overnight, he became jumpy and sought to hide himself. The bars and restaurants of Lisbon, Portugal, and London saw him no more. He switched to an obscure back street hotel, locked himself in, changed his whole mode of life.

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

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

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

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

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

Anna Thomas, 54, bought the place recently, redecorated it from top to bottom and opened in April. She has seven rooms and can accommodate 12 guests.

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

"He arrived in the middle of a violent rainstorm Wednesday evening," Mrs. Thomas said Monday. "There was no one in the hotel because I'd only just returned from visiting my 86-year-old mother in Stockholm.

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

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

When she took him breakfast the first morning, he refused to open the door and told her to leave the tray outside.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Speculation in Brussels ranged from the suggestion that Ray might be seeking to enroll as a mercenary for Africa or

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Yemen, was en route to Eastern Europe, or just hoped to lose himself in the continental summer vacation crowds.

There was mystery about some of Ray's earlier movements. London Airport officials first said he had been arrested upon flying in from Lisbon. Later they said he was outward bound for Brussels. Mrs. Thomas said he had been intending to fly to Germany.

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

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

What he might have done in Portugal was not clear. But Ian Colvin, a reporter for the London Daily Telegraph who has close contacts with European groups recruiting foreign mercenaries in Africa, said he talked with a man calling himself Ramon Sneyd several times by telephone last Tuesday; the conversation gave a hint.

Colvin said: "When we first spoke, a Canadian or perhaps an American voice said to me: 'This is Raymond Sneyd. I want to join my brother who has been in Portuguese Angola.'"

# British Warrant Names Ray As Dr. King's Killer; Extradition Next Step

LONDON (AP) — The U.S. government obtained Monday night a provisional British warrant charging James Earl Ray with the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. That

cleared the way for a formal application in the next day or two for Ray's return to the United States.

The move followed an appearance by Ray at a two-minute session in Bow Street Court. He was assigned a British lawyer in what legal experts said could be his first move to fight extradition.

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

Earlier movement was foreclosed Monday when Ray, 40, was ordered held without bail by Chief Magistrate Frank Milton for a hearing next Tuesday. The issuance of the warrant followed.

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

The home secretary, James Callaghan, will forward the application to the Chief Magistrate Milton, who will consider whether the docu-

mentary evidence submitted by Vinson is sufficient for extradition. The application is expected to reach the court Tuesday.

Ray then will have 15 days to apply for a writ of habeas corpus.

Under British law and the 1935 treaty of extradition between Britain and the United States, the home secretary cannot surrender Ray to U.S. authorities before 15 days have passed.

Security measures so tight that even lawyers submitted to frisking were in effect when Ray was taken into court Monday. No one except the police and legal officers had seen Ray since his arrest Saturday when he tried to board a plane for Brussels.

Under the name of George Ramon Sneyd, Ray was charged with using a false passport with that name and

carrying an unlicensed, loaded gun. There was no mention in court of the name Ray or of the American charges against him.

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# Ray Fights Extradition from Britain

BY ARTHUR VEYSEY

[Chief of London Bureau]

[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

LONDON, June 10 — James Earl Ray, the accused assassin of Martin Luther King, American civil rights leader, appeared briefly in court today, indicated he would fight extradition to the United States, and was ordered held without bail for a hearing June 18.

Today's court appearance lasted only 82 seconds. When it was over, Ray—or Ramon George Sneyd, the name under which he was charged—was hustled off to one of London's top security prisons.

## Await U. S. Evidence

The timing of the next hearing depends upon the delivery by the Tennessee county of Shelby, of which Memphis is the seat, and the United States department of justice of statements setting forth evidence against Ray. Ray is accused of shooting Dr. King to death last April 4 in Memphis.

If British lawyers, yet to be appointed to support Ray in the extradition case, agree to the hearing and if Frank Milton, the chief metropolitan magistrate, listens to the evidence and finds it would justify Ray's being sent for trial in an English court had the murder been done here, Ray could be flown home June 28.

This is the expiration date of a waiting period demanded by British law and a 1935 extradition treaty between the United States and Britain.

## Get Provisional Warrant

Ray could have been taken home today had he agreed to go voluntarily but he obtained a British lawyer to defend him.

American authorities today asked the chief magistrate for, and got from him, a provisional British warrant for Ray's arrest. To get it, they merely had

to certify that a warrant for Ray's arrest had been issued in Memphis.

The arrest warrant charged Ray with the murder of Dr. King and cleared the ground for a formal application in the next day or two for Ray's return to the United States. In Washington, the state department said a formal request for Ray's extradition would be made thru the United States embassy in London "within the next few days." A precise date could not be given, a spokesman said.

## Move Indicates Fight

The issuance of the warrant hardened belief that the man arrested Saturday at London airport as Canadian Ramon Sneyd had decided to fight and that the United States government was equally determined to head off long delays in his extradition.

A long avenue of delays and appeals is open to Ray. First, it is normal in such cases for the barrister appointed to represent him in court to ask for a delay to acquaint himself with the case. Normally, the magistrate concedes. One week is a normal period.

The hearing could take more than one day if the evidence is lengthy. Normally the chief magistrate, the only person in the land authorized to hear extradition cases, waits every word read to him, in public. He can then give himself time for reflection.

The present magistrate is on record as saying that cases should not be rushed or appear to be rushed.

"It is much more important

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that the right decision should be reached than that a decision should be reached quickly," he said. "No time spent on inquiry or reflection is wasted."

#### Could Call Up Witnesses

The magistrate could ask for further evidence. He could ask witnesses to appear in person but this is not normal. He must be convinced that the evidence, unless refuted, would lead to a reasonable verdict of guilty.

The waiting period begins only when the magistrate informs Home Secretary James Callaghan that a case exists against Ray.

During that interval, Ray's lawyers could appeal to the High court on a point of law. The obvious point is the provision in the extradition treaty that no person may be handed over by either country for an "offense of a political character." This term has never been strictly defined in Britain or the United States. Was King's murder a political one? Ray's lawyers could so claim.

Such an appeal, if made, would probably be heard in July. The judges could delay their decision.

And after they make their decision, a new waiting period of 14 days begins. During that time, Ray could appeal to the house of lords, Britain's supreme judicial authority. That hearing and decision could drag on into August.

Only after the house of lords ruled against Ray could the home secretary order that Ray be handed over to American marshals.

#### Could Be Held for Years

Complications arise from the British charges against Ray of carrying a .38 caliber Liberty Chief revolver and five bullets and of having a false passport. Ray could be jailed for three years for the gun and six months for the passport, and Britain could insist that these sentences be completed.

However, the home office would like to get rid of Ray as

quickly as possible, and looks upon the charges merely as a handy way to have brought about his arrest—no American warrant was in force here Saturday when Ray was seized—and now to hold him until extradition documents can be prepared and evidence produced.

British law would permit Britain to drop both of these charges without trial or, if extradition proceedings became prolonged, to go ahead with the sentences but cut them short when the extradition process is completed successfully.

#### Slipped Into Courtroom

Ray was taken to court today thru a side door with an escort of a half dozen policemen and detectives. Other police and detectives had already formed a human shield from the doorway to the waist-high fenced-in dock in the middle of the room and stood facing the reporters and spectators.

Ray appeared much shorter than the almost 6 feet credited to him. His face was thin and his complexion so dark he seemed almost unshaven. His black hair was combed straight back.

The chief magistrate, looking down from his tall desk, told Ray that the proceedings were being carried out under Britain's newly imposed restrictions on reporting and broadcasting but these could be raised if he wished. Ray shook his head and murmured, "No."

Thomas Marius Joseph Butler, chief detective superintendent and the man who led the hunt for Britain's 7-million-dollar great train robbery gang,

climbed three steps to the witness box to the side of the judge.

Butler asked that Ray be held until "further inquiries could be held" and added that "there are objections to bail."

The magistrate ordered Ray be held until June 18. He did not mention bail.

The magistrate asked Ray if he wanted to say anything.

#### Gets Legal Aid

This time his "no" was clear.

The magistrate asked if legal aid were wanted. A clerk said yes. "Legal aid granted," the magistrate said.

He nodded to Ray. "That will be all."

Ray turned and, surrounded by police, quickly left the room as he came, still shielded behind that bank of bobbies.

The magistrate's court appointed a British firm of solicitors, Michael Dresden & Co., to represent Ray on the British gun and passport charges.

#### Block Roads to Jail

At Brixton prison, where Ray was taken after his court appearance, police equipped with walkie-talkies threw a cordon around the building and blocked all roads leading to the jail.

Police barred unauthorized persons from getting within 150 yards of the walls and two prison guards were assigned to stay with Ray in his cell.

Scotland Yard, meanwhile, reported police were still investigating the case and making inquiries about Ray, who had been hiding out in London since mid-May.

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# Legal Experts Act to Return King Suspect

BY COLIN FROST

LONDON (AP) — United States legal experts worked today on plans to take James Earl Ray quickly and safely back to the United States for trial. Police on both sides of the Atlantic continued their investigation to learn whether Ray had helped in his four-nation flight.

American authorities took the first formal step toward extradition last night by obtaining a provincial British warrant charging Ray with the murder of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

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

## Appears 2 Minutes

The 40-year-old escaped convict was held in Brixton prison after his 2-minute appearance yesterday in Bow Street court on charges of carrying a forged passport and a loaded gun. He was arrested on these charges at London airport Saturday under the name of Ramon George Sneyd.

Police with walkie-talkies set up a cordon around the prison and blocked all roads leading to it. Unauthorized persons were kept at least 150 yards away.

Scotland Yard was reported planning to move Ray from Brixton, 3 miles south of downtown London, to Wandsworth, a jail in a western suburb. Security at Wandsworth has been tightened since Ronald Arthur

Briggs, one of the Great Train Robbers, disappeared over the wall there 4 weeks ago.

## Held Without Bail

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

If extradition proceedings are brought, the court will require evidence of a case against Ray. He then will have 15 days to appeal to the high court. If Ray's lawyers raised points of law there, a further appeal might be made to the house of lords and the process could take months.

In the 2 months American authorities searched for Ray after King's assassination April 4 in Memphis, he went from the United States to Canada

on April 8, to London May 6 and to Lisbon May 8. He left his Lisbon hotel on May 17 and surfaced again in London on May 18.

## Hunt for Acquaintances

Police in those countries sought anyone who might have known or helped Ray, and authorities in Canada also tried to learn how Ray obtained information on the three Toronto men whose names he used as aliases.

The spokesman declared. All three men have dark hair and are about the same height and weight as Ray.

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

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

## Sears Are Similar

Galt and Ray have similar scars in the middle of the forehead and on the palm of the right hand.

"I don't know what to think," Galt said. "It's a bit more than coincidence. The weight is right, the height range is right, and the identification marks are there."

"I've wondered where our paths might have crossed, but I just don't know."

Galt said he was in the Memphis area 2 years ago and that he traveled regularly to Florida for skin diving in the summer.

Ray, however, was in the Missouri state prison until he escaped in April, 1967, with more than 12 years remaining of a 20-year sentence. Missouri also seeks Ray's extradition.

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from Britain on the prison break charge. If he is returned to the United States, the Tennessee murder charge is expected to be given precedence over the Missouri charge and a federal charge that Ray conspired to violate King's civil rights.

#### "Galt" Was Roomer

Police believe Ray was the man who checked into a Montreal rooming house last summer under the name of Galt. Galt said he was not in Montreal last summer and that FBI agents told him he was the only Eric S. Galt in Canada.

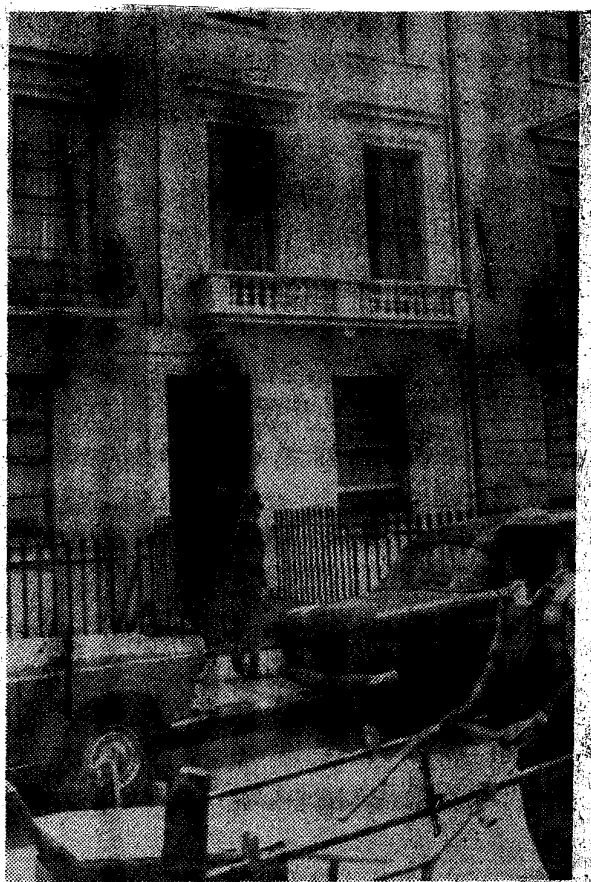
Canadian police also were checking a report by Mrs. Yee Sun Loo, owner of a Toronto rooming house where Ray stayed, that a "fat man" passed an envelope to Ray on May 2, the day he paid \$345 for an excursion flight ticket to London.

A spokesman for the royal Canadian mounted police said preliminary investigation indicated the man may not have known Ray and may just have been making a delivery.

"Every effort is being made to trace this man, but so far there is no indication as to who he is," the spokesman said.

Others in Toronto who encountered a man they thought was Ray included two waiters at the Silver Dollar bar in the Waverly hotel and a go-go dancer there. The waiters said the man sat at a front table, drinking beer and watching the dancers.

"He looked at me," said the dancer. "It wasn't the way a man looks at a girl. It was . . . sort of like he didn't approve. The first night I smiled at him. He looked kind of disgusted."



[AP Wirephoto]

LONDON—White building in center is the Pax hotel in the Pimlico section where James Earl Ray stayed.

# U.S. AGENTS SOUGHT CONTACTS Suspect Tailed to Portugal

BY FRANK HOWITT  
(LONDON EXPRESS SERVICE)

LISBON, Portugal — American secret service agents are believed to have trailed James Earl Ray, suspected killer of Martin Luther King Jr., all the time Ray was "hiding" in Portugal from May 8 to around May 17.

They hoped he would lead them to contacts in an organization which they now believe planned and paid for the shooting of the Negro leader. Whenever he walked out of the back street, \$2-a-day Hotel Portugal, he was shadowed by an agent.

When he flew to London it is understood the trail was taken up with the help of Scotland Yard special branch men.

## Away Some Nights

Ray, who was posing as Ramon George Sneyd, sometimes stayed away all night from his hotel. Every person he talked to even in casual conversation on his mystery trips are being quizzed by FBI men working closely with Portugal's intelligence officers.

At the Bar Bohemia hostesses and barmen recognized his photograph as the quiet American who became a regular customer.

One hostess, Dina Does, said: "He didn't have much conversation. He sat in a corner sipping a few glasses of beer. He came in a number of evenings and stayed about an hour each time."

## Check on Large Sums

Banks and money exchange companies in the city are checking any transfer of large sums to Brussels where Ray was heading when he was arrested at London airport Saturday morning.

During his 9-day stay in Lis-

bon he is believed to have contacted organizations who recruit mercenaries for Biafra and Angola.

A member of an organization running men and arms to Biafra said: "We were approached about a month ago by an American who we now think would have been Ray who wanted to go to Biafra. But he talked to us only once and never came back."

A dossier on Ray's trip to Europe and the description of his acquaintances is being compiled to be flown to Washington.

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# How Ray Hid Out Last 3 Days

**By JIM MORGAN**  
(Chicago Tribune Press Service)  
LONDON, June 10 — James Earl Ray, accused slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King, became alarmed three days before his arrest here Saturday and holed up in a locked room of a backstreet London hotel.

"I was glad to see the back of him," said Mrs. Anna Thomas, dark rings of excitement about her eyes.

The landlady of the Pax hotel in Pimlico was speaking about "Mr. Sneyd," the guest who "never looked up" when he talked to her.

## Got Last Single Room

Mrs. Thomas had only one room left late last Wednesday afternoon when a thin, hatless man wearing a raincoat over a jacket and flannel trousers and carrying only a blue flight bag, came into her narrow, bright blue carpeted front hall and asked for a single room for three days.

"He had been up the street but no one else had a single room," she said. "I have more—I'd rather deal with one than with two."

The man, thin and tanned, looked agitated, she said, and bad tempered. He said he was very tired with a terrible headache, had just come in on a flight from Toronto and was awaiting a reservation for a flight to Germany.

## Near Air Terminal

Mrs. Thomas' small white painted hotel is near the air terminal in Pimlico and more carefully maintained than many of the other old attached row houses now turned into "bed and breakfast" lodgings.

"Sneyd said he'd clean up his own room and, taking out a wallet, paid the 4 pounds 10 shillings [\$10.80] for which Mrs. Thomas asked in advance.

"I had a feeling he was terribly hard up," she said. She asked what time he



James Earl Ray

wanted to be called in the morning. He said he wished breakfast on a tray at 7:45 each morning—just coffee, rolls and fruit, "nothing fried," thus rejecting the typical British breakfast of bacon and eggs.

## Pleaded a Headache

Mrs. Thomas talked a little more than usual to this transient guest because her son was thinking about emigrating to Canada. She asked how life was there. Her guest said things were bad with not many jobs available, pleaded a headache, and said he wanted to settle into his room to rest.

"He had a schooled, not a rough speech," she said. "I would have taken him for a schoolteacher or a business man."

He hadn't signed the register book so she left it in his ground floor bedroom for him to sign later. And, with a lot to do after returning the day before from a vacation in her native Sweden, Mrs. Thomas went her way, without asking his name.

The next morning she knocked on his door with breakfast. The door was locked. He told her to leave the tray outside the door.

She also had to tell him that she wanted the room by 11 that

morning for an elderly woman who had reserved it because there were no stairs to climb.

"By this time I was hoping he would say he would leave," she said, "but he agreed to make the move to another room and said he would be resting until then."

Mrs. Thomas' narrow staircase runs up one side of the small house, with bedrooms leading off at the front and the right. The wall paper was fresh for the new season and the visitor's bedroom, while small and cheaply furnished, was clean and bright.

## Window Overlooks Yard

The one window overlooked a small walled backyard. The blue and white wallpaper was hung with a picture of a carriage and horses surrounded by a gay crowd. In one corner was a washstand.

"After he left, we found a small plastic syringe stuck down the drain," she said. "I saw him leave the hotel only twice. I was in the room only once. His washing was hung around to dry, a blue under-pants and undervest. There were newspapers everywhere."

He kept his room locked, she said. Once he asked if he could use the telephone. She said it was a personal one. So he went out. She noticed he always carried his flight bag out with him.

## 2 Calls from Air Line

Four times the telephone rang, she said, with callers asking for "Mr. Sneyd." The visitor hadn't yet signed the register book and at first she didn't know the name.

But, hearing the first caller was a British air steward, always drunk and known for getting a flight reservation

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[AP Wirephoto]

Photo which appears on passport issued to "George Sneyd" and carried by James Earl Ray when arrested in London.

took a message. As he hadn't responded to her knock, she put the message under his door.

Two of the calls were from B. E. A., she said, the first telling her they hadn't been able to get "Mr. Sneyd" on his requested flight but had put him on another and would he call them.

#### Ignored Phone Calls

Sneyd responded none of the times she knocked to call him to the telephone. The last two calls came Friday, the first in the morning from a woman and the last from a man in the afternoon.

"Nervous, dreamy as if in a sleep," was the way Mrs. Thomas described the visitor during most of his stay.

"I thought he slept in his clothes," she said. "He kept his head down and didn't want to look at you."

"Last I saw of him," she added, "was about 10 o'clock on Saturday morning. He was jumping into a taxi outside the front door. I was indeed glad to see the back of him."

**THOMAS HIGGINS**  
**NEW YORK TIMES SPECIAL**  
**LONDON** — Maj. Anastas Wicks, the former recruit of a mercenary soldier for the Congo, has explained why he thought James Earl Ray, the man accused of slaying Martin Luther King, was so desperately eager to see him. Wicks, 50, said in an interview yesterday that he thought Ray probably noticed his name in the London newspapers of May 19.

#### Abortive Mission

That would have been 2 days after the fugitive Ray, an escaped American convict traveling with a Canadian passport under the name of Ramon George Sneyd, returned from an abortive mission to Lisbon where he had offered himself as a mercenary to the Lisbon mission of Biafra, the break-away eastern province of Nigeria.

Wicks was mentioned in the newspapers because he had just been released after 4 months imprisonment in Lome,

the capital of Togo. As an executive of the Lisbon-based Air Trans-Africa, a small charter outfit, the major had chartered a DC-6 to a Dr. Kurt Wallerstein, whom he described as a West German banker with a Canadian passport.

#### Faced Nigeria Arrest

Wallerstein was carrying 7 million pounds worth of old Nigerian currency to Lome where a Lebanese banker was to exchange it for new Nigerian bills. The deadline for the exchange was only 2 days distant, and Wallerstein was evidently in a hurry.

Why the exchange had to be transacted in Lome Wicks could not explain. But if he had landed in Lagos, the capital of Nigeria, he would certainly

have been thrown in jail. His air line, he admitted, had made "small" deliveries of arms and ammunition to the Biafrans early in the secessionist struggle, and had followed with shipments of medicine and other essentials.

In any event, there was "some sort of double cross," the major said, and the Togolese arrested everyone on the plane within half an hour after landing in Lome.

#### Slept on Floor

Everyone was charged with "attempting fraudulently to import merchandise." The banker, the seven-man crew, Wicks, and his boss, Jack Malloch, a Rhodesian, slept the first five nights on the concrete floor of the local jail; then, Wicks related, they were transferred to a building in a camp of the national gendarmerie.

The major and two others were finally released in \$1,200 bail each and told by the Togolese magistrate that they need not return for trial, according to Wicks.

Meanwhile, the British government had withdrawn Wicks' passport. He said that when he demanded the reason for this he was told that he "might have acted in a manner contrary to British policy."

#### Mentioned in Press

All this was mentioned in the local press when Wicks returned to London in May. What probably caught Ray's eye was the background information that Wicks was an ex-mercenary, more recently engaged in supplying Biafra.

Ray called Ian Colvin, a writer for the Daily Telegraph, and pleaded desperately for the major's phone number. Colvin did not give the number.

*Norman*  
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