

FBI LOUISVLE
URGENT 6/8/68 GJM
TO ALL SACS
FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861

MURKIN

SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY APPREHENDED AT LONDON,
ENGLAND, JUNE EIGHT INSTANT. DISCONTINUE EFFORTS TO LOCATE
AND REMOVE ALL STOPS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

SGF

FBI LOUISVLE

BAX

44-947-336

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 8 1968	
FBI—LOUISVILLE	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

London Police Seize Suspect In King Murder

By FRED P. GRAHAM

© New York Times News Service

WASHINGTON — James Earl Ray, accused in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was arrested yesterday morning at London airport, Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark announced.

Ray, an ex-convict using the name of Eric Starvo Galt at the time of the assassination in Memphis April 4, was arrested by officers of Scotland Yard, who were acting on information supplied by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The announcement of Ray's arrest coincided with the funeral rites in New York's St. Patrick's Cathedral for Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. Dr. King's widow, informed at the cathedral that Ray had been seized, made no comment.

The 40-year-old fugitive was apprehended as he disembarked from an air-

liner en route from Lisbon, Portugal, to Brussels, Belgium. He was traveling on a Canadian passport, which he had obtained under the name of Ramon George Sneyd.

He was clad in a light-colored raincoat, sports jacket and gray trousers, and was wearing glasses when British officers took him into custody.

He gave his age as 35, and said he had been born in Toronto, had no fixed address and was unemployed.

While British authorities remained vague about the details of his arrest, it was believed he was approached by immigration officers who asked to see his passport. The American Embassy said that John T. Minnich, the embassy's legal officer, relaying FBI information, had already tipped off Scotland Yard.

Searching the suspect, immigration officials found a gun and placed him under arrest.

Police officers said that when Ray was arrested, he was carrying only one suitcase. They said he appeared outwardly calm, and had made no special requests since he was brought to the station.

"He just hasn't said much," one officer said.

Ray was informed that he could speak on the telephone to "his solicitor or to his friends provided that no hindrance is reasonably likely to be caused to the processes of investigation or the administration of justice by his doing so."

Extradition to Take at Least Week

Officials in Washington said extradition proceedings would take at least a week, and would be carried out on the basis of the murder charge filed against Ray in Memphis May 7.

Ray has also been charged with conspiracy to violate Dr. King's civil rights, a federal offense, but this is not an extraditable offense under U.S. treaties with England.

Ray was detained in Britain on charges of carrying a concealed weapon and using a fraudulent passport. He was being held at the Cannon Row station

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

Page 1

Courier-Journal
& Times

Louisville, Ky.

Date: 6/9/68
Edition: Sunday
Author:
Editor: Barry Ingham
Title:

Character: 44-947
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: LS
☐ Being Investigated

44-947-33

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 10 1968	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

under maximum security. British officials have said he will be arraigned tomorrow morning in Bow Street Magistrate's Court.

Ray is in an eight by ten foot cell with a small narrow single-barred window. A naked lightbulb shines on the pale green walls that encompass a toilet, wash basin and cot. A constant watch was being kept on the prisoner.

Under British law, even if cleared of the British charges, Ray could be placed under provisional arrest at the request of the U.S. government.

If Ray does not ask for a hearing under the terms of the extradition treaty established between Britain and the United States in 1913, he might be returned to the United States within a few days. But if the suspect asks for a hearing, the procedure might take three to six weeks.

British legal experts said, however, that the Bow Street magistrate could cut short the entire procedure by expelling Ray as an American citizen for traveling on an illicitly obtained Canadian passport. He could then be put on a plane back to the United States without going through the complex extradition procedure.

As a measure of the importance of Ray's capture to federal officials, Fred M. Vinson Jr., assistant attorney general in charge of the criminal division, left Washington yesterday afternoon to fly to London. Justice Department sources would say only that he went to oversee legal proceedings in the Ray case.

British law forbids news coverage of the arraignment hearings of the kind Ray will have tomorrow, except if the accused wishes publicity. The law here is also very strict about publication of pre-trial information about an accused, and thus plus the nature of the crime with which Ray is charged in the United States, has made police very reluctant to provide details of Ray's capture.

They have even refused to declare officially that the man they hold as Sneyd is in fact Ray, stating only that he is "identical" to Ray.

Trail Picked Up in Canada

The arrest came after FBI agents and officials of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police picked up his trail in Canada after an exhaustive check of recent passport applications.

FBI officials now believe that he went to Canada shortly after the assassination. They would not say how he had managed to get there at a time when a worldwide manhunt was under way. However, he is known to have been living in a Toronto rooming house by April 18.

According to the FBI statement yesterday, Ray obtained, under the name of Sneyd, a Canadian passport that was validated in Ottawa on April 25 and mailed to him at the Toronto rooming house.

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

On May 16 he obtained another passport from the Canadian embassy in

Lisbon under the same name, saying that he had lost his original passport.

Both passports were in his possession when he was arrested.

No explanation was given for the two passports. However, law enforcement officials say that fugitives sometimes attempt to establish a second identity by obtaining a second passport and altering it.

Ray was apparently in Lisbon from May 7 until yesterday morning.

The arrest in London took place at 11:15 a.m. London time (6:15 a.m., EDT).

It was discovered that in Canada, Ray had established his identity as a Canadian and had obtained his passport by using a "Paul Bridgeman" of Toronto as a reference.

\$300 in Pocket

Sources in Washington said no "Paul Bridgeman" had been located in Toronto. But one of Ray's fellow inmates in the Missouri State Penitentiary in Jefferson City, Mo., was named Paul Bridgeman, and Ray himself used the name while in Canada, according to one report.

Officials here would not comment on reports that Ray had reverted to his free-spending ways with liquor and women while abroad. He was said to have paid cash for a round-trip ticket from Toronto to London. He cashed in the return half of the ticket and bought the ticket to Lisbon.

There was no explanation of where he might have obtained the money. He was understood to have had about \$300 in his possession when arrested.

There was no indication that Ray had traveled with anyone else.

So far, nothing is known of Ray's activities in Portugal.

On April 23, 1967, Ray escaped from

the Missouri State Penitentiary, where he was serving a 20-year sentence for armed robbery and car theft. On April 17 of this year, the FBI identified the suspect in the King slaying as Eric Starvo Galt.

The conspiracy charge filed on that date has been considered by many to have been more a move to obtain federal jurisdiction to hunt for Dr. King's slayer than that it stemmed from any deep-seated belief that the assassination was a conspiracy.

On April 19, the FBI announced that comparison of fingerprints had shown that Galt was the escaped convict, Ray.

The real Ramon George Sneyd is a Toronto policeman, who has said that he has never heard of James Earl Ray. Ray apparently applied for and obtained a duplicate birth certificate, using Sneyd's identity. With this and passport photos that were made in a Toronto shop, he was able to receive a passport through a Toronto travel agency.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : ALL AGENTS (68-335)

DATE: 6/10/68

FROM : SAC, LOUISVILLE (44-947)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Discontinue. Subject apprehended June 8,
1968, in London, England. Remove all stops placed.

1-Each Agent

1-66-52

1-44-947

CAK/ssb
(67)

pub

44-947-338

INDEXED	FILED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 11 1968	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

[Signature]



GLOBE Battery Division • GLOBE-UNION INC.

May 23, 1968

C.A. Kincaid
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Room 701
Bank of Louisville Building
5th and Broadway
Louisville, Ky.

Dear Mr. Kincaid:

Here is the information you asked for concerning the sales of
Sears battery #52 for the period of February 22, 1968 through
April 6, 1968.

Sears Roebuck & Co. (16)
320 E. Second St.
Owensboro, Ky.

Sears Roebuck & Co. (5)
4133 Dixie Highway
Shively, Ky.

Sears Roebuck & Co. (22)
1010 State Street
Bowling Green, Ky.

Sears Roebuck & Co. (4)
2102 Williams St.
Cape Girardeau, Mo.

Sears Roebuck & Co. (13)
1500 Broadway
Paducah, Kentucky

Sears Roebuck & Co. (13)
213 E. Main Street
Lexington, Kentucky

Sears Roebuck & Co. (25)
13 West 7th Street
Covington, Kentucky

Sears Roebuck & Co. (24)
820 West Broadway
Louisville, Ky.

Sears Roebuck & Co. (26)
4121 Shelbyville Road
St. Matthews, Kentucky

Sears Roebuck & Co. (7)
U.S. 60 East
Frankfort, Kentucky

Sears Roebuck & Co. (76)
1408 N. Kingshighway
St. Louis, Missouri

Sears Roebuck & Co. (34)
1005 State Street
East St. Louis, Illinois

Searched 339
Serialized
Indexed
Filed

Sears Roebuck & Co. (64)
3708 Grand Blvd.
St. Louis, Missouri

Sears Roebuck & Co. (7)
7412 Manchester Rd.
Maplewood, Missouri

Sears Roebuck & Co. (17)
309 Piasa Street
Alton, Illinois

Sears Roebuck & Co. (2)
112 E. Main Street
Belleville, Illinois

Sears Roebuck & Co. (42)
15 Crestwood Plaza
St. Louis, Missouri

Sears Roebuck & Co. (69)
11100 St. Charles Rodk Road
St. Ann, Missouri

Hope that this information will be sufficient.

Sincerely,



GLOBE UNION INC.
John E. Darnell
Customer Service
Supervisor

JED/js

6/6/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI AND SACS, KANSAS CITY AND MEMPHIS

FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (100-427)

MURKIN

RELSTEL JUNE FIVE LAST TO SACRAMENTO ONLY AND KANSAS CITY
TEL TO BUREAU AND MEMPHIS (NO COPY TO SACRAMENTO), BOTH RE
PAUL BRIDGEMAN.

REKCTEL WAS TELEPHONICALLY FURNISHED TO SACRAMENTO BY SAN
FRANCISCO AS LEAD IS IN SACRAMENTO TERRITORY.

MRS. JACK N. DAVIS, ONE ZERO THREE SEVEN HAWK, FAIRFIELD,
CALIFORNIA, DAUGHTER-IN-LAW OF BONNIE DAVIS, ADVISED ON JUNE
FIVE LAST, THAT SHE AND HER HUSBAND HAVE HAD NO CONTACT WITH
PAUL BRIDGEMAN IN AT LEAST TEN YEARS AND DO NOT KNOW HIS
WHEREABOUTS. SHE ADVISED THEY HAD HEARD RUMOR, SOURCE
UNRECALLED, BRIDGEMAN CONFINED IN CALIFORNIA STATE PRISON.
HOWEVER, CHECK OF CENTRAL LOCATOR FILES, CALIFORNIA STATE
PRISON SYSTEM AT VACAVILLE, CALIFORNIA, ON JUNE FIVE LAST,
INDICATED NO INMATE, PAST OR PRESENT, NAMED PAUL BRIDGEMAN. 44-947-340

① - Louisville (AM)
1 - San Francisco (AM)
1 - Sacramento
RCR:nme
(3)

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 10 1968	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

[Handwritten signature/initials over stamp]

SC 100-427

PAGE TWO

ON JUNE SIX INSTANT, JAMES RUSSELL DAVIS, ONE SEVEN FOUR NINE LEMON STREET, VALLEJO, CALIFORNIA, WAS CONTACTED AND ADVISED THAT WE DESIRED LOCATION OF BRIDGEMAN ONLY FOR BACKGROUND PERTAINING TO SUBJECT RAY AS SET FORTH IN REKCTEL TODAY. DAVIS STATED HE HAS HAD NO CONTACT WITH BRIDGEMAN IN AT LEAST THREE YEARS SINCE HE WAS CONTACTED BY FBI AT DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA, REGARDING BRIDGEMAN, WHO WAS THEN ALLEGEDLY A SUSPECT IN A BANK ROBBERY. HE STATED HE HAS NO KNOWLEDGE REGARDING BRIDGEMAN'S WHEREABOUTS. HE SUGGESTED BRIDGEMAN'S SISTER, JANET (LNU), WHO LIVES NEAR WEST PLAINS, MISSOURI, IS PROBABLY MOST LIKELY PERSON TO KNOW HIS WHEREABOUTS. THIS SISTER APPEARS TO BE THE MRS. CRAWLEY REFERRED TO IN LOUISVILLE TEL. DAVIS APPEARED VERY COOPERATIVE.

AIRMAIL COPIES TO LOUISVILLE AND SAN FRANCISCO.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

F B I

Date: 6/7/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE (44-947)

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) -P-

RE: MURKIN
CR

Re: Suspect LAWRENCE D. CHELKOR

Re LS tel to ME, 5/23/68.

Referenced communication indicated suspect LAWRENCE D. CHELKOR gave an insufficient funds check on 5/2/68, in the amount of \$8.75 drawn on a Memphis bank to a beauty shop operator in Paducah, Kentucky for having his hair tinted and temples bleached. The operator indicated suspect CHELKOR resembles suspect JAMES EARL RAY's photograph.

Mr. FRANCIS HALL, Assistant Auditor, First National Bank, Memphis, advised SA HARLEY E. GYLFE on 5/24/68 that one LAWRENCE D. CHALKER of 1138 Carrolton Avenue, Memphis opened an account at their South Main branch on 4/30/68 with a \$20.00 cash deposit and was given account number 25 2389908. This account was closed on 5/20/68 to the bank's "Profit and Loss" account in the amount of \$74.40, which amount is for returned check charges. He said only one check in the amount of \$10.40 was paid on this account.

A.M. Mrs. G. W. MILLS, 1138 Carrolton Avenue,
Memphis, advised on 5/24/68 mail addressed to LAWRENCE

A.M.S.D. ② - Louisville
Spec. Del. ② - Memphis

Reg. Mail HEG/vtp (4)

44-947-341

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 10 1968	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

9/18

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

ME 44-1987

D. CHALKER at this address was received about two weeks ago and she returned it to the sender since this name is completely unknown to her or her husband.

Mr. HALL advised on 6/6/68 that a review of the checks returned on the CHALKER account indicated his address on one of the checks as 1238 Carrolton Avenue, Memphis.

Mr. CLIFFORD L. GAMET, 1238 Carrolton Avenue, Memphis advised on 6/6/68 that LAWRENCE D. CHALKER never lived at this address while in Memphis but approximately two months ago he resided at the Holiday Towers apartments in Memphis and was at that time self-employed selling cemetery lots for Forrest Hills Cemetery in Memphis. Mr. GAMET said CHALKER did not do good at selling, borrowed some money from him, left town and he has no idea where CHALKER is living or working. Mr. GAMET said his step-daughter MARY RUDD, (age 49) of this address (who is currently out of town) has known CHALKER for over 15 years.

Mr. GAMET stated CHALKER does not resemble photographs of JAMES EARL RAY in any respect. He said he has seen numerous photographs of JAMES EARL RAY as published in the paper and none of the photographs resemble CHALKER in any way. Mr. GAMET added he recalls his step-daughter was in the Baptist Hospital in Memphis on 4/4/68, and she mentioned to him the next day (4/5/68) that CHALKER had spent the afternoon, evening and night visiting her in the hospital. Mr. GAMET furnished the following description of CHALKER:

Name	LAWRENCE D. CHALKER
Address	Holiday Towers Apt. Memphis, Tennessee (In April, 1968)
Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	50-51
Height	5'11" - 6'
Weight	180-190
Hair	Curly and reddish in color
Features	Red face

6/7/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE (44-947)

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) -P-

RE: MURKIN
CR

Re: Suspect LAWRENCE D. CHELKOR

Re LS tel to ME, 5/23/68.

Referenced communication indicated suspect LAWRENCE D. CHELKOR gave an insufficient funds check on 5/2/68, in the amount of \$8.75 drawn on a Memphis bank to a beauty shop operator in Paducah, Kentucky for having his hair tinted and temples bleached. The operator indicated suspect CHELKOR resembles suspect JAMES EARL RAY's photograph.

Mr. FRANCIS HALL, Assistant Auditor, First National Bank, Memphis, advised SA HARLEY E. GYLFE on 5/24/68 that one LAWRENCE D. CHALKER of 1138 Carrolton Avenue, Memphis opened an account at their South Main branch on 4/30/68 with a \$20.00 cash deposit and was given account number [REDACTED]. This account was closed on 5/20/68 to the bank's "Profit and Loss" account in the amount of \$74.40, which amount is for returned check charges. He said only one check in the amount of \$10.40 was paid on this account.

Mrs. G. W. MILLS, 1138 Carrolton Avenue, Memphis, advised on 5/24/68 mail addressed to LAWRENCE

② - Louisville
2 - Memphis

HEG/vtp (4)

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 10 1968	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

ME 44-1987

Inasmuch as Mr. GAMET stated that he knows CHALKER personally, that CHALKER is definitely not identical with JAMES EARL RAY and that CHALKER does not resemble the photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, no further investigation will be conducted to attempt to locate CHALKER.

Also no further investigation will be conducted by the Memphis Division concerning the checks CHALKER has written since these are true name checks and no known federal violation exists.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

ME 44-1987

D. CHALKER at this address was received about two weeks ago and she returned it to the sender since this name is completely unknown to her or her husband.

Mr. HALL advised on 6/6/68 that a review of the checks returned on the CHALKER account indicated his address on one of the checks as 1238 Carrolton Avenue, Memphis.

Mr. CLIFFORD L. GAMET, 1238 Carrolton Avenue, Memphis advised on 6/6/68 that LAWRENCE D. CHALKER never lived at this address while in Memphis but approximately two months ago he resided at the Holiday Towers apartments in Memphis and was at that time self-employed selling cemetery lots for Forrest Hills Cemetery in Memphis. Mr. GAMET said CHALKER did not do good at selling, borrowed some money from him, left town and he has no idea where CHALKER is living or working. Mr. GAMET said his step-daughter MARY RUDD, (age 49) of this address (who is currently out of town) has known CHALKER for over 15 years.

Mr. GAMET stated CHALKER does not resemble photographs of JAMES EARL RAY in any respect. He said he has seen numerous photographs of JAMES EARL RAY as published in the paper and none of the photographs resemble CHALKER in any way. Mr. GAMET added he recalls his step-daughter was in the Baptist Hospital in Memphis on 4/4/68, and she mentioned to him the next day (4/5/68) that CHALKER had spent the afternoon, evening and night visiting her in the hospital. Mr. GAMET furnished the following description of CHALKER:

Name	LAWRENCE D. CHALKER
Address	Holiday Towers Apt. Memphis, Tennessee (In April, 1968)
Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	50-51
Height	5'11" - 6'
Weight	180-190
Hair	Curly and reddish in color
Features	Red face

ME 44-1987

Inasmuch as Mr. GAMET stated that he knows CHALKER personally, that CHALKER is definitely not identical with JAMES EARL RAY and that CHALKER does not resemble the photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, no further investigation will be conducted to attempt to locate CHALKER.

Also no further investigation will be conducted by the Memphis Division concerning the checks CHALKER has written since these are true name checks and no known federal violation exists.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

3

FBI LOUISVLE

FBI SPRNGFLD

432PM URGENT 6-10-68 DMJ

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (44-3886L), LOUISVILLE (44-947), AND ST. LOUIS.

(44-775)

FROM SPRINGFIELD) (44-561)

MURKIN

REFERENCE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO BUREAU SIX SEVEN LAST AND
LOUISVILLE TELETYPE TO BUREAU SIX SIX LAST.

WITNESSES THE BANK OF ALTON RECONTACTED, ADVISE THEY
DO NOT FEEL THEY COULD MAKE POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION OF UNSUBS
DUE TO SILK STOCKING MASKS. *(Content)*

LOUISVILLE AT MAYFIELD, KENTUCKY, DISPLAY PHOTOS JAMES EARL
RAY TO LARRY MC INTOSH, MENS STYLE SHOP TO DETERMINE IF RAY
KNOWN THERE. FURTHER DISPLAY PHOTOS TO SOURCES AND POLICE
AGENCIES FOR SAME PURPOSE.

ST. LOUIS REINTERVIEW GAWRON TO DETERMINE IF HE WAS
CONTACTED BY RAY SUBSEQUENT TO ESCAPE MSP AND BR JULY THIRTEEN
LAST.

AIRMAIL COPIES SENT CHICAGO AND MEMPHIS FOR INFO.

P.

END

AJD

FBI LOUISVLE

*Correct advised
6/10/68
en*

44-947-342

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 11 1968	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

Kimcard

FBI LOUISVLE

FBI SPRNGFLD

432PM URGENT 6-10-68 DMJ

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (44-3886L), LOUISVILLE (44-947), AND ST. LOUIS
(44-775)
FROM SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN

REFERENCE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO BUREAU SIX SEVEN LAST AND
LOUISVILLE TELETYPE TO BUREAU SIX SIX LAST.

WITNESSES THE BANK OF ALTON RECONTACTED, ADVISE THEY
DO NOT FEEL THEY COULD MAKE POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION OF UNSUBS
DUE TO SILK STOCKING MASKS.

LOUISVILLE AT MAYFIELD, KENTUCKY, DISPLAY PHOTOS JAMES EARL
RAY TO LARRY MC INTOSH, MENS STYLE SHOP TO DETERMINE IF RAY
KNOWN THERE. FURTHER DISPLAY PHOTOS TO SOURCES AND POLICE
AGENCIES FOR SAME PURPOSE.

ST. LOUIS REINTERVIEW GAWRON TO DETERMINE IF HE WAS
CONTACTED BY RAY SUBSEQUENT TO ESCAPE MSP AND BR JULY THIRTEEN
LAST.

AIRMAIL COPIES SENT CHICAGO AND MEMPHIS FOR INFO.

P.

END

AJD

FBI LOUISVLE

Mayfield lead -

L/c

44-947-342

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUN 10 1968	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

Colant



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

June 10, 1968

SAC, Louisville

RE: FUGITIVE PUBLICITY--CANCELLATION

As you know, JAMES EARL RAY, Identification
Order No. 4182, is no longer being sought by this Bureau.
Make certain that your publicity outlets are promptly notified
of the cancellation.

FD 321
mailed
6/11/68

John Edgar Hoover
Director

44-947-343

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 11 1968	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

U.S. Moves to Claim Ray; Arrest Report By British in Error

From L.A. Times-Washington Post and AP Dispatches

LONDON — Scotland Yard so far has failed to correct the false report that the fugitive wanted in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King was arrested at a London airport after arriving from Lisbon.

The fugitive, James Earl Ray, actually had been in London for three weeks.

The erroneous report was made Saturday after his arrest.

During the three weeks, Ray had been moving from one cheap hotel to another and making frantic telephone calls to a London newspaperman in an effort to find out how to join white mercenaries in Africa.

U. S. legal experts worked today on plans to take the suspect back to the United States for trial while police on both sides of the Atlantic continued their investigation to learn whether Ray had help in his four-nation flight.

Ray's presence in London under the name of George Ramon Sneyd might have gone unreported for a while but for two telephone calls that Ray made last week to Ian Colvin of The London Daily Telegraph.

Last Tuesday, the 40-year-old fugitive called the Telegraph foreign desk and said that he wanted to talk with someone who knew about foreign mercenaries. The desk referred Ray to Colvin, author of a recent book on Moise Tshombe and the Congo and of several articles last month dealing with Maj. Alistair Wicks, a British mercenary officer.

As Colvin reported in yesterday's Telegraph, "When we first spoke, a Canadian or perhaps American voice said to me: 'This is Ramon Sneyd. I want to join my brother who has been in Angola.'"

Major Gave No Help

Sneyd's voice "sounded overwrought and somewhat incoherent" but Colvin did him the favor of phoning Major Wicks to ask if he could contact Sneyd and help him. Wicks, once second in command of the Five Commando in the Congo, knew nothing about Sneyd's brother and did not bother to call.

On Thursday, Sneyd called a second time, and this time was less oblique—he said he wished to become a mercenary himself and wanted the names of some contacts in Brussels. Colvin cautiously replied that the British and African governments frowned on mercenaries.

"But I offered to provide him with an address in Brussels at which he could pursue the search for his brother if he wished to do so," Colvin says. "Mr. Sneyd seemed most insistent on having any address that offered him a further stage on his journey."

During these calls, Colvin learned where Sneyd, or Ray, was staying. One hotel was an ordinary tourist inn, but the other was a hostelry remarkable for its total obscurity, even to the point of not having a telephone number listed in the directory.

From May 28 to June 4, Ray was staying at the new Earl's Court Hotel in Pennywern Road, not far from the big British European Airways terminal on Cromwell Road, (and also in the vicinity

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

Page 1

Louisville Times

Louisville, Ky.

Date: 6/11/68
Edition: Home
Author:
Editor: Barry Bingham
Title:

Character:
or 44-947
Classification:
Submitting Office: LS
☐ Being Investigated

44-947-344

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 11 1968	
FBI — LOUISVILLE	

of the Zambesi Club, a hangout for whites from South Africa and Rhodesia.)

The hotel is a neat three-story building with a blinking "vacancy" sign in the front window. The receptionist, who declined to tell Colvin anything about her strange guest, was more forthcoming with an American reporter. She said:

"He was well behaved; he kept regular hours. He left nothing unusual behind. But he was terribly shy and you had to work to talk with him. He seemed to lack self-confidence. I had no reason not to like him. Yes, I recognized his picture when I saw it in the paper."

At the new Earl's Court Hotel, Ray's behavior was unexceptionable, if slightly furtive. But something seemed to happen last Wednesday, and Ray suddenly moved to the Pax Hotel, where his behavior was notably more odd.

The Pax Hotel is in Pimlico, in the heart of a gray urban dimness that taxi drivers call the "Cabman's Maze" because there is a checkerboard of almost identical streets, nearly all of them lined with small tourist hotels.

Hotel Lists No Phone

The Pax Hotel does not even carry its name above the door. Instead, a small illuminated sign says simply, "Hotel." The proprietor is Mrs. Anna Thomas,

a pleasant Swedish-born woman. She explained that her hotel is not listed in the directory because she gets many calls when the hotel is full. Mrs. Thomas gives this account of Sneyd's two-day stay:

"He kept the door of his room locked at all times while he stayed here and when I brought his breakfast up he told me to leave it outside. Sneyd had very little luggage, only an airline flight bag, and I thought perhaps he had come off a long flight. He looked so tired..."

Sneyd, or Ray, stayed in two different rooms, paying \$3.60 a night.

Mrs. Thomas said he made unsuccessful attempts to fly from London on Thursday and Friday. Finally, he booked a seat on a Saturday flight to Brussels and when he turned up at the departure lounge he was arrested.

After he left the Pax Hotel, Mrs. Thomas found his room filled with newspapers, some of them cut up. She also discovered a syringe stuffed down a drainpipe.

By coincidence, a postcard was mailed to Ray, or Sneyd, as he was leaving the hotel. Ian Colvin wrote on the postcard, urging Sneyd to contact the Foreign Office Consular Service for advice about his alleged brother in Africa. The postcard was returned to Colvin yesterday by the Post Office, marked "insufficient address." Colvin had addressed it to the Pax Hotel, Pimlico, one of the few hotels in London that cannot be found even in a telephone book.

British Issue Murder Warrant

American authorities took the first formal step toward extradition last night by obtaining a provisional British warrant charging Ray with the murder of Dr. King.

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

Ray was held in Brixton Prison after his appearance yesterday in Bow Street Court on charges of carrying a forged passport and a loaded gun, the charges on which he was arrested Saturday as Ramon George Sneyd.

Police threw a cordon around the prison and blocked all roads leading to it. Unauthorized persons were kept at least 150 yards away.

Scotland Yard was reported planning to move Ray from Brixton, three miles south of downtown London, to Wandsworth, a jail in a western suburb. Security at Wandsworth has been tightened since Ronald Arthur Boggs, one of the Great Train Robbers, disappeared over the wall four years ago.

Lawyer Assigned for Ray

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

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

Ray first was sought under the name Eric Starvo Galt.

Eric St. Vincent Galt, a Toronto warehouse foreman, has a signature which looks like Eric Starvo Galt. He uses the middle initials St. V., but with small zeros instead of periods.

Galt and Ray have similar scars, in the middle of their foreheads and on the palms of their right hands.

"I don't know what to think," Galt said. "It's a bit more than coincidence. The weight is right, the height range is right and the identification marks are there. I've wondered where our paths might have crossed, but I just don't know."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

The Apprehension Of James Earl Ray

THE APPREHENSION in London of James Earl Ray, the accused killer of Dr. Martin Luther King, will put the law enforcement authorities of this country to a severe test. Once he is in custody of U.S. officials, every security precaution must be taken to protect his person, for if he is the right man, there is the possibility that he was acting in behalf of others, who will want to silence him. It is terribly important that the full story come out in the course of the judicial process.

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

— Editorial Page

— Courier-Journal

— Louisville, Ky.

Date: 6/11/68
Edition: Morning
Author:
Editor: Barry Bingham
Title:

Character: Bu # 44-38861
or Ls # 44-947
Classification:
Submitting Office: Ls
☐ Being Investigated

SENT BUREAU 6-11-68

44-947-34

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 11 1968	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	