FD-36 (Rev. 5-22-64)

FBI

Date: 6/10/68

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

Via AIRTEL AM
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN

Mr. Logan
Div 8

Enclosed are original and one of newspaper clippings pertaining to captioned matter.

3 BUREAU (Enc 10)
1 MEMPHIS

ENCLOSURE

RGJ:BN
(4)

REC 16 44-38861-4451

4 JUN 12 1968

54 JUN 18 1968

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

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

JUN 14 1968

REC'D CIV RIGHTS
FBI
JUN 12

JUN 12 FBI
5 17 PM '68

JUN 12 2 46 PM '68

JUN 12 1 16 PM '68
F B I
REC-D BISHOP

REC 16

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1581) P

WORKIN

Enclosed are original and one to newspaper clippings pertaining to captioned matter.

3 - BUREAU (ENC 10)
1 - MEMPHIS

RCL:BN
(4)

ENCLOSURE

FBI

Date: 6/10/68

Time in Dispatch or Code

AIRTEL AM

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

Return Of Ray Is Expected To Be Shrouded In Secrecy

By CHARLES THORNTON

Return of James Earl Ray from London to Memphis to stand trial for the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will probably be so secret he will be safely incarcerated before any announcement is made, it was learned yesterday.

Atty. Gen. Phil M. Canale said Ray will be returned to Shelby County to stand trial for first-degree murder with all "deliberate speed."

However, it is doubtful the public will know Ray, who was captured yesterday in London, is even in the United States until he is safely in jail, top law enforcement officials confirmed.

James Earl Ray
—UPI Telephoto

Mr. Canale and United States Atty. Thomas L. Robinson held day-long meetings yesterday to work out details of Ray's extradition from England.

"We anticipate no trouble getting him back. We have been working primarily on procedure details," said Mr. Canale. "We have been in contact with the State and Justice Departments and Gov. Buford Ellington's office on the matter."

Mr. Canale will head the team of prosecutors in criminal court when Ray is tried. He said Governor Ellington will be asked to formally request the State Department to initiate extradition proceedings under the United States-British Extradition Treaty of 1935.

First-degree murder in Tennessee is punishable by death in the electric chair, but there have been no executions in Tennessee since 1960 and no one from Shelby County has been executed since 1948.

Former Gov. Frank Clement asked for repeal of the capital punishment law. The General Assembly refused. Governor Clement then granted executive clemency to the five men on death row.

A recent United States Supreme Court ruling may make it difficult for the death penalty to be assessed against Ray if he is found guilty.

The court has ruled that jurors cannot be excused because they object to the death penalty. However, Robert K. Dwyer, executive assistant attorney general, reportedly said earlier that he has never sought exclusion of a juror exclusively on grounds that he objected to the death penalty.

He said jurors are excused only when they admit they cannot return a verdict based on evidence and law because of their beliefs.

Ray was indicted May 7 by the Shelby County Grand Jury for Dr. King's murder. Official admission of the indictment wasn't released until yesterday. It is a violation of state law to release an indictment until the person is in custody.

Mr. Canale said Ray had been indicted under his own name and aliases of Eric Starvo Galt, John Willard and Harvey Lowmeyer.

"We have no other suspects in Dr. King's killing other than James Earl Ray at this time," he said.

"The extradition will be started just as soon as the procedural matters are worked out. A lot depends on what we

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

Date: 6-9-68
Edition:
Author:
Editor:
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office:

☐ Being Investigated

ENCLOSURE

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

have to present in our petition to the United Kingdom," said Mr. Canale.

He declined to discuss specific procedures but said his office is moving "with all deliberate speed."

Mr. Canale would not speculate on when Ray will be returned to the United States or when his trial would be held. But under normal circumstances it takes four to five months to bring a person to trial for murder.

Once in Memphis, Ray's whereabouts will be kept secret to prevent attempts on his life. Law enforcement officials seemed acutely aware that Lee Harvey Oswald, accused killer of President John F. Kennedy, was killed because of a lack of security precautions.

Judges who might hear the cases were reluctant even to talk to reporters.

Mr. Canale said Ray would be tried in an ordinary courtroom open to the public.

However, because of the international interest in the trial, it is doubtful many of the public will be able to witness the trial. Earlier it was learned that 50 seats will be reserved for the press. The normal seating capacity of a courtroom is about 100.

Asked if the trial might be held in a larger room, such as in The Auditorium because of the interest in it, Mr. Canale said: "Definitely not!"

Sheriff William N. Morris, who will be ultimately responsible for Ray's security, could not be reached for comment yesterday, but Chief Roy Nixon said the sheriff's office and the attorney general's office have been working for a month and a half on security measures in case Ray were caught.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

Return Of Ray Is Expected To Be Shrouded In Secrecy

By CHARLES THORNTON

Return of James Earl Ray from London to Memphis to stand trial for the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will probably be so secret he will be safely incarcerated before any announcement is made, it was learned yesterday.

Atty. Gen. Phil M. Canale said Ray will be returned to Shelby County to stand trial for first-degree murder with all "deliberate speed."

However, it is doubtful the public will know Ray, who was captured yesterday in London, is even in the United States until he is safely in jail, top law enforcement officials confirmed.

James Earl Ray
—UPI Telephoto

Mr. Canale and United States Atty. Thomas L. Robinson held day-long meetings yesterday to work out details of Ray's extradition from England.

"We anticipate no trouble getting him back. We have been working primarily on procedure details," said Mr. Canale. "We have been in contact with the State and Justice Departments and Gov. Buford Ellington's office on the matter."

Mr. Canale will head the team of prosecutors in criminal court when Ray is tried. He said Governor Ellington will be asked to formally request the State Department to initiate extradition proceedings under the United States-British Extradition Treaty of 1935.

First-degree murder in Tennessee is punishable by death in the electric chair, but there have been no executions in Tennessee since 1960 and no one from Shelby County has been executed since 1948.

Former Gov. Frank Clement asked for repeal of the capital punishment law. The General Assembly refused. Governor Clement then granted executive clemency to the five men on death row.

A recent United States Supreme Court ruling may make it difficult for the death penalty to be assessed against Ray if he is found guilty.

The court has ruled that jurors cannot be excused because they object to the death penalty. However, Robert K. Dwyer, executive assistant attorney general, reportedly said earlier that he has never sought exclusion of a juror exclusively on grounds that he objected to the death penalty.

He said jurors are excused only when they admit they cannot return a verdict based on evidence and law because of their beliefs.

Ray was indicted May 7 by the Shelby County Grand Jury for Dr. King's murder. Official admission of the indictment wasn't released until yesterday. It is a violation of state law to release an indictment until the person is in custody.

Mr. Canale said Ray had been indicted under his own name and aliases of Eric Starvo Galt, John Willard and Harvey Lowmeyer.

"We have no other suspects in Dr. King's killing other than James Earl Ray at this time," he said.

"The extradition will be started just as soon as the procedural matters are worked out. A lot depends on what we

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

PAGE 1

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 6-9-68

Edition:

Author:

Editor: FRANK ULLOREN.

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

have to present in our petition to the United Kingdom," said Mr. Canale.

He declined to discuss specific procedures but said his office is moving "with all deliberate speed."

Mr. Canale would not speculate on when Ray will be returned to the United States or when his trial would be held. But under normal circumstances it takes four to five months to bring a person to trial for murder.

Once in Memphis, Ray's whereabouts will be kept secret to prevent attempts on his life. Law enforcement officials seemed acutely aware that Lee Harvey Oswald, accused killer of President John F. Kennedy, was killed because of a lack of security precautions.

Judges who might hear the cases were reluctant even to talk to reporters.

Mr. Canale said Ray would be tried in an ordinary courtroom open to the public.

However, because of the international interest in the trial, it is doubtful many of the public will be able to witness the trial. Earlier it was learned that 50 seats will be reserved for the press. The normal seating capacity of a courtroom is about 100.

Asked if the trial might be held in a larger room, such as in The Auditorium because of the interest in it, Mr. Canale said: "Definitely not!"

Sheriff William N. Morris, who will be ultimately responsible for Ray's security, could not be reached for comment yesterday, but Chief Roy Nixon said the sheriff's office and the attorney general's office have been working for a month and a half on security measures in case Ray were caught.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

Suspected Slayer Of King Seized At London Airport As Police Teamwork Clicks

Passport Forged

65-Day Flight Touched Canada And Portugal Before Capture

By GREGORY JAYNES

London's Cannon Row police station held James Earl Ray last night, his 65-day flight ended by international police teamwork that Royal Canadian Mounted Police called "colossal" in its attention to thousands of details.

Ray is the accused assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis April 4.

Acting on information supplied by the FBI, two veterans of Scotland Yard's "great train robbery" investigation took Ray into custody early yesterday at London's Heathrow Airport about 15 minutes after his plane arrived from Lisbon, Portugal.

He wore horn-rimmed glasses. In his hip pocket he carried a loaded pistol.

Scotland Yard charged Ray with possessing a fraudulent Canadian passport and carrying a deadly weapon without a permit.

He was en route to Brussels, Belgium, from Lisbon. In recent weeks he had used two new names — Ramon George Sneyd and Donald Bridgman.

It took the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Scotland Yard and Portuguese authorities to pin down the elusive 40-year-old Illinois man with a hatful of names and an ample supply of tricks.

The case was cracked by a painstaking examination of more than 200,000 passports in Washington, Ottawa and Toronto, Canada. A spokesman for the RCMP told The Commercial Appeal last night that, after going through more than 200,000 passports issued since April 6, "We came up with what appeared to be a likeness of Ray and found it was forged."

"We had the name Sneyd then and it was quickly relayed around the world. We found he had left Toronto May 6 for Lisbon. It was just a matter of cooperation before we closed the gap."

Toronto police said Ray is first known to have arrived there April 8, four days after the murder of Dr. King outside the Lorrraine Motel here and apparently driving to Atlanta, where he abandoned his white Mustang. It is believed he went directly to Toronto from Atlanta. In Toronto he rented a room in a boarding house at 964 West Dundas Street, a rundown building in the Italian-Portuguese section of the city.

The FBI announced yesterday that Ray was known to have spent some time in Montreal, Canada, in the summer of 1967, shortly after his escape from the Missouri State Penitentary. This was before he purchased the white Mustang in Birmingham, the same type of car that was seen outside the flophouse where he rented a room in Memphis April 4.

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

PAGE 1

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 6-9-68

Edition:

Author:

Editor:

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

☐ Being Investigated

4451

ENCLOSURE

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Ray evidently headed straight for Canada, a place not unfamiliar to him since he was reported to have worked at Expo '67 in Montreal only a few months before.

Ray, who used the name "John Willard" at the Memphis rooming house and Eric Starvo Galt at a Memphis motel and Birmingham, bought a 21-day excursion ticket to London from the Kennedy Travel Bureau in midtown Toronto on April 16. Mrs. Lillian Spencer, an employe there, said last night she booked him to London on a May 6 flight.

He paid $321 in cash for the return ticket, saying he would be back in May. Then he set about getting a passport. He chose the name Ramon George Sneyd which, ironically, belonged to a Toronto police officer.

Besides the officer's name, Ray used the name Paul Bridgman while in Toronto, police said.

The Toronto City Directory lists a Paul Bridgman as a consulting teacher with the board of education, living in a Toronto suburb. A Washington source said a Paul Bridgeman, spelled differently, was a fellow prisoner of Ray at the Missouri State Penitentiary, from which Ray is listed as an escapee.

Police there said last night that a birth certificate is all that is required to get a passport. They speculated Ray got the birth certificate by going through the files of a Toronto newspaper to find the name of someone born about 40 years ago.

"Then all he had to do was go to the Bureau of Vital Statistics, say that he was born in Toronto at such and such a place at such and such a time, pay a small fee and they would issue him a duplicate birth certificate," said a police spokesman.

Toronto authorities said it was probably "just chance" that Ray chose the name of a man who is a police officer.

The passport was mailed to Ray at his rooming House April 25. A second passport found on him yesterday was issued at the Canadian Embassy in Portugal May 16.

Under British law, even if cleared of the charges made by British authorities, Ray could be placed under provisional arrest at the request of the United States.

If Ray does not ask for a hearing under the terms of the extradition treaty, he might be returned to Memphis within a few days. But if he asked for a hearing, the procedure might take three to six weeks, according to American Embassy officials.

Memphis Fire and Police Director Frank Holloman yesterday sent this telegram to J. Edgar Hoover:

"Congratulations and deep appreciation for the outstanding performance of the FBI in the apprehension of James Earl Ray. I have had no doubt at any time as to the outcome of the investigtion. You have again demonstrated forcefully that law and order will prevail and justice will be done. The Memphis Police Department is grateful to you."

Mr. Holloman said he is "hopeful James Earl Ray will be brought to Memphis at the earliest possible date to stand trial for murder. He will receive a fair and impartial trial."

Mr. Holloman added: "I think this is just another indication of the closing of ranks of law enforcement around the world against spiraling crime. I'm very encouraged."

The arrest of Ray quelled widespread theories that the man was paid to kill Dr. King, then killed himself. But in St. Louis, Ray's brother, John Larry Ray, said, "If my brother did kill King, he did it for a lot of money. He didn't do anything if it wasn't for money."

He said he was "surprised" his brother was caught and added he hopes Ray "lives to stand trial."

According to Toronto authorities, Ray purchased the second passport under the name Donald Bridgman. The real Donald Bridgman is an official on the city's school board.

Resurrection City
Learns Of Capture

The owner of the Arcade Photo Studio in downtown Toronto said last night that "mounties took the negatives of the pictures I took for the man's passport. They came with a warrant last Wednesday. When I asked them why they wanted them, they said, 'Watch your newspapers and you'll find out.' "

In New York yesterday, Mrs. King was attending the funeral of Senator Robert Kennedy when told Ray had been captured. She made no comment.

Ray had served 7 years of a 20-year sentence in the Missouri State Penitentiary when he escaped in April, 1967.

The Shelby County Grand Jury returned a first-degree murder indictment on May 7, charging Ray. Necessary extradition proceedings are expected to be put in motion shortly. Ray will appear in Bow Street Magistrate's Court tomorrow to answer the fraudulent passport and deadly weapon charges.

Dr. King was shot as he stood on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel talking to friends in the parking lot below. The bullet was fired from a bathroom window in the flophouse across the street by a white man using the name John Willard and later identified as Ray.

The FBI said that Ray came to Birmingham in late summer, 1967, and set about establishing the Galt identity. The day after he checked into a Birmingham boarding house — on Aug. 26 — William D. Paisley, the sales manager of a lumber company there, ran an advertisement in the Birmingham News offering to sell a white 1966 Mustang.

Galt bought the car for $1,995. He paid for it in cash he had drawn from his safety deposit box in a local bank. He got an Alabama's driver's license under the name Galt on Sept. 30.

He checked out of his boarding house room in Birmingham on Oct. 7, 1967, and disappeared. The FBI said he had driven the Mustang more than 19,000 miles from Aug. 30 until April 5, 1968, when it was abandoned in a housing project in Atlanta.

Agents said Galt made sev-

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

eral trips to the West Coast and, while there, took dancing lessons in Long Beach, Calif., and a course in bartending in Hollywood.

While living in California, Galt was known to have taken a trip to New Orleans in December, 1967. Charles Stein, a Los Angeles songwriter, said he made the trip to New Orleans with Galt and, several times Galt attempted to telephone a New Orleans man. Stein said Galt claimed the man was an important industrialist.

Galt was graduated from the bartending school on March 2, 1968.

The man who shot Dr. King dropped a 30.06 Remington rifle on the street in front of the place from which it was fired. A man fitting the description of Ray was seen dropping the rifle and the suitcase just minutes after the fatal shot was fired at 6:01 p.m. April 4.

The FBI traced the rifle serial number back to a sporting goods store in Birmingham. It was purchased March 30, 1966. The purchaser, the FBI said, was James Earl Ray, using the name Galt or the name Harvey Lowmyer. He told a clerk at the store he and his brother planned to go "hunting."

The FBI charged Ray on April 17 with conspiring to deprive Dr. King of his civil rights by shooting him.

When he checked into the Memphis rooming house on April 4, a man who said he was John Willard, asked for a room near the back, which gave him a clear view of the Lorraine Motel. Another roomer, who heard the shot, came into the hall in time to see Willard emerging from the bathroom.

A few minutes later, several witnesses on the street said the man who dropped the rifle and suitcase drove off in a white Mustang.

The next morning, the Mustang which Eric Starvo Galt had bought in Birmingham, was parked a few blocks from the state capitol in Atlanta. The car was traced later through its serial numbers.

Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark announced April 19 that FBI agents had identified Galt as Ray from a fingerprint found on the rifle discarded outside the flophouse.

Ray arrived in London May 6 and flew to Lisbon May 7 on a British-European Airways flight.

He obtained the other passport in Lisbon on May 16, saying that he had spoiled his original passport. He was apparently in Lisbon from May 7 until yesterday morning. The arrest was made at 11:15 a.m. London time (6:15 a.m. Memphis time.)

There was no indication that Ray traveled with anyone and, so far, nothing is known of his activities in Portugal.

And one of the biggest questions still unanswered is how this man has financed his extensive travels? The only speculations being made are that he might have been getting money through various robberies or was a paid assassin.

A $100,000 reward, which was underwritten by the Memphis City Council, had been offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of King's assassin. The Commercial Appeal began the reward fund with $25,000.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

Suspected Slayer Of King Seized At London Airport As Police Teamwork Clicks

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

PAGE 1

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 6-9-68

Edition:

Author:

Editor: FRANK R. ANDERSON.

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

Passport Forged

65-Day Flight Touched Canada And Portugal Before Capture

By GREGORY JAYNES

London's Cannon Row police station held James Earl Ray last night, his 65-day flight ended by international police teamwork that Royal Canadian Mounted Police called "colossal" in its attention to thousands of details.

Ray is the accused assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis April 4.

Acting on information supplied by the FBI, two veterans of Scotland Yard's "great train robbery" investigation took Ray into custody early yesterday at London's Heathrow Airport about 15 minutes after his plane arrived from Lisbon, Portugal.

He wore horn-rimmed glasses. In his hip pocket he carried a loaded pistol.

Scotland Yard charged Ray with possessing a fraudulent Canadian passport and carrying a deadly weapon without a permit.

He was en route to Brussels, Belgium, from Lisbon. In recent weeks he had used two new names — Ramon George Sneyd and Donald Bridgman.

It took the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Scotland Yard and Portuguese authorities to pin down the elusive 40-year-old Illinois man with a hatful of names and an ample supply of tricks.

The case was cracked by a painstaking examination of more than 200,000 passports in Washington, Ottawa and Toronto, Canada. A spokesman for the RCMP told The Commercial Appeal last night that, after going through more than 200,000 passports issued since April 6, "We came up with what appeared to be a likeness of Ray and found it was forged."

"We had the name Sneyd then and it was quickly relayed around the world. We found he had left Toronto May 6 for Lisbon. It was just a matter of cooperation before we closed the gap."

Toronto police said Ray is first known to have arrived there April 8, four days after the murder of Dr. King outside the Lorraine Motel here and apparently driving to Atlanta, where he abandoned his white Mustang. It is believed he went directly to Toronto from Atlanta. In Toronto he rented a room in a boarding house at 964 West Dundas Street, a rundown building in the Italian-Portuguese section of the city.

The FBI announced yesterday that Ray was known to have spent some time in Montreal, Canada, in the summer of 1967, shortly after his escape from the Missouri State Penitentary. This was before he purchased the white Mustang in Birmingham, the same type of car that was seen outside the flophouse where he rented a room in Memphis April 4.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Ray evidently headed straight for Canada, a place not unfamiliar to him since he was reported to have worked at Expo '67 in Montreal only a few months before.

Ray, who used the name "John Willard" at the Memphis rooming house and Eric Starvo Galt at a Memphis motel and Birmingham, bought a 21-day excursion ticket to London from the Kennedy Travel Bureau in midtown Toronto on April 16. Mrs. Lillian Spencer, an employe there, said last night she booked him to London on a May 6 flight.

He paid $321 in cash for the return ticket, saying he would be back in May. Then he set about getting a passport. He chose the name Ramon George Sneyd which, ironically, belonged to a Toronto police officer.

Besides the officer's name, Ray used the name Paul Bridgman while in Toronto, police said.

The Toronto City Directory lists a Paul Bridgman as a consulting teacher with the board of education, living in a Toronto suburb. A Washington source said a Paul Bridgeman, spelled differently, was a fellow prisoner of Ray at the Missouri State Penitentiary, from which Ray is listed as an escapee.

Police there said last night that a birth certificate is all that is required to get a passport. They speculated Ray got the birth certificate by going through the files of a Toronto newspaper to find the name of someone born about 40 years ago.

"Then all he had to do was go to the Bureau of Vital Statistics, say that he was born in Toronto at such and such a place at such and such a time, pay a small fee and they would issue him a duplicate birth certificate," said a police spokesman.

Toronto authorities said it was probably "just chance" that Ray chose the name of a man who is a police officer.

The passport was mailed to Ray at his rooming House April 25. A second passport found on him yesterday was issued at the Canadian Embassy in Portugal May 16.

Under British law, even if cleared of the charges made by British authorities, Ray could be placed under provisional arrest at the request of the United States.

If Ray does not ask for a hearing under the terms of the extradition treaty, he might be returned to Memphis within a few days. But if he asked for a hearing, the procedure might take three to six weeks, according to American Embassy officials.

Memphis Fire and Police Director Frank Holloman yesterday sent this telegram to J. Edgar Hoover:

"Congratulations and deep appreciation for the outstanding performance of the FBI in the apprehension of James Earl Ray. I have had no doubt at any time as to the outcome of the investigtion. You have again demonstrated forcefully that law and order will prevail and justice will be done. The Memphis Police Department is grateful to you."

Mr. Holloman said he is "hopeful James Earl Ray will be brought to Memphis at the earliest possible date to stand trial for murder. He will receive a fair and impartial trial."

Mr. Holloman added: "I think this is just another indication of the closing of ranks of law enforcement around the world against spiraling crime. I'm very encouraged."

The arrest of Ray quelled widespread theories that the man was paid to kill Dr. King, then killed himself. But in St. Louis, Ray's brother, John Larry Ray, said, "If my brother did kill King, he did it for a lot of money. He didn't do anything if it wasn't for money."

He said he was "surprised" his brother was caught and added he hopes Ray "lives to stand trial."

According to Toronto authorities, Ray purchased the sec-

Resurrection City
Learns Of Capture

ond passport under the name Donald Bridgman. The real Donald Bridgman is an official on the city's school board.

The owner of the Arcade Photo Studio in downtown Toronto said last night that "mounties took the negatives of the pictures I took for the man's passport. They came with a warrant last Wednesday. When I asked them why they wanted them, they said, 'Watch your newspapers and you'll find out.' "

In New York yesterday, Mrs. King was attending the funeral of Senator Robert Kennedy when told Ray had been captured. She made no comment.

Ray had served 7 years of a 20-year sentence in the Missouri State Penitentiary when he escaped in April, 1967.

The Shelby County Grand Jury returned a first-degree murder indictment on May 7, charging Ray. Necessary extradition proceedings are expected to be put in motion shortly. Ray will appear in Bow Street Magistrate's Court tomorrow to answer the fraudulent passport and deadly weapon charges.

Dr. King was shot as he stood on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel talking to friends in the parking lot below. The bullet was fired from a bathroom window in the flophouse across the street by a white man using the name John Willard and later identified as Ray.

The FBI said that Ray came to Birmingham in late summer, 1967, and set about establishing the Galt identity. The day after he checked into a Birmingham boarding house — on Aug. 26 — William D. Paisley, the sales manager of a lumber company there, ran an advertisement in the Birmingham News offering to sell a white 1966 Mustang.

Galt bought the car for $1,995. He paid for it in cash he had drawn from his safety deposit box in a local bank. He got an Alabama's driver's license under the name Galt on Sept. 30.

He checked out of his boarding house room in Birmingham on Oct. 7, 1967, and disappeared. The FBI said he had driven the Mustang more than 19,000 miles from Aug. 30 until April 5, 1968, when it was abandoned in a housing project in Atlanta.

Agents said Galt made sev-

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

eral trips to the West Coast and, while there, took dancing lessons in Long Beach, Calif., and a course in bartending in Hollywood.

While living in California, Galt was known to have taken a trip to New Orleans in December, 1967. Charles Stein, a Los Angeles songwriter, said he made the trip to New Orleans with Galt and, several times Galt attempted to telephone a New Orleans man. Stein said Galt claimed the man was an important industrialist.

Galt was graduated from the bartending school on March 2, 1968.

The man who shot Dr. King dropped a 30.06 Remington rifle on the street in front of the place from which it was fired. A man fitting the description of Ray was seen dropping the rifle and the suitcase just minutes after the fatal shot was fired at 6:01 p.m. April 4.

The FBI traced the rifle serial number back to a sporting goods store in Birmingham. It was purchased March 30, 1966. The purchaser, the FBI said, was James Earl Ray, using the name Galt or the name Harvey Lowmyer. He told a clerk at the store he and his brother planned to go "hunting."

The FBI charged Ray on April 17 with conspiring to deprive Dr. King of his civil rights by shooting him.

When he checked into the Memphis rooming house on April 4, a man who said he was John Willard, asked for a room near the back, which gave him a clear view of the Lorraine Motel. Another roomer, who heard the shot, came into the hall in time to see Willard emerging from the bathroom.

A few minutes later, several witnesses on the street said the man who dropped the rifle and suitcase drove off in a white Mustang.

The next morning, the Mustang which Eric Starvo Galt had bought in Birmingham, was parked a few blocks from the state capitol in Atlanta. The car was traced later through its serial numbers.

Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark announced April 19 that FBI agents had identified Galt as Ray from a fingerprint found on the rifle discarded outside the flophouse.

Ray arrived in London May 6 and flew to Lisbon May 7 on a British-European Airways flight.

He obtained the other passport in Lisbon on May 16, saying that he had spoiled his original passport. He was apparently in Lisbon from May 7 until yesterday morning. The arrest was made at 11:15 a.m. London time (6:15 a.m. Memphis time.)

There was no indication that Ray traveled with anyone and, so far, nothing is known of his activities in Portugal.

And one of the biggest questions still unanswered is how this man has financed his extensive travels? The only speculations being made are that he might have been getting money through various robberies or was a paid assassin.

A $100,000 reward, which was underwritten by the Memphis City Council, had been offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of King's assassin. The Commercial Appeal began the reward fund with $25,000.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

Ray Mystery Deepens On Possible Contacts With Two Other Men

* * * * * *

He Was 'Face In The Crowd' Who Called $10 Room Home

By GREGORY JAYNES
Staff Writer

TORONTO, June 9. — The "deluxe" room — with television set and painting of Christ — is for rent today at 102 Ossington West.

Last occupant: James Earl Ray. Price: The same $10 a week he paid for the two weeks after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis.

Five blocks away, a sign in the window says there is another room for rent in Toronto today. It's $10 a week, too. See the proprietor, Mrs. Gee Loo. She'll tell you the last man who rented it left May 6, after staying two weeks.

His name: James Earl Ray.

But if you want to visit a while, don't mention the name Ray on Ossington West or around 962 Dundas West, the address of Mrs. Loo's boarding house. People will shut their doors and pull their shades.

"I am afraid this man has friends in Toronto," said Mrs. Adam Szpakowski. "I don't want to talk more. I don't want to take chances like that. I am an old woman." Mrs. Szpakowski, a Polish immigrant, runs the decaying, three-story boarding house on Ossington.

"I think this man was a salesman," she said. "He did not talk much." And then she takes her broad face from the crack in the door, and closes it firmly. She puts her mouth to the window in the door and asks, "Please go away."

Mrs. Loo is a Chinese immigrant. She, too, is afraid, and she says so. She has difficulty with English. "I will say only this: He came with a suit on his back and a newspaper in his hand. I have said this before to other people. He never spoke to anybody. Leave now. I am locking doors and going away for a while."

Ray is in jail today in London. He is wanted in the United States, charged with the April 4 murder of Dr. King. The people here speak his name in a hush. For a month, he was one of the two million faces in Toronto, and Toronto, it seems, would rather forget it.

But his name wasn't Ray then. It was Paul Bridgman who got off the trolley at Queen and Ossington and walked the half block to Mrs. Szpakowski's place. The sign was in the window that day, too, April 8. He asked how much. She said $10 and took him up to see the room. His eyes fell on the "Home Sweet Home" enbroidery and he fished Canadian cash out of his pocket.

For two weeks, he rose early, tugged on his clothes and nodded at Mrs. Szpakowski as he left through the front door. She said he usually waited for the trolley down at the corner — the trolley that took him downtown where he again became a face in the crowd.

About April 22, Mrs. Szpakowski took a letter to his room. The return address was 70 Lombard St., the provincial registrar's office, where birth certificates are issued. He left the next day.

Toronto police said the birth certificate bore the name of Ramon George Sneyd. The real Ramon George Sneyd is a traffic officer in the Toronto Police Department. Police Sunday theorized Ray got the name by searching through old newspaper files and picking a birth date close to his own. Then, they think, he applied for a lost birth certificate under that name.

Deputy-Chief B. J. Sim-

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

PAGE 1

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 6-10-68
Edition:
Author: FRANK R. AHLGREN.
Editor:
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS
☐ Being Investigated

4421

4-1

ENCLOSURE

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

monds said he thought it "ironic" that Ray should choose the name of a police officer. However, the chief said "Ray was able to get enough information on the real Sneyd to apply for a passport in his name and eventually assume the identity of Sneyd. Our duties now are to find out how he got that information." The real Sneyd, contacted at his home Sunday night, referred all questions to his superiors.

On April 11, Ray, still calling himself Paul Bridgman, went to Mable Agnew's photographic studio and had pictures taken for a passport. Mrs. Margaret Eaking took the pictures, and remembered he looked like "a business executive type. Like he was in Toronto on matters of business."

And all this time, a man who, since birth, had been called Paul Bridgman, was going to work five days a week at the Toronto Board of Education as a consultant teacher. James Earl Ray had borrowed the name. The real Mr. Bridgman also referred all questions to the police, who said little.

With the passport pictures in his hand, Ray went to the Kennedy Travel Bureau on Bloor Street West and booked passage on a 21-day excursion trip to London. He used the name Sneyd.

The agency asked him whom it might contact in case of illness or accident. Paul Bridgman, he wrote down, at 102 Ossington West.

Mrs. Lilliane Spencer at the travel bureau remembers seeing the man. "He was the type who faded into the wallpaper," she said.

Ray applied for a passport April 24, and received it at his new address on Dundas. It was mailed to Sneyd.

The RCMP impounded the passport negatives Wednesday morning from Mrs. Agnew's photo studio.

Ray stayed at Mrs. Loo's house until he left for London May 6. Mrs. Loo said he did not say where he was going. His rent was paid and he left "in the early morning."

"He do not speak Chinese. I do not speak English good. We did not talk much for the time he stayed. He was quiet."

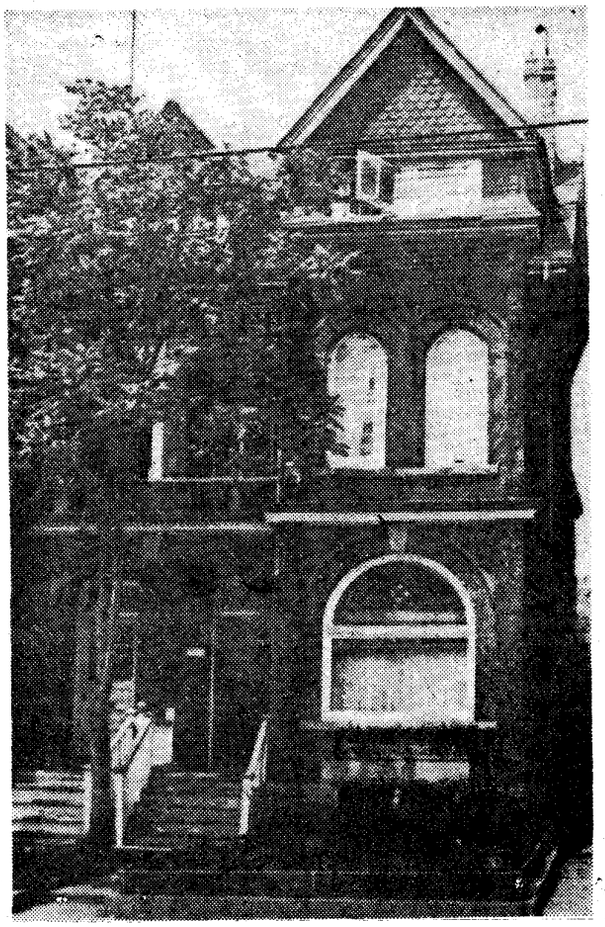
Mrs. Loo said her boarder was gone almost all the daylight hours every day. At night, he went to his room and did not emerge until morning.

James Earl Ray's business in Toronto was partially successful. He wished to remain inconspicuous. He did.

His neighbors on Ossington and Dundas do not remember him. His fellow boarders seldom, if ever, saw him. Only Malcolm Speight, a grizzled, 60-year-old laborer who sometimes stays at Mrs. Loo's, clearly recalled him.

"I saw him when I was sitting on the porch one day. I said hello. He nodded. I figured he had problems."

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



Where Ray Stayed

Mrs. Adam Szpakowski (above) owner of a Toronto rooming house, said she rented this room for two weeks to a man now identified as James Earl Ray. The man called himself Paul Bridgman when he rented the room on Ossington Avenue April 8. Canadian authorities say Ray also stayed in a rooming house on Dundas Street West (left) in downtown Toronto. The landlady said Ray, wanted for the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, had no luggage when he arrived.

—AP Wirephotos

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

Ray Mystery Deepens On Possible Contacts With Two Other Men

* * * * * *

He Was 'Face In The Crowd' Who Called $10 Room Home

By GREGORY JAYNES
Staff Writer

TORONTO, June 9. — The "deluxe" room — with television set and painting of Christ — is for rent today at 102 Ossington West.

Last occupant: James Earl Ray. Price: The same $10 a week he paid for the two weeks after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis.

Five blocks away, a sign in the window says there is another room for rent in Toronto today. It's $10 a week, too. See the proprietor, Mrs. Gee Loo. She'll tell you the last man who rented it left May 6, after staying two weeks.

His name: James Earl Ray.

But if you want to visit a while, don't mention the name Ray on Ossington West or around 962 Dundas West, the address of Mrs. Loo's boarding house. People will shut their doors and pull their shades.

"I am afraid this man has friends in Toronto," said Mrs. Adam Szpakowski. "I don't want to talk more. I don't want to take chances like that. I am an old woman." Mrs. Szpakowski, a Polish immigrant, runs the decaying, three-story boarding house on Ossington.

"I think this man was a salesman," she said. "He did not talk much." And then she takes her broad face from the crack in the door, and closes it firmly. She puts her mouth to the window in the door and asks, "Please go away."

Mrs. Loo is a Chinese immigrant. She, too, is afraid, and she says so. She has difficulty with English. "I will say only this: He came with a suit on his back and a newspaper in his hand. I have said this before to other people. He never spoke to anybody. Leave now. I am locking doors and going away for a while."

Ray is in jail today in London. He is wanted in the United States, charged with the April 4 murder of Dr. King. The people here speak his name in a hush. For a month, he was one of the two million faces in Toronto, and Toronto, it seems, would rather forget it.

But his name wasn't Ray then. It was Paul Bridgman who got off the trolley at Queen and Ossington, and walked the half block to Mrs. Szpakowski's place. The sign was in the window that day, too, April 8. He asked how much. She said $10 and took him up to see the room. His eyes fell on the "Home Sweet Home" enbroidery and he fished Canadian cash out of his pocket.

For two weeks he rose early, tugged on his clothes and nodded at Mrs. Szpakowski as he left through the front door. She said he usually waited for the trolley down at the corner — the trolley that took him downtown where he again became a face in the crowd.

About April 22, Mrs. Szpakowski took a letter to his room. The return address was 70 Lombard St., the provincial registrar's office, where birth certificates are issued. He left the next day.

Toronto police said the birth certificate bore the name of Ramon George Sneyd. The real Ramon George Sneyd is a traffic officer in the Toronto Police Department. Police Sunday theorized Ray got the name by searching through old newspaper files and picking a birth date close to his own. Then, they think, he applied for a lost birth certificate under that name.

Deputy Chief B. J. Sim-

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

PAGE 1

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 6-10-68
Edition:
Author: FRANK R. AHLGREN.
Editor:
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS
☐ Being Investigated

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

monds said he thought it "ironic" that Ray should choose the name of a police officer. However, the chief said "Ray was able to get enough information on the real Sneyd to apply for a passport in his name and eventually assume the identity of Sneyd. Our duties now are to find out how he got that information. The real Sneyd, contacted at his home Sunday night, referred all questions to his superiors.

On April 11, Ray, still calling himself Paul Bridgman, went to Mable Agnew's photographic studio and had pictures taken for a passport. Mrs. Margaret Eaking took the pictures, and remembered he looked like "a business executive type. Like he was in Toronto on matters of business."

And all this time, a man who, since birth, had been called Paul Bridgman, was going to work five days a week at the Toronto Board of Education as a consultant teacher. James Earl Ray had borrowed the name. The real Mr. Bridgman also referred all questions to the police, who said little.

With the passport pictures in his hand, Ray went to the Kennedy Travel Bureau on Bloor Street West and booked passage on a 21-day excursion trip to London. He used the name Sneyd.

The agency asked him whom it might contact in case of illness or accident. Paul Bridgman, he wrote down, at 102 Ossington West.

Mrs. Lilliane Spencer at the travel bureau remembers seeing the man. "He was the type who faded into the wallpaper," she said.

Ray applied for a passport April 24, and received it at his new address on Dundas. It was mailed to Sneyd.

The RCMP impounded the passport negatives Wednesday morning from Mrs. Agnew's photo studio.

Ray stayed at Mrs. Loo's house until he left for London May 6. Mrs. Loo said he did not say where he was going. His rent was paid and he left "in the early morning."

"He do not speak Chinese. I do not speak English good. We did not talk much for the time he stayed. He was quiet."

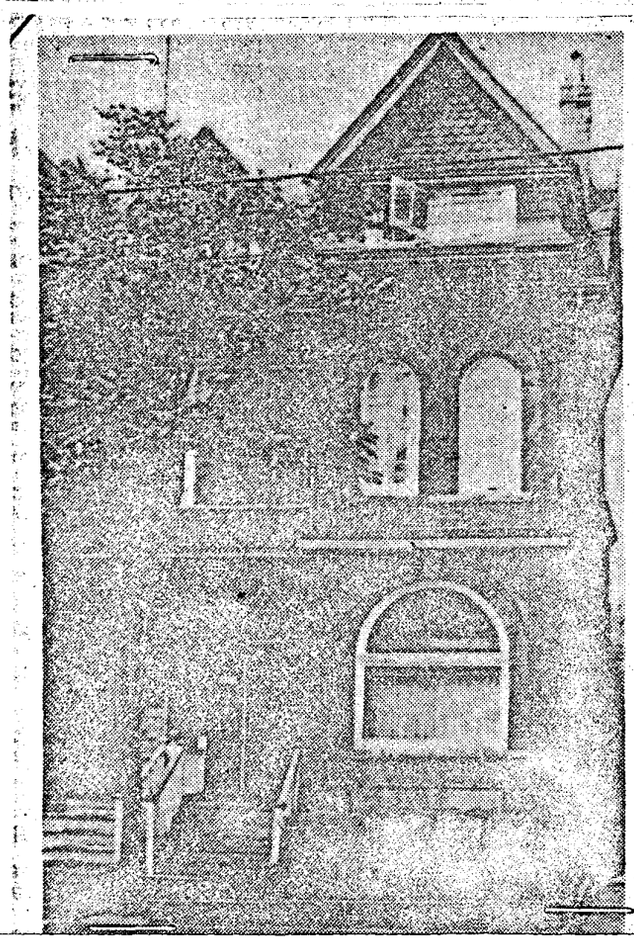
Mrs. Loo said her boarder was gone almost all the daylight hours every day. At night, he went to his room and did not emerge until morning.

James Earl Ray's business in Toronto was partially successful. He wished to remain inconspicuous. He did.

His neighbors on Ossington and Dundas do not remember him. His fellow boarders seldom, if ever, saw him. Only Malcolm Speight, a grizzled, 60-year-old laborer who sometimes stays at Mrs. Loo's, clearly recalled him.

"I saw him when I was sitting on the porch one day. I said hello. He nodded. I figured he had problems."

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



Where Ray Stayed

Mrs. Adam Szpakowski (above) owner of a Toronto rooming house, said she rented this room for two weeks to a man now identified as James Earl Ray. The man called himself Paul Bridgman when he rented the room on Ossington Avenue April 8. Canadian authorities say Ray also stayed in a rooming house on Dundas Street West (left) in downtown Toronto. The landlady said Ray, wanted for the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, had no luggage when he arrived.

—AP Wirephotos

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Scotland Yard Offers Only Tea And Silence

By ANGUS McEACHRAN
Staff Writer

LONDON, June 9. — They gave his name as Ramon George Sneyd and his present address as Cannon Row, a 77-year-old detention center on the banks of the Thames.

They gave the charge as possessing a forged passport and possessing a firearm without a certificate.

Beyond that, and an occasional cup of tea, Scotland Yard Sunday gave precious little else which might have shed some additional insight into the man charged with the April 4 murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis.

Mr. McEachran

The English are used to the zipper mouth of Scotland Yard. The stiff penalties against pretrial publicity of course play a large measure in the reticence of "the Yard."

But the curious lack of curiosity about the

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

PAGE 1

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 6-10-68

Edition:

Author:

Editor: FRANK R. ANLGREN.

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

44-97

ENCLOSURE

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

accused assassin in much of London Sunday went beyond that.

"I don't know anything about that" or "I haven't been following that" were the general hurried responses to questions about the arrest.

At London Airport where James Earl Ray, alias Eric Starvo Galt, alias Ramon Sneyd, was arrested as he waited to board a plane for Brussels, employes refused to talk to the press.

Perhaps it was the weather. June supposedly is the best month in Britain, and Sunday must have been the best of the lot. The last swatches of fog were burned off by 10 a.m. and bright sunshine was fanned by a constant soft breeze.

In the plump green parks, bare-chested boys kicked soccer balls while babies in carriages slept in the shade.

At Buckingham Palace, hundreds of picture-snapping tourists recorded the changing of the guard, while lovers in the adjoining St. James's Park lay embraced on the grassy knoll, the cooing of pigeons that only background music since the park is posted against portable radios the young people always seem to have wired to their ears these days.

Then, too, as Susie Murray, a plain but helpful employe of the London Tourist Board, put it: There is "that Kennedy thing."

Susie, like many Londoners I talked with, is still in a state of shock over the death of Senator Robert Kennedy.

"I mean, I was pretty shocked when they killed Luther King (almost everyone calls him that) but Kennedy, my God. I mean, it might happen once, but how many times is it going to keep on? I guess I haven't thought much at all about this fellow being arrested for Luther King's death. The FBI says it is their man, and I guess that is that. The FBI ought to know what it is talking about."

Susie is not alone in her adoration of the FBI. People here seen in as much awe of the federal agents as Americans are of Scotland Yard.

The London press is full of accounts of how FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover personally took charge of the search for Dr. King's assassin, which probably would come as a surprise to a number of sleepless, numb-footed agents who were assigned to the case.

At Trafalgar Square, two attractive young

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

ladies sat feeding the pigeons. Both are welfare officers for the Children's Society, which gives assistance to unwed mothers and acts as an adoption agency.

"I think Europeans used to envy the life of Americans," said blond, 20-year-old Carole Griffith. "But now, I think the feeling is that America is on the verge of destroying itself. I find it perfectly frightening that everyone goes around armed with firearms.

"When Luther King was killed, there was a great deal of interest because of the thought of conspiracy, and one couldn't help wondering it it had anything to do with the killing of President Kennedy. Then this other impossible shooting, well, it is perfectly horrible, so many leaders being shot off so quickly. I think American has reached her limits."

Her friend, 21-year-old Derval Murray said she thought America is "just too permissive. Why do they let anyone carry firearms? I am satisfied that you have caught the assassin of Luther King. But so what? I wonder who you will shoot next."

At Scotland Yard, there was nowhere near that much conversation. The press is not even allowed in the door of Scotland Yard proper. There is a press room at the rear of the building, entered through a rear door. If a reporter has a question about a story, he picks up a special phone and dials "O". In a few minutes, a press officer appears to answer the question.

Reporters Sunday wanted to know whether United States Justice Department officials had met with Scotland Yard about the extradition process.

The press officer returned a few minutes later and said the news of the day was that a car from the American Embassy had been at the Yard earlier in the day. If there had been a meeting, it was over.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Scotland Yard Offers Only Tea And Silence

By ANGUS McEACHRAN
Staff Writer

LONDON, June 9. — They gave his name as Ramon George Sneyd and his present address as Cannon Row, a 77-year-old detention center on the banks of the Thames.

They gave the charge as possessing a forged passport and possessing a firearm without a certificate.

Beyond that, and an occasional cup of tea, Scotland Yard Sunday gave precious little else which might have shed some additional insight into the man charged with the April 4 murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis.

Mr. McEachran

The English are used to the zipper mouth of Scotland Yard. The stiff penalties against pretrial publicity of course play a large measure in the reticence of "the Yard."

But the curious lack of curiosity about the

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

PAGE 1

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 6-10-68

Edition:

Author:

Editor: FRANK R. AHLGREN.

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

accused assassin in much of London Sunday went beyond that.

"I don't know anything about that" or "I haven't been following that" were the general hurried responses to questions about the arrest.

At London Airport where James Earl Ray, alias Eric Starvo Galt, alias Ramon Sneyd, was arrested as he waited to board a plane for Brussels, employes refused to talk to the press.

Perhaps it was the weather. June supposedly is the best month in Britain, and Sunday must have been the best of the lot. The last swatches of fog were burned off by 10 a.m. and bright sunshine was fanned by a constant soft breeze.

In the plump green parks, bare-chested boys kicked soccer balls while babies in carriages slept in the shade.

At Buckingham Palace, hundreds of picture-snapping tourists recorded the changing of the guard, while lovers in the adjoining St. James's Park lay embraced on the grassy knoll, the cooing of pigeons that only background music since the park is posted against portable radios the young people always seem to have wired to their ears these days.

Then, too, as Susie Murray, a plain but helpful employe of the London Tourist Board, put it: There is "that Kennedy thing."

Susie, like many Londoners I talked with, is still in a state of shock over the death of Senator Robert Kennedy.

"I mean, I was pretty shocked when [illegible] killed Luther King (almost everyone c[illegible] that) but Kennedy, my God, I mean, it might happen once, but how many times is it going to keep on? I guess I haven't thought much at all about this fellow being arrested for Luther King's death. The FBI says it is their man, and I guess that is that. The FBI ought to know what it is talking about."

Susie is not alone in her adoration of the FBI. People here seem in as much awe of the federal agents as Americans are of Scotland Yard.

The London press is full of accounts of how FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover personally took charge of the search for Dr. King's assassin, which probably would come as a surprise to a number of sleepless, numb-footed agents who were assigned to the case.

At Trafalgar Square, two attractive young

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

ladies sat feeding the pigeons. Both are welfare officers for the Children's Society, which gives assistance to unwed mothers and acts as an adoption agency.

"I think Europeans used to envy the life of Americans," said blond, 20-year-old Carole Griffith. "But now, I think the feeling is that America is on the verge of destroying itself. I find it perfectly frightening that everyone goes around armed with firearms.

"When Luther King was killed, there was a great deal of interest because of the thought of conspiracy, and one couldn't help wondering it it had anything to do with the killing of President Kennedy. Then this other impossible shooting, well, it is perfectly horrible, so many leaders being shot off so quickly. I think American has reached her limits."

Her friend, 21-year-old Derval Murray said she thought America is "just too permissive. Why do they let anyone carry firearms? I am satisfied that you have caught the assassin of Luther King. But so what? I wonder who you will shoot next."

At Scotland Yard, there was nowhere near that much conversation. The press is not even allowed in the door of Scotland Yard proper. There is a press room at the rear of the building, entered through a rear door. If a reporter has a question about a story, he picks up a special phone and dials "O". In a few minutes, a press officer appears to answer the question.

Reporters Sunday wanted to know whether United States Justice Department officials had met with Scotland Yard about the extradition process.

The press officer returned a few minutes later and said the news of the day was that a car from the American Embassy had been at the Yard earlier in the day. If there had been a meeting, it was over.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

One A 'Fat Man'

Envelope May Have Passed To Dr. King's Accused Slayer In Toronto

From Our Press Services

The image of James Earl Ray and his satchel full of aliases — like a slightly out-of-focus photograph — grew even more blurred last night with reports of a fat man in Toronto and another man in London who may have known him.

In Toronto, Ray's Chinese landlady was quoted by the New York Times as saying the fat man delivered an envelope to the accused assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King four days before he flew to London May 6.

And in London, the Daily Express said a description had been "flashed around the world" of a man supposedly in contact with Ray there. The Express said he stayed with Ray at one of four places in London the fugitive is supposed to have lived since mid-May.

In Memphis, where a murder indictment awaits Ray, Fire and Police Director Frank C. Holloman had "no comment" on whether his department had received such a description.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police are seeking the fat man, the Times said, though the Toronto Globe and Mail quoted the landlady as saying her boarder had no visitors and no mail during his stay with her.

The London newspaper's account of Ray's unidentified friend indicated he had been in London since mid-May, rather than passing through London from Lisbon, Portugal, on his way to Brussels, Belgium. He was arrested at London Airport Saturday while awaiting a plane for Brussels, and earlier reports had indicated he arrived from Lisbon the same day.

Another part of the mysterious circumstances of his arrest was a report from police and airline officials at the Lisbon Airport which said no one with a Canadian passport issued in the name of Sneyd, the name Ray was using at the time, had passed through the airport Saturday.

The 40-year-old Ray was scheduled to appear in Bow Street Magistrate's Court at 10 a.m. today (4 a.m. Memphis time) on two British charges — carrying a firearm and traveling under a false passport.

Though the Toronto fat man and the London roommate might suggest an international conspiracy, Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark said in Washington yesterday:

"We have to go on the evidence and facts. At this time we have no evidence of a conspiracy. If there was one, it will be discovered."

In London, Asst. United States Atty. Gen. Fred M. Vinson Jr. visited the accused killer of Dr. King in his heavily guarded Cannon Row police station cell.

Ray made no statement.

A United States Embassy spokesman said Vinson talked yesterday with Thomas Butler, Scotland Yard's ace detective who worked on the Ray case, about speeding up procedures and setting a timetable for Ray's transfer to Memphis to stand trial for murder.

Shelby County Dist. Atty. Gen. Phil M. Canale said last night no Memphis or Shelby County officers had been sent to London. The officers who might pick up Ray when British authorities release him will be determined by the State and Justice Departments, and whether anyone from Shelby County would be sent also "will be up to the federal officials," he said.

An authority on British law said that charges would be brought against Ray this morning mainly to give American authorities time to begin the procedure of extradition.

They said the magistrate would most likely "remand him in custody," that is, order him held in prison, for a period up to eight days. This is to provide time for further investigation.

The magistrate however could deal with the case on the spot if Ray pleads guilty to the pistol and false passport charges.

If he pleads not guilty the magistrate could in theory also

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

PAGE 1

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 6-10-68

Edition:

Author: FRANK R. AHLGREN.

Editor:

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

ENCLOSURE

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

hold a hearing on the spot, but the law expert thought this unlikely.

Under British law, Ray could be sentenced on each of the two charges against him to 12 months in prison, the sentences probably running concurrently.

Since the purpose of bringing the charges is to facilitate extradition, however, the expert thought the magistrate would, upon a conviction, choose one of four courses.

1. — He might impose a deferred sentence.
2. — He might sentence Ray to 15 days in prison, which would presumably run concurrently with the 15 days during which, under British law, a person must be held in custody after he has been ordered extradited.
3. — He might be fined.
4. The magistrate might order an "absolute discharge" which would mean that he had been found guilty but that no punishment was being exacted.

Under the Extradition Act of 1870 a person must be held for 15 days after an extradition order has been made in order to safeguard his rights. This means that instead of rushing him out of the country he is given 15 days during which he could apply for a writ of habeas corpus in order to dispute his extradition.

The London Daily Telegraph said last night a man calling himself Ramon Sneyd, the name authorities said Ray used in obtaining a Canadian passport, telephoned a Telegraph reporter several times in the last few weeks and asked how to become a mercenary soldier in Africa.

It was not clear immediately whether the calls were local or came from Lisbon, Portugal, where the FBI said Ray went on May 7. The Telegraph has published several stories recently about foreign mercenaries fighting in Africa.

Scotland Yard detectives arrested Ray Saturday as he awaited a flight to Brussels, a base for some Congo mercenaries. Belgium once owned much of the Congo.

The Telegraph said its reporter had given Sneyd an address in Brussels at which he might contact someone involved with mercenary recruiting.

In Washington, Clark said Ray has made no statement and would not be questioned except in a manner "in strict conformity to applicable legal standards."

Clark said he could make no estimate of how soon Ray might be returned. He said it is possible Ray might waive extradition or that he might be deported under an "exclusion principle" of British law. Clark did not elaborate.

He said he is working with Tennessee Gov. Buford Ellington, Vinson and British officials on the question of extradition if that proves necessary.

Clark said Ray "is a person who lived a life of crime" and it was plausible that he might have financed his travels that way.

Clark was interviewed on the ABC radio-television program "Issues and Answers."

The New York Times News Service learned in Lisbon yesterday that Ray lived in a third-class hotel in downtown Lisbon for nine days in May and then disappeared.

"That's the man who called himself Ramon George Sneya," declared the day clerk of the Hotel Portugal pointing to one of the photographs of Ray published in the Lisbon newspaper Diario de Noticias.

Ray signed into the 45-room, busy commercial hotel on the evening of May 8 and left on the morning of May 17.

A spokesman for the Canadian Embassy in Lisbon also reported seeing a man who carried a Canadian passport in the name of Sneya.

"He came into the consulate and said that his name had been misspelled on the passport and that it should have been Sneyd," a Canadian consular official said. "He produced a birth certificate in the name of Ramon George Sneyd and asked us to change Sneya to Sneyd."

The Canadian consul said he pointed out that it was against Embassy regulations to alter a passport and so issued a new passport in the name of Sneyd on May 16.

It was the next day, the London report said, that he returned there.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

One A 'Fat Man'

Envelope May Have Passed To Dr. King's Accused Slayer In Toronto

From Our Press Services

The image of James Earl Ray and his satchel full of aliases — like a slightly out-of-focus photograph — grew even more blurred last night with reports of a fat man in Toronto and another man in London who may have known him.

In Toronto, Ray's Chinese landlady was quoted by the New York Times as saying the fat man delivered an envelope to the accused assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King four days before he flew to London May 6.

And in London, the Daily Express said a description had been "flashed around the world" of a man supposedly in contact with Ray there. The Express said he stayed with Ray at one of four places in London the fugitive is supposed to have lived since mid-May.

In Memphis, where a murder indictment awaits Ray, Fire and Police Director Frank C. Holloman had "no comment" on whether his department had received such a description.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police are seeking the fat man, the Times said, though the Toronto Globe and Mail quoted the landlady as saying her boarder had no visitors and no mail during his stay with her.

The London newspaper's account of Ray's unidentified friend indicated he had been in London since mid-May, rather than passing through London from Lisbon, Portugal, on his way to Brussels, Belgium. He was arrested at London Airport Saturday while awaiting a plane for Brussels, and earlier reports had indicated he arrived from Lisbon the same day.

Another part of the mysterious circumstances of his arrest was a report from police and airline officials at the Lisbon Airport which said no one with a Canadian passport issued in the name of Sneyd, the name Ray was using at the time, had passed through the airport Saturday.

The 40-year-old Ray was scheduled to appear in Bow Street Magistrate's Court at 10 a.m. today (4 a.m. Memphis time) on two British charges — carrying a firearm and traveling under a false passport.

Though the Toronto fat man and the London roommate might suggest an international conspiracy, Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark said in Washington yesterday:

"We have to go on the evidence and facts. At this time we have no evidence of a conspiracy. If there was one, it will be discovered."

In London, Asst. United States Atty. Gen. Fred M. Vinson Jr. visited the accused killer of Dr. King in his heavily guarded Cannon Row police station cell.

Ray made no statement.

A United States Embassy spokesman said Vinson talked yesterday with Thomas Butler, Scotland Yard's ace detective who worked on the Ray case, about speeding up procedures and setting a timetable for Ray's transfer to Memphis to stand trial for murder.

Shelby County Dist. Atty. Gen. Phil M. Canale said last night no Memphis or Shelby County officers had been sent to London. The officers who might pick up Ray when British authorities release him will be determined by the State and Justice Departments, and whether anyone from Shelby County would be sent also "will be up to the federal officials," he said.

An authority on British law said that charges would be brought against Ray this morning mainly to give American authorities time to begin the procedure of extradition.

They said the magistrate would most likely "remand him in custody," that is, order him held in prison, for a period up to eight days. This is to provide time for further investigation.

The magistrate however could deal with the case on the spot if Ray pleads guilty to the pistol and false passport charges.

If he pleads not guilty the magistrate could in theory also

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

PAGE 1

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 6-10-68

Edition:

Author: FRANK R. AHLGREN.

Editor:

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

hold a hearing on the spot, but the law expert thought this unlikely.

Under British law, Ray could be sentenced on each of the two charges against him to 12 months in prison, the sentences probably running concurrently.

Since the purpose of bringing the charges is to facilitate extradition, however, the expert thought the magistrate would, upon a conviction, choose one of four courses.

1. — He might impose a deferred sentence.
2. — He might sentence Ray to 15 days in prison, which would presumably run concurrently with the 15 days during which, under British law, a person must be held in custody after he has been ordered extradited.
3. — He might be fined.
4. The magistrate might order an "absolute discharge" which would mean that he had been found guilty but that no punishment was being exacted.

Under the Extradition Act of 1870 a person must be held for 15 days after an extradition order has been made in order to safeguard his rights. This means that instead of rushing him out of the country he is given 15 days during which he could apply for a writ of habeas corpus in order to dispute his extradition.

The London Daily Telegraph said last night a man calling himself Ramon Sneyd, the name authorities said Ray used in obtaining a Canadian passport, telephoned a Telegraph reporter several times in the last few weeks and asked how to become a mercenary soldier in Africa.

It was not clear immediately whether the calls were local or came from Lisbon, Portugal, where the FBI said Ray went on May 7. The Telegraph has published several stories recently about foreign mercenaries fighting in Africa.

Scotland Yard detectives arrested Ray Saturday as he awaited a flight to Brussels, a base for some Congo mercenaries. Belgium once owned much of the Congo.

The Telegraph said its reporter had given Sneyd an address in Brussels at which he might contact someone involved with mercenary recruiting.

In Washington, Clark said Ray has made no statement and would not be questioned except in a manner "in strict conformity to applicable legal standards."

Clark said he could make no estimate of how soon Ray might be returned. He said it is possible Ray might waive extradition or that he might be deported under an "exclusion principle" of British law. Clark did not elaborate.

He said he is working with Tennessee Gov. Buford Ellington, Vinson and British officials on the question of extradition if that proves necessary.

Clark said Ray "is a person who lived a life of crime" and it was plausible that he might have financed his travels that way.

Clark was interviewed on the ABC radio-television program "Issues and Answers."

The New York Times News Service learned in Lisbon yesterday that Ray lived in a third-class hotel in downtown Lisbon for nine days in May and then disappeared.

"That's the man who called himself Ramon George Sneya," declared the day clerk of the Hotel Portugal pointing to one of the photographs of Ray published in the Lisbon newspaper Diario de Noticias.

Ray signed into the 45-room, busy commercial hotel on the evening of May 8 and left on the morning of May 17.

A spokesman for the Canadian Embassy in Lisbon also reported seeing a man who carried a Canadian passport in the name of Sneya.

"He came into the consulate and said that his name had been misspelled on the passport and that it should have been Sneyd," a Canadian consular official said. "He produced a birth certificate in the name of Ramon George Sneyd and asked us to change Sneya to Sneyd."

The Canadian consul said he pointed out that it was against Embassy regulations to alter a passport and so issued a new passport in the name of Sneyd on May 16.

It was the next day, the London report said that he returned there.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27
5010-106

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: June 10, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: MURKIN

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. McGowan
1 - Mr. Long
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Trotter

Tolson
DeLoach
Mohr
Bishop
Casper
Callahan
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

This is the investigation of the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Subject James Earl Ray was arraigned in Magistrates Court, London, this morning at 10:30 a. m. London time (5:30 a. m. Washington time) on charges of carrying a concealed weapon and for entering England with illegal documentation (false Canadian passport).

The arraignment lasted only a few minutes and an additional hearing has been set for next Tuesday, 6/18/68. Ray was remanded to Brixton Prison where he will be held until his 6/18/68 appearance.

The arraignment was conducted under maximum security conditions and members of the public and the press were searched before being admitted to the hearing.

During the arraignment the Magistrate directed Ray's attention to a new British law under which the subject is granted the privilege of saying whether or not he wants the proceedings in his case publicized in the British press. Ray stated he did not want the proceedings in his case publicized.

Ray made formal application during the arraignment for legal counsel and the Magistrate will appoint counsel for him.

Two possibilities are available in connection with Ray's return to this country, formal extradition proceedings or deportation proceedings. Assistant Attorney General Fred Vinson who is in London representing the Department to expedite legal activities has indicated a preference for extradition proceedings.

44-38867-4452

12 JUN 18 1968

COPIES MADE, DATE 5-18-78 BY 15
TWB:SPS RE MURKIN
FOR REVIEW AT FBIHQ AND/OR DELIVERY
TO HSCA RE REQUEST DATED 5-16-78
(SEE BUFILE 62-117290)

JGK:vea
(12)

CONTINUED - OVER

79 JUN 20 1968

COPY MADE FOR MR. TOLSON

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

JUN 13 4 43 PM '68

REC'D - DE LOACH
F B I

JUN 10 8 44 AM '68

REC'D DE LOACH JUN 10 10 57 AM '68
F B I

RECEIVED - DIRECTOR
JUN 10 11 28 AM '68

JUN 10 3 59 PM '68
F B I

JUN 11

RECEIVED - CONRAD
JUN 10 4 34 PM '68
F B I
LABORATORY DIVISION

RECEIVED - CONRAD
JUN 13 4 05 PM '68
F B I
LABORATORY DIVISION

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI
JUN 11 6 30 AM '68

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

If deportation proceedings were to be undertaken against Ray, the charge of carrying a concealed weapon will be dropped and the British would use the fraudulent passport charge as the basis for deporting him. Should this procedure be followed, Ray possibly could be returned to the United States sometime next week following his 6/18/68 hearing.

If formal extradition proceedings are undertaken it is estimated that it will take at least three to five weeks for his extradition to be accomplished.

Robert A. Frazier, Examiner assigned to our Laboratory Division, and George J. Bonebrake, a latent fingerprint examiner assigned to our Identification Division, assisted the Department in the preparation of documents which could be necessary in the extradition of the subject. Frazier previously made an examination of the rifle left at the scene of the shooting of Martin Luther King, Jr. Bonebrake previously identified latent fingerprints on the evidence abandoned at the scene as those of James Earl Ray.

Among the items recovered by New Scotland Yard in connection with Ray's arrest on 6/8/68 was a "Liberty Chief" Japanese revolver, a Polaroid camera, a RCA transistor radio and various articles of clothing.

Among the items of clothing was a brown wool suit with label inside of innerpocket, English and Scottish Woolen Company, Limited, Montreal, with name Eric Galt, date 7/21/67, order number 11526. It is to be noted it was previously established that subject as Galt was in Montreal, Canada, during part of July and August, 1967. Investigation has been immediately instituted regarding these items.

ACTION:

This matter continues to receive expeditious attention and you will be kept advised of all pertinent developments.

CLM/JK

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

If deportation proceedings were to be undertaken against Ray, the charge of carrying a concealed weapon will be dropped and the British would use the fraudulent passport charge as the basis for deporting him. Should this procedure be followed, Ray possibly could be returned to the United States sometime next week following his 6/18/68 hearing.

If formal extradition proceedings are undertaken it is estimated that it will take at least three to five weeks for his extradition to be accomplished.

Robert A. Frazier, Examiner assigned to our Laboratory Division, and George L. Bonebrake, a latent fingerprint examiner assigned to our Identification Division, assisted the Department in the preparation of documents which could be necessary in the extradition of the subject. Frazier previously made an examination of the rifle left at the scene of the shooting of Martin Luther King, Jr. Bonebrake previously identified latent fingerprints on the evidence abandoned at the scene as those of James Earl Ray.

Among the items recovered by New Scotland Yard in connection with Ray's arrest on 6/8/68 was a "Liberty Chief" Japanese revolver, a Polaroid camera, a RCA transistor radio and various articles of clothing.

Among the items of clothing was a brown wool suit with label inside of hip pocket, English and Scottish Woolen Company, Limited, Montreal, with name Eric Galt, date 7/21/67, order number 11526. It is to be noted it was previously established that subject as Galt was in Montreal, Canada, during part of July and August, 1967. Investigation has been immediately instituted regarding these items.

ACTION:

This matter continues to receive expeditious attention and you will be kept advised of all pertinent developments.

FBI
REC'D - CIA MICHIG
JUN 14 6 30 AM '68

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

REC- 14

June 10, 1968

PERSONAL

44-27961-4453

Mr. J. R. Murray
Constable
RCMP "A" Division
Brunswick Building
240 Bank Street
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Dear Mr. Murray:

I have been informed of your participation in a matter of great interest to this Bureau and would like to express my appreciation for the outstanding work you performed in identifying James Earl Ray.

The success of your efforts aided immeasurably in the solution to this case, and we are indebted to you for the generous giving of your own time in order to assist in this important investigation. My associates join me in thanking you for your cooperation which has been of great service to the FBI.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 24
JUN 11 1968
COMM-FBI

Enclosure

1 - Ottawa (44-4) (detached)
Reurtel 6-6-68
1 - Foreign Liaison Unit (detached)

15 JUN 17 1968

NOTE: Letter as above recommended by Legat, Ottawa, by teletype 6-6-68 and concurred in by the General Investigative Division 6-7-68.

JBT:kce (5)

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

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

JUN 10 12 45 PM '68

REC'D - ROSEN
FBI

JUN 10 10 44 AM '68

JUN 10 11 17 AM '68

F B I
REC-D BISHOP

REC'D MAIL ROOM
FBI

JUN 10 1 04 PM '68

JUN 11 8 30 AM '68

JUN 10 4 40 PM '68

REC'D MAIL ROOM
FBI

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

REC- 14

44-27141-4463

June 10, 1968

Honorable M. Frank Lindsay
Commissioner
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
RCMP Headquarters Building
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

My dear Commissioner:

It is with considerable pleasure that I express my appreciation, and that of my associates, for the outstanding work performed by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in the case involving James Earl Ray.

The efforts of the many members of your Command who gave unstintingly of their own time to assist in this investigation aided immeasurably in the identification and location of Ray.

Their invaluable service, performed at great personal sacrifice, indicates their dedication to the principles of law enforcement. I have written directly to Corporal Titus and Constable Murray regarding their participation in this investigation, and I am enclosing copies of my letters to them for your information. I ask that you convey our sentiments to the other Constables who performed so superbly as well as to the appropriate officers of the Passport Section, Department of External Affairs, for their cooperation.

MAILED 24
JUN 11 1968
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

15 JUN 17

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

Enclosures (2)
1 - Ottawa (44-4) (detached)
Reurtel 6-6-68.
1 - Foreign Liaison Unit (detached)
JBT:mlb (5)

See Note on Next Page

79 JUN 20 1968

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

JUN 10 10 44 AM '68

REC'D FROM

REC'D BISHOP

JUN 10 12 45 PM '68

JUN 10 11 17 AM '68

REC'D-READING ROOM

REC'D MAIL ROOM
FBT

JUN 10 8 29 AM '68

JUN 11 1 04 PM '68

JUN 11 4 50 PM '68

REC'D MAIL ROOM
FBT

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Honorable M. Frank Lindsay

NOTE: Letter as above recommended by Legat, Ottawa, by teletype 6-6-68 and concurred in by the General Investigative Division 6-7-68.

TSB

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

6-10-68

airtel

To: Legat, Ottawa (44-4)
REC-14
From: Director, FBI (44-38861) - 4453

MURKIN

Re tel 6-6-68 and urtelcall 6-8-68.

In accordance with your request, enclosed are letters to be presented to Commissioner Lindsay, Corporal Titus, and Constable Murray expressing my appreciation for their assistance in effecting the identification of James Earl Ray in captioned case. Also enclosed are copies of my letters to them for your information.

Enclosures (6)

1 - Foreign Liaison Unit - Enclosures (3)

JBT:mer (5)

MAILED 24
JUN 11 1968
COMM-FBI

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

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

REC'D - ROSEN
FBI

JUN 10 10 44 AM '68

REC'D
DOM INTELL DIV

REC'D
INTELL DIV

REC'D BISHOP

JUN 10 11 20 AM '68

JUN 10 11 17 AM '68

JUN 11 2 46 PM '68

REC'D DE LOACH
F B I

JUN 10 12 45 PM '68

JUN 10 1 04 PM '68

READING ROOM
JUN 11 1968
UNITED STATES

JUN 11 2 22 PM '68

REC'D SULLIVAN
FBI JUSTICE

REC'D MAIL ROOM
FBI

JUN 10 4 40 PM '68

REC'D MAIL ROOM
FBI

JUN 11 8 29 AM '68

REC- 18

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

REC 14

June 10, 1968

44-38861-4453

PERSONAL

Corporal K. W. Titus
RCMP "A" Division
Brunswick Building
240 Bank Street
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Dear Corporal Titus:

The excellent supervision you exercised over the Constables assisting you in the investigation involving James Earl Ray was instrumental in affecting his identification and subsequent apprehension.

The willingness of you and your officers to give so generously of your own time to aid in this important investigation exemplifies the finest traditions of law enforcement and my associates and I are deeply appreciative of the outstanding cooperation afforded the FBI at great personal sacrifice.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 24
JUN 11 1968
COMM-FBI

1 - Ottawa (44-4) (detached)
1 - Foreign Liaison Unit (detached)

NOTE: Letter above recommended by Legat, Ottawa, telephonically, following the apprehension of James Earl Ray in London 6-8-68.

JBT:mer (6)

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

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

REC'D - R JUN 10 10 44 AM '68
FBI

JUN 10 12 45 PM '68

F B I

REC'D-READING ROOM

JUN 10 11 17 AM '68 REC-D BISHOP

F B I

REC'D MAIL ROOM
FBI

JUN 10 4 40 PM '68

REC'D MAIL ROOM
FBI

JUN 10 8 30 AM '68

JUN 10 1 04 PM '68

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

June 7, 1968

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) through a review of 270,000 passports issued by Canadian officials identified a passport issued for the subject under name of Ramon George Sneyd.

The attached teletype recommends letter of appreciation from the Director to the Commissioner of the RCMP for the valuable assistance rendered by individuals who served on the project and appreciation for the assistance of the passport section. It is also recommended that an individual letter be addressed to Constable J. R. Murray who actually made the identification in the case.

The General Investigative Division concurs but the letters should not contain any reference either to the Martin Luther King assassination or the identity of James Earl Ray.

CLM:vea

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

VIA TELETYPE
JUNE 1968
ENCIPHERED

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
Mrs. Gandy

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

REC'D-CORR & TOURS

JUN 10 7 14 AM '68

JUN 7 6 43 AM '68

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

F.B.I.

JUN 6 9 38 AM '68

REC'D-CIV RIGHTS

FBI

JUN 7 6 9 AM '68

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

F.B.I.

JL M 9 2 2 9 M JL

FROM LEGAL ATTACH (AA-4) 2b

TO DIRECTOR (AA-2888) 2b

INCOMING 8-3-68

ENCIPHERED

AIR TELETYPE

WORKIN.

REQUEST NAME TYPE LAST.

INVESTIGATION CARRIED. ONTARIO. NEGATIVE.

SUBJECT APPLIED FOR BIRTH RECORD THROUGH ONTARIO DEPT. OF VITAL STATISTICS UNDER NAME OF PAUL BRIDGMAN AND SAME WAS FOUND TO HAVE HIS APPROXIMATE STREET ADDRESS, BUT WAS RETURNED UNCLAIMED.

THIS APPARENTLY WAS DELIVER REFERRED TO IN PARA TWO, PAGE FOUR OF WATER TOWNE FOUR LAST. INTERESTING TO NOTE SUBJECT ONCE MAIN AND FULL PARTICULARS ON FAMILY BACKGROUND OF BRIDGMAN AS WITH SWEAD AND BCMT TORONTO ENDEAVORING TO DETERMINE HOW COULD HAVE BEEN OBTAINED. POSSIBLY AT DEPT. OF VITAL STATISTICS ITSELF. BY SUBJECT AS DELICTIVE SWEAD STILL ADMINISTRATIVE DETAIL ANY POSSIBLE KNOWLEDGE AS TO HOW HIS BACKGROUND INFORMATION

POSSESSION SUBJECT [illegible] INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT [illegible]

AND DELICTIVE SWEAD CLAIMED IN SAME GENERAL AREA TORONTO.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

RCMP THIS DATE VIA ~~BOAC~~ British Overseas Airways Corporation PILOT FLYING BETTER PICTURES OF SUBJECT'S PASSPORT PHOTO AND SAME TO BE DELIVERED BY THEIR LIAISON OFFICER, LONDON, TO ~~LEGAT~~ Legal Attache, LONDON LATER TONIGHT.

IN VIEW POSITIVE ~~IDENT~~ IDENTIFICATION OF SNEYD WITH RAY, LEGAT RECOMMENDS WARM PERSONAL LETTER OF APPRECIATION FROM DIRECTOR TO COMMISSIONER LINDSAY OF RCMP AND THROUGH HIM TO FOLLOWING MEN WHO PARTICIPATED IN SURVEY OF OVER TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY THOUSAND PASSPORT APPLICATIONS. THIS WORK HAD TO BE DONE AT NIGHT AND ON WEEK ENDS ON THEIR OWN TIME.

CORPORAL K. W. TITUS. CONSTABLE R. A. E. WOOD.

CONSTABLE B. J. E. GAGNON. CONSTABLE J. R. MURRAY.

CONSTABLE J. L. BENNETT. CONSTABLE R. M. ELLIOTT.

CONSTABLE T. B. BURNS. CONSTABLE D. J. RILEY.

CONSTABLE R. G. WASHBURN. CONSTABLE D. G. MONTEITH.

CONSTABLE I. D. GEMMELL. SPECIAL CONSTABLE T. H. YU.

CONSTABLE J. R. MURRAY IS THE ONE WHO MADE THE INITIAL IDENTIFICATION AND THUS RATES SPECIAL RECOGNITION. ACCORDINGLY, IT IS RECOMMENDED INDIVIDUAL LETTER BE ADDRESSED TO HIM AS FOLLOWS -

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

CONSTABLE J. R. MURRAY. RCMP "A" DIVISION. BRUNSWICK BUILDING. TWO FOUR ZERO BANK STREET. OTTAWA, ONTARIO, CANADA.

IN ADDITION, IT IS RECOMMENDED IN LETTER TO COMMISSIONER LINDSAY HE BE REQUESTED TO EXTEND DIRECTOR'S APPRECIATION TO APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN PASSPORT SECTION, DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE IN THIS WORTHWHILE AND PRODUCTIVE PROJECT.

END.

MLM

FBI WASH DC

TWO CODING UNIT

83 MAY 2 3 AM

CC-MR. ROSEN

CC: Mr. Bishop

3RD CC: MR. BRENNAN

Mr. Cooper

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

CODING UNIT

JUN 6 5 40 PM '68

RFI WASH DC

MLM

RECEIVED
JUN 6 5 47 PM '68
TELETYPE UNIT

PROGRESSIVE PROJECT.

EXTENDING THANKS FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE IN THIS WORTHWHILE AND

APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN PASSPORT SECTION, DEPARTMENT OF

LINDSAY WE BE REQUESTED TO EXTEND DIRECTOR'S APPRECIATION TO

IN ADDITION, IT IS RECOMMENDED IN LETTER TO COMMISSIONER

CONSTABLE L. R. MURRAY, RCMP "A" DIVISION, BRUNSWICK

BUILDING, TWO FOUR ZERO BANK STREET, OTTAWA, ONTARIO, CANADA.

PAGE THREE

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-36 (Rev. 5-22-64)

F B I

Date: 6/11/68

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

Via AIR TEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (44-374)

MURKIN

Forwarded herewith for the Bureau, Memphis and Legat, Ottawa are two copies each of a memorandum setting forth a brief chronology of subject's activities during his stay in Toronto, insofar as they had been determined as of the date of apprehension in London, England, 6/8/68.

It is noted that ASAC WASON G. CAMPBELL and SA JAMES P. MC MAHON of the Buffalo Office were in Toronto and worked with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) there in the development of this information. The RCMP is still conducting investigation at Toronto in an effort to fill in the gaps in the chronology.

The speculation as to why RAY did certain things in Toronto and how he obtained necessary information to establish his false identities while in Toronto represents the combined thinking of the RCMP personnel in Toronto as well as the Buffalo Bureau representatives who worked on the matter, based upon available information as to his behavior while in Toronto.

It is pointed out that details of the RCMP investigation in Toronto, including interviews, are being prepared by the RCMP and will be submitted in the usual manner, through Legat, Ottawa.

REC-33 44-38861-4454

ENCLOSURE

4 - Bureau (Encs. 2) (AM)
(1 - Legat, Ottawa) sent 6-13-68
1 - Memphis (44-1987) (Encs. 2) (Info.) (AM)
1 - Buffalo
JPMcM:faf
(6)

JUN 13 1968

1cc: AAG Civil Rights Division
Form 6-94 (F)REL/hdc

1cc CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT JUN 13 1968

79 JUN 19 1968

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

SIX

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

AIR TEL AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-29761)

FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (44-374)

MURKIN

Forwarded herewith for the Bureau, Memphis and legat, Ottawa are two copies each of a memorandum setting forth a brief chronology of subject's activities during his stay in Toronto, insofar as they have been determined as of the date of apprehension in London, England, 6/3/68.

It is noted that ASAC WASON G. CAMPBELL and SA JAMES P. MC MAHON of the Buffalo Office were in Toronto and worked with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) there in the development of this information. The RCMP is still conducting investigation at Toronto in an effort to fill in the gaps in the chronology.

The speculation as to why RAY did certain things in Toronto and how he obtained necessary information to establish his false identities while in Toronto represents the combined thinking of the RCMP personnel in Toronto as well as the Buffalo Bureau representatives who worked on the matter, based upon available information as to his behavior while in Toronto.

It is pointed out that details of the RCMP investigation in Toronto, including interviews, are being prepared by the RCMP and will be submitted in the usual manner, through Legat, Ottawa.

4 - Bureau (Encs. 4) (AM)
(1 - Legat, Ottawa)
2 - Memphis (44-1977) (Encs. 2) (Encs.) (AM)
1 - Buffalo
DEMcM:dal
(6)

JUN 13 1968

JUN 17 1968

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

JAMES EARL RAY, aka
Paul Bridgeman,
Paul Bridgman,
Paul Edward Bridgeman,
Paul E. Bridgeman,
Ramon George Sneyd
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
April 8, - May 6, 1968

On April 8, 1968, subject, using the name PAUL BRIDGEMAN, obtained a room at a second rate rooming house at 102 Ossington Avenue, Toronto, operated by FELIKSA SZPAKOWSKA. He paid one week's rent in advance. It appears that subject obtained the room as a result of a room for rent sign in the window at the front of this residence.

The means by which subject entered Canada and his reason for selecting the alias Paul Bridgeman is not known. However, it is known that one PAUL BRIDGMAN is a former inmate of a prison in Kansas City, Missouri, who was paroled on January 16, 1968, and whose identity may or may not be known to RAY. While at this rooming house, RAY had no visitors, did not befriend any of the other roomers, was not known to be employed and according to the landlady usually left the house early in the morning and returned late at night.

On April 10, 1968, subject wrote a letter to the Bureau of Vital Statistics in Toronto, requesting a copy of the birth certificate of PAUL EDWARD BRIDGMAN and indicating that it should be sent to 102 Ossington Avenue, Toronto. In this letter subject gave his date of birth as [redacted] his father's name as EDWARD G. B. BRIDGMAN and his mother's maiden name as EVELYN GOODEN.

It is noted that the above biographic information relative to BRIDGMAN is accurate insofar as it relates

:faf

ENCLOSURE

44-39861-4454

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176