

Life 1/29/40

G-MEN ARREST 17 MEN FOR PLOTTING REVOLUTION

On Jan. 13-14, G-men arrested 17 members of a secret group within the so-called "Christian Front" in New York for conspiring to overthrow the U. S. Government by force. After they had been photographed for the "Rogues Gallery" (below and right), they were held in \$50,000 bail apiece to await indictment by a grand jury.

According to J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the G-men, the group, which masqueraded as a sports club, plotted to "eliminate" Jews and Communists, "to knock off about a dozen Congressmen," to "blow up the god-damn Police Department."

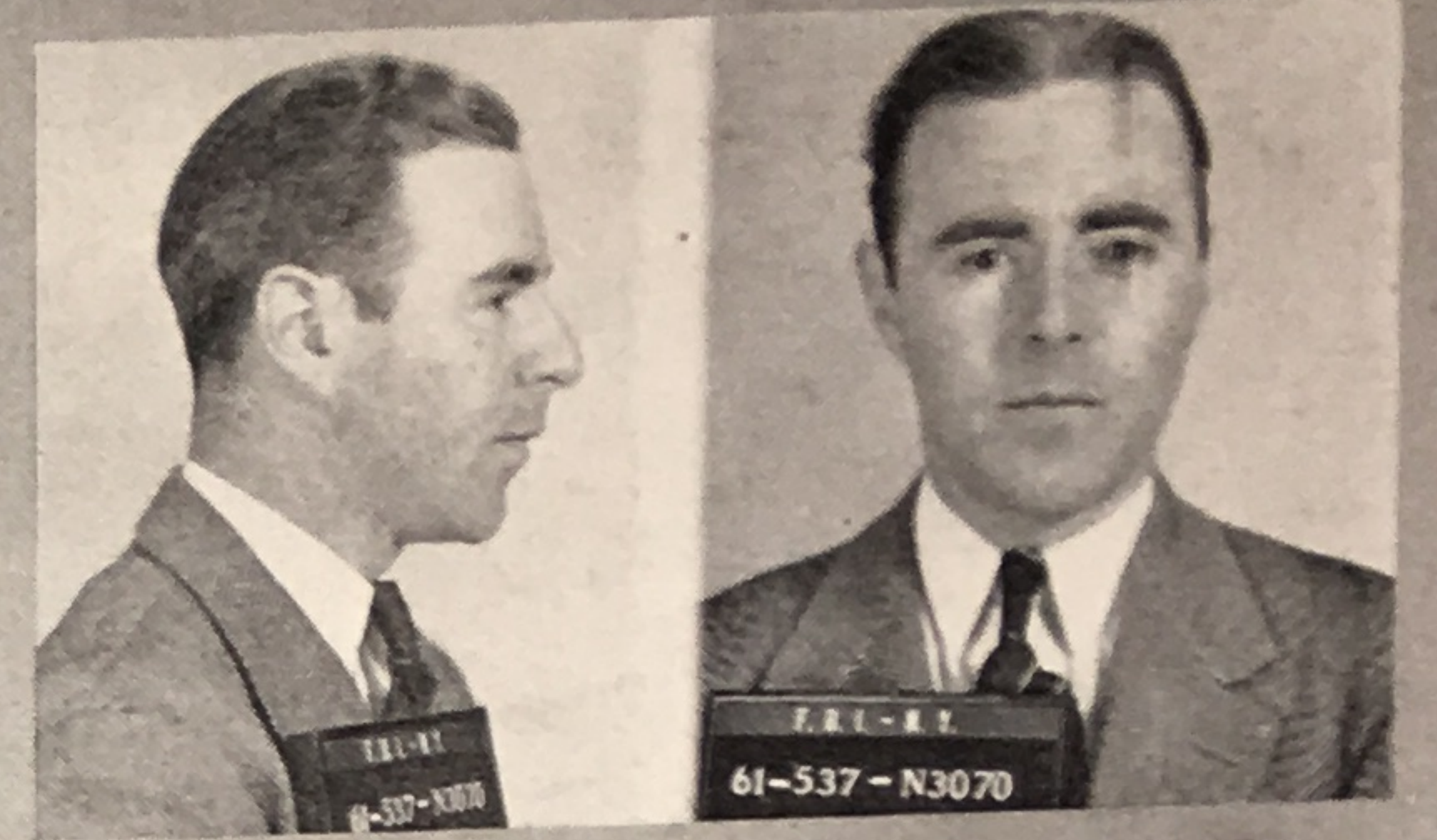
They also planned to seize the General Post

Office and Custom House in New York, armories, public utilities and control of the Federal Reserve Bank's gold stock. Eighteen cans of cordite, 18 rifles and 5,000 rounds of ammunition were discovered in their homes. Seven of the group, which was led by W. G. Bishop (right) and John Cassidy, were or had been connected with military organizations. Their first practice in bomb-throwing was to be held shortly.

Warned Mr. Hoover: "It took only 23 men to overthrow Russia." Laughed Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia: "I don't think the U. S. Government is in much danger from guys like these."



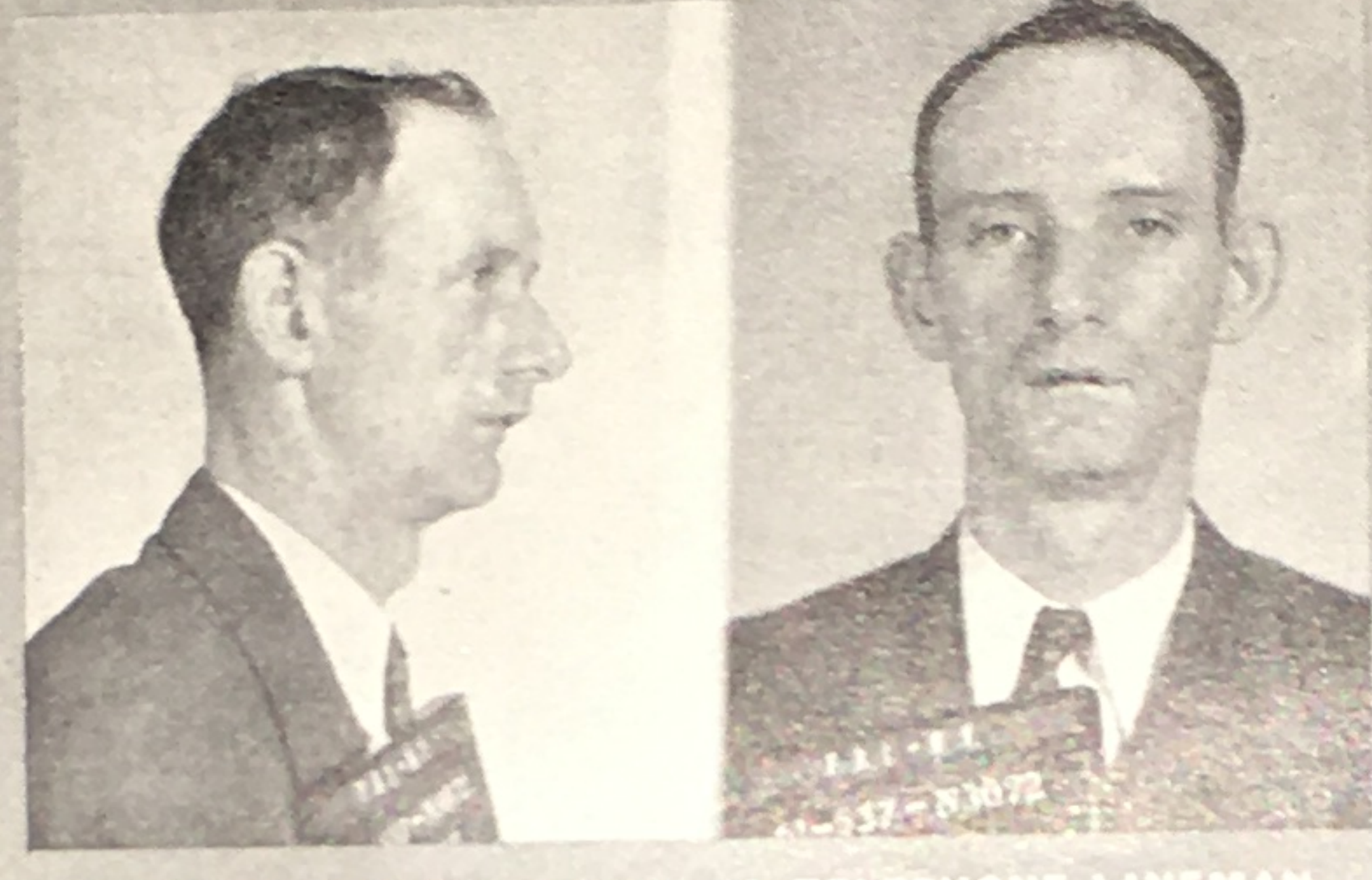
WILLIAM G. BISHOP, 39, AN UNEMPLOYED WRITER



"FUEHRER" JOHN FRANCIS CASSIDY, 29, A CLERK



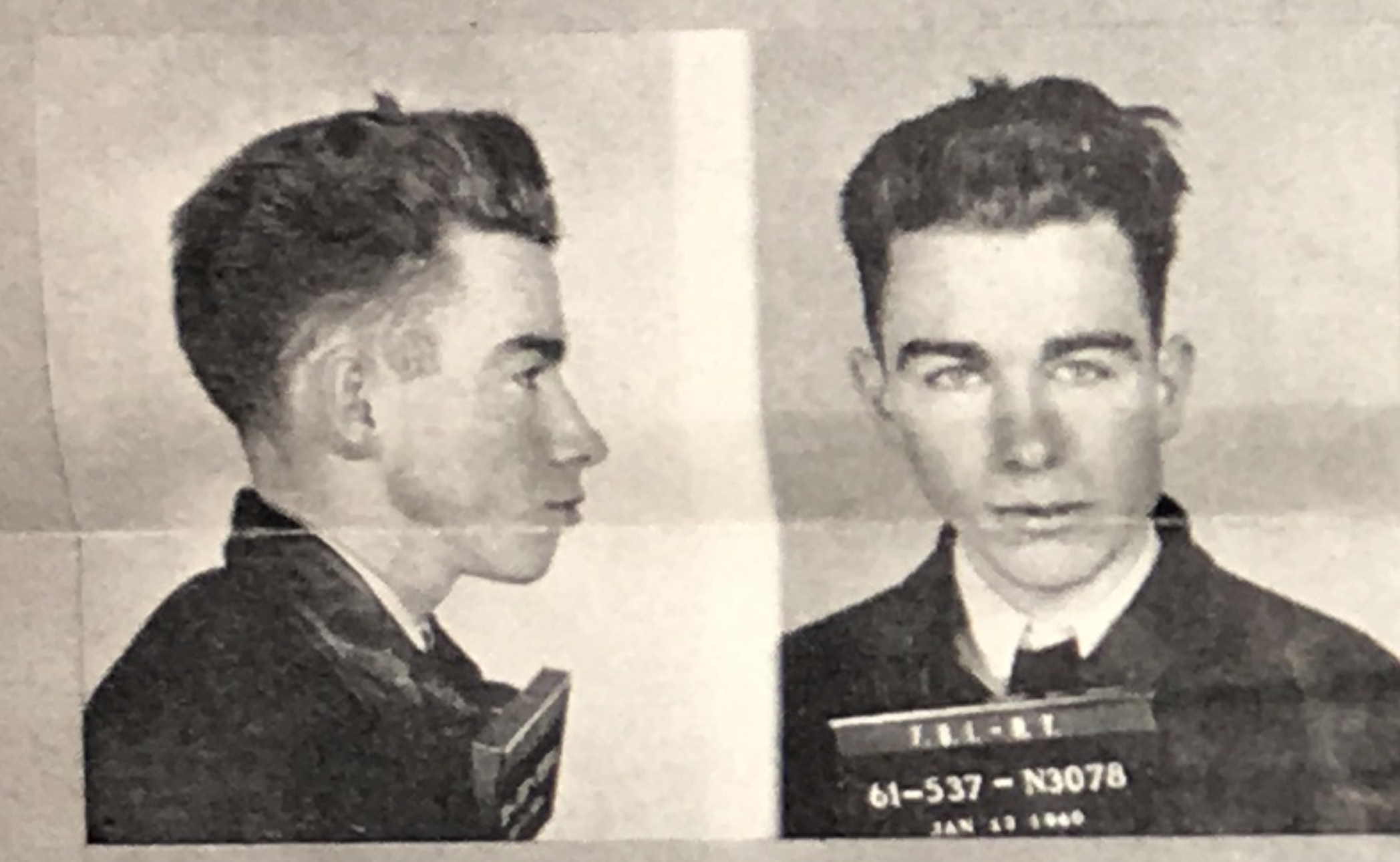
JOHN ANTHONY GRAF, 23, A CLERK IN BROOKLYN



MICHAEL JOSEPH REINE, 32, TELEPHONE LINEMAN



WILLIAM HENRY BUSHNELL JR., 18, UNEMPLOYED



EDWARD LAWRENCE WALSH, 22, UNEMPLOYED



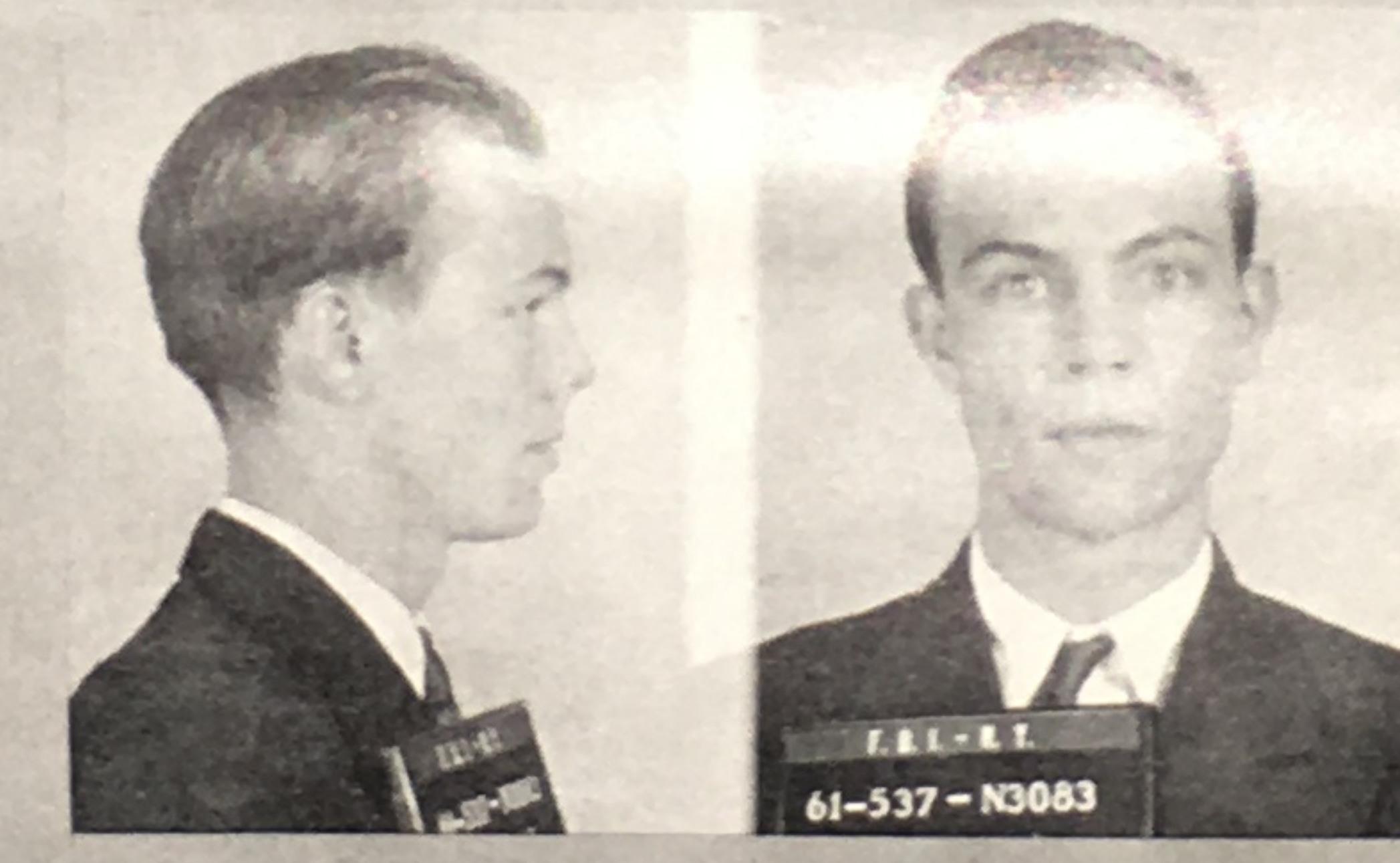
ANDREW BUCKLEY, 34, DEPARTMENT STORE TAILOR



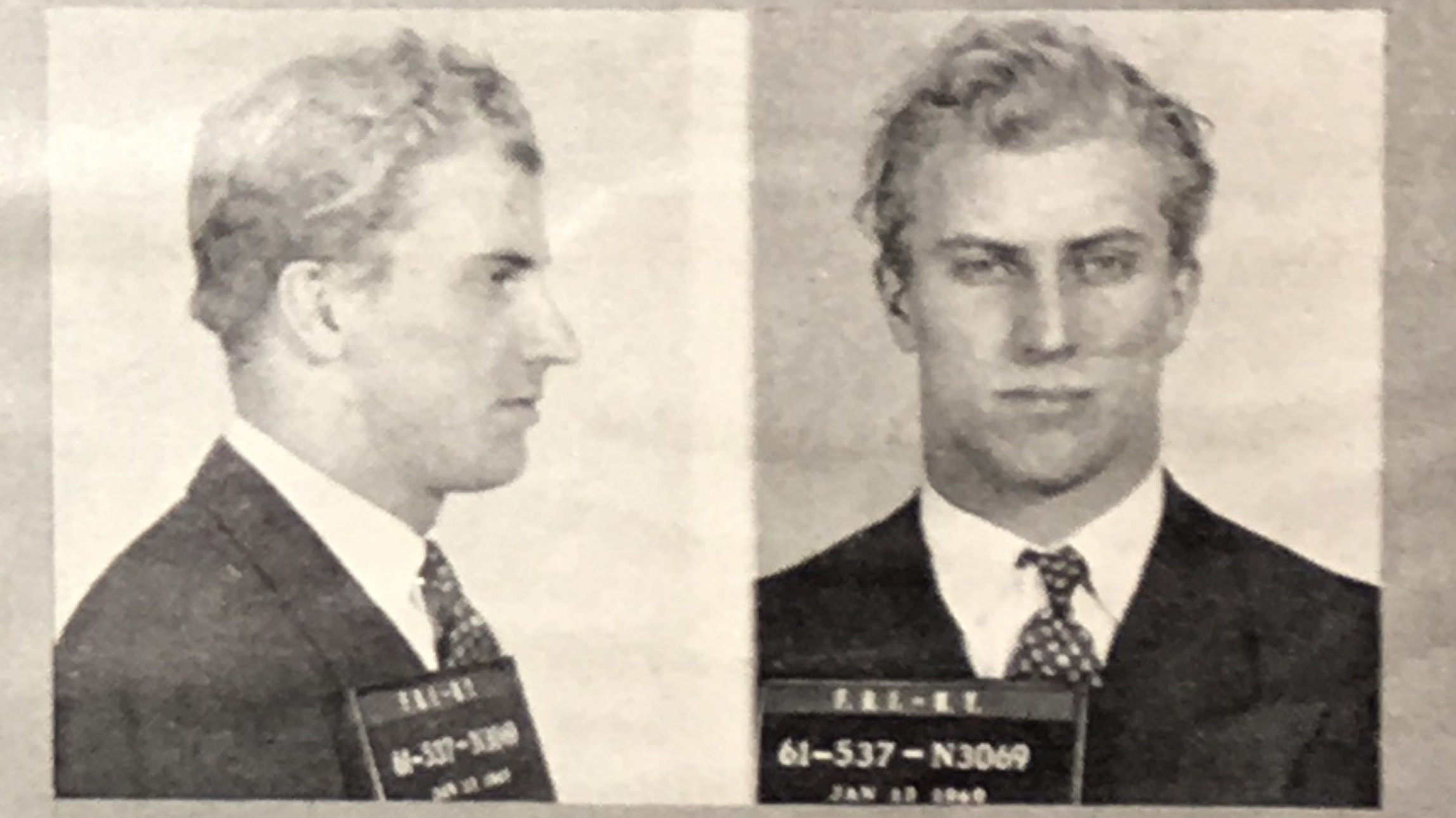
FRANK M. MALONE, 23, DEPARTMENT STORE RUG CLERK



CAPTAIN JOHN PROUT JR., 30, TELEGRAPH MANAGER



JOHN FRANKLIN TIMOTHY COOK, 19, NO OCCUPATION



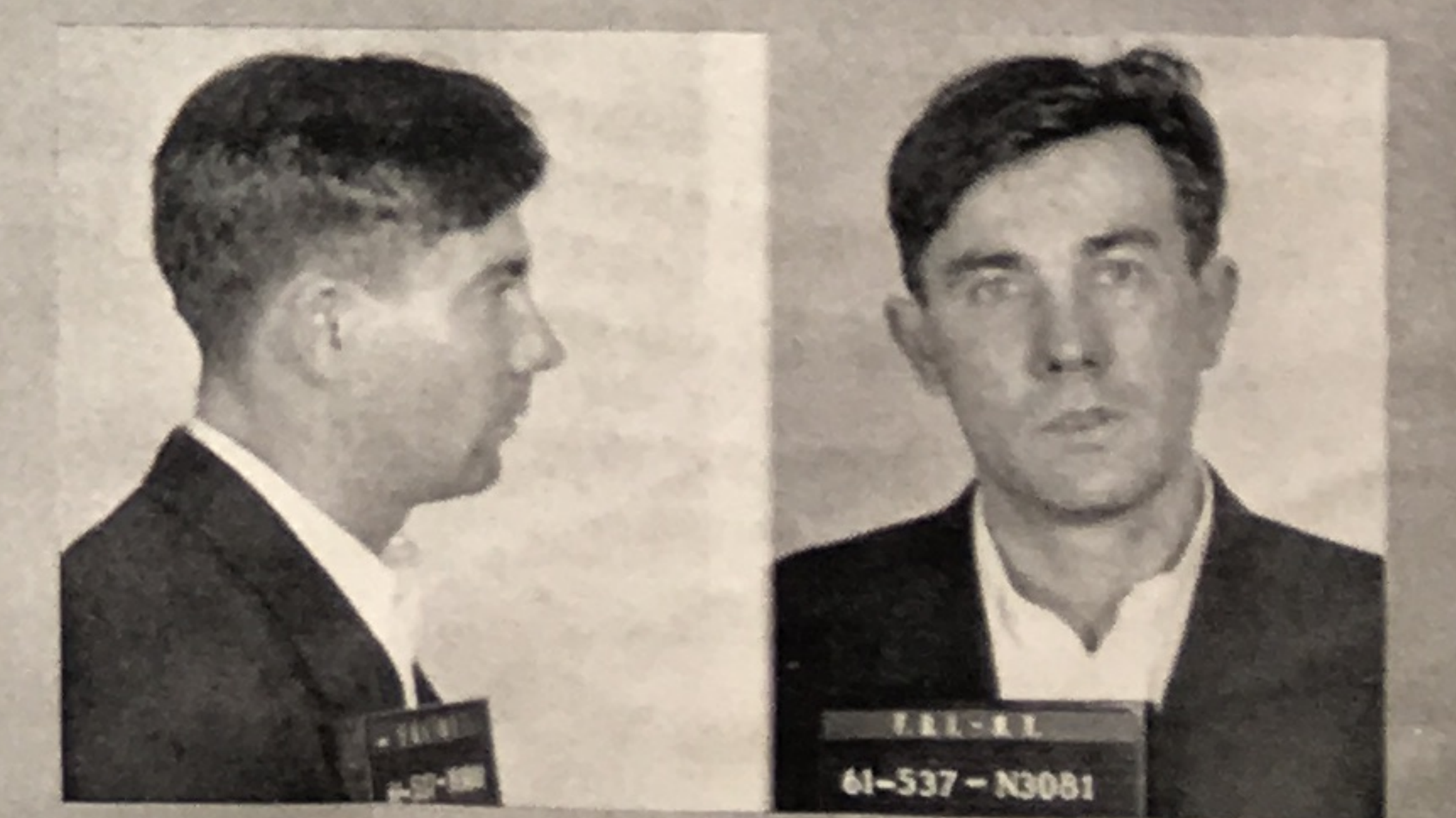
GEORGE KELLY, 26, HOTEL SWIMMING INSTRUCTOR



JOHN ALBERT VIEBROCK, 33, ELEVATOR MECHANIC



MICHAEL VILL, 35, A BROOKLYN BUS DRIVER



LEROY KEEGAN, 36, FLY BOY AND BAKERY SALESMAN



CLAUS ERNECKE, 37, HOME-STUDY COURSE SALESMAN



ALFRED J. QUINLAN, 22, A NEW YORK PRINTER



MACKLIN BOETTGER, 31, A DISHWASHER SALESMAN

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