

A Chronicle of Ray's Whereabouts, From the Time He Fled

By MARTIN WALDRON

Special to The New York Times

MEMPHIS, Nov. 15 — The day-to-day whereabouts of James Earl Ray from the time he escaped from prison in April, 1967, until he was arrested in London last June 8 after the slaying of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis can now be established.

Investigations by correspondents of The New York Times in the United States, Canada and Europe already had pinpointed most of the travels of the man accused of the assassination. And information that Ray supplied from his jail cell in Memphis for a series of articles in Look magazine has filled in the holes.

Until Ray furnished this information to William Bradford Huie, an Alabama author, even the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which had more than 3,000 agents investigating the case, had been unable to put together a complete account of Ray's movements.

In a long handwritten memorandum that he furnished to Mr. Huie through his former attorney, Arthur J. Hanes, Ray said that when he escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary on April 23, 1967, he began walking toward Kansas City, about 150 miles from the state prison in Jefferson City.

Not for St. Louis

He said that he believed the police would expect him to head for St. Louis, where he had friends and relatives, and that he had gone in the opposite direction for this reason.

For the first five days after he escaped, Ray spent the time walking and hiding. He said he had \$300 that he had accumulated in prison. He did not explain how he had got together the money or why prison guards did not find it in routine prison checkdowns.

On April 28, Ray said he caught a train to St. Louis, took a cab to East St. Louis, Ill. There he got a friend to drive him to Edwardsville, Ill., where he caught a bus to Chicago.

He registered at a rooming house at 2731 North Sheffield Street in Chicago on April 30. On May 3, he answered a help-wanted advertisement in the Chicago Tribune and was hired as a dishwasher at the Indian Trail Restaurant in Winnetka, a suburb of Chicago.

He worked at the restaurant until June 25, having been promoted from dishwasher to food server after three or four days.

Bought Chrysler

Ray left Chicago on June 25 in a 1960 Chrysler that he had bought for \$100. He drove to East St. Louis, where he sold

R 18, 1968

L

33

Prison Until His Arrest in London June 8

the Chrysler for \$50 and bought a 1962 red Plymouth. He said he spent the night with a friend in Edwardsville.

From June 26 until after the July 4 holiday, he stayed with friends in Quincy, Ill. Then he drove to Chicago on July 5 to pick up his last check from the Indian Trail Restaurant before returning to East St. Louis for a week's visit with other friends.

With some vague plan of going to South America, Ray said he set out for Canada to see if he could get false identification.

He spent the night of July 14 in a motel at Indianapolis, he said, and entered Canada at Windsor, Ont., on July 15. The next day he was in Toronto and on July 17 in Dorion, and the next day he arrived in Montreal, where he took a six months' lease on an apartment at 2589 East Notre Dame Street.

Said He Spent \$400

One night, he told Mr. Huie in his memorandum, he realized that he was almost broke and he robbed a brother of \$800. He said he had bought himself some new clothes and made a reservation at a summer resort at Lake Quimet, 80 miles up the St. Lawrence River from Montreal.

He stayed at the resort from July 31 until Aug. 7, when he returned to Montreal.

From Aug. 8 through Aug. 18, according to Mr. Huie, Ray stayed in Montreal, discussing his lack of valid identification with a blond Cuban named Raoul, who offered to pay him if he would smuggle some items, presumably narcotics, from Canada into the United States.

Said He Would Smuggle

On Aug. 20, Ray said, according to Mr. Huie, that he agreed in a meeting with Raoul to smuggle for him, and that on the next day he made two trips across the border at Windsor. He told Mr. Huie that Raoul had given him \$750 and told him to go to Birmingham, Ala., and await orders that would arrive by mail addressed to Eric Starvo Galt at general delivery.

Ray said he spent the night of Aug. 22 in Gary, Ind., and the next few days in Chicago, where he sold the Plymouth and caught a train to Birmingham.

He arrived on Aug. 25 and spent the first night at the Granada Hotel, next to the Birmingham News Building. The next day he checked into the Economy Grill and Rooms, a boarding house on Birmingham's South Side.

Bought a Mustang

Mr. Huie said Ray told him that a letter from Raoul arrived the day after he had checked into the boarding house and that he met Raoul at the Starlite, a restaurant and club, on Aug. 28.

The author reported that Ray

<p>said Raoul told him to buy a car, and on Aug. 30, he bought a 1968 white Mustang, paying for it with \$2,000 Raoul had given him.</p> <p>On Sept. 1 he applied for a driver's license, stating on his application that he had once held a driver's license in Louisiana, a state that did not keep drivers' old license records. On Oct. 5 he received his permanent Alabama driver's license.</p> <p>He told Mr. Huie that he left Birmingham to go to Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, on the Texas border, where he was to meet Raoul. After smuggling some items into the interior of Mexico</p>	<p>for Raoul, he told the author that he received \$2,000 from Raoul and was told to keep in touch with him through a telephone number in New Orleans.</p> <p>Ray said he drove to Acapulco, where he stayed for 10 days or two weeks, and then went to nearby Puerto Vallarta, where he stayed for a month. He said that when he got out of prison he planned to settle down in Puerto Vallarta.</p> <p>In late November, Ray said he drove to Los Angeles, where he checked into the St. Francis Hotel on Hollywood Boulevard. He spent most of his waking hours for the next two or three weeks at the Rabbit's Foot</p>	<p>Club or the Sultan Room, drinking beer or vodka and orange juice.</p> <p>On Dec. 15, in answer to a summons from Raoul, according to Mr. Huie, he took off in a white Mustang, accompanied by Charles Stein, a bearded poet whose sister Ray had been courting. The two men arrived in New Orleans on Dec. 17. Ray checked into the Provincial Motor Hotel, while Stein stayed with relatives.</p> <p>Ray told Mr. Huie that he met Raoul at a New Orleans bar and that Raoul gave him \$2,500 and told him to go back to await further orders.</p>
--	---	--

<p>Ray and Mr. Stein arrived back in Los Angeles on Dec. 19, where Ray signed up for a series of dancing lessons and a course in bartending.</p> <p>On March 15, Ray said he got a letter from Raoul instructing him to go to Selma and Birmingham, Ala., Mr. Huie reported.</p> <p>Ray drove across country in the Mustang, arriving on March 22 in Selma, where he checked into the Flamingo Motel. Dr. King had been scheduled to lead a march in Camden, 30 miles away from Selma, the next day in connection with the Poor People's Campaign, but</p>	<p>the appearance was canceled and Dr. King returned to his home in Atlanta.</p> <p>On March 23, Ray drove from Atlanta, where he checked into a rooming house, paying a week's rent in advance.</p> <p>The F.B.I. said that on March 30, Ray using the alias Eric Starvo Galt, bought a 30.06-caliber rifle in Birmingham. On April 3, the agency said, he went to Memphis. He stayed at the Rebel Motel, about 15 miles from downtown Memphis on the Birmingham-Memphis Highway.</p> <p>On April 4, Ray checked into a \$1-a-day rooming house</p>	<p>across the street from the Lorraine Hotel and Motel where Dr. King had checked in earlier in the day, the F.B.I. said.</p> <p>After Dr. King's slaying Ray drove to Atlanta, the F.B.I. said, where on the morning of April 5 he abandoned the Mustang. The next day he left for Canada.</p> <p>On April 8, he registered at a rooming house at 102 Ossington Street in Toronto, using the name Paul Bridgman.</p> <p>Ray moved to another rooming house at 962 Dundas Street West on April 19. He paid \$9 a week for the room and used the name Ramon George Sneyd.</p>	<p>In mid-April, Ray paid \$345 for a 21-day excursion ticket to London, using the name Sneyd. He flew from Toronto on May 6.</p> <p>On May 8, he flew to Portugal and checked into the Hotel Portugal at Lisbon, where he stayed for nine days.</p> <p>On May 17, he flew back to London and stayed until June 8, when he went to the airport to go to Brussels. He was arrested at the London Airport for using a fraudulently obtained passport in the name of Ramon George Sneyd.</p> <p>In mid-July, Ray was flown back to Memphis to await trial.</p>
--	--	--	---