

# A Chronicle of Ray's Whereabouts, From the Time He Fled Prison Until His Arrest in London June 8

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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 shakedowns.

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 the Chrysler for \$50 and bought a 1962 red Plymouth. He said he spend 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.

Ray said he spend the next 10 days hanging around waterfront bars in Montreal, hoping to arrange false identification and to find a way to get to South America.

## Said He Stole \$800

One night, he told Mr. Huie in his memorandum, he realized that he was almost broke and that he robbed a brothel of \$800. He said he had bought himself some new clothes and made a reservation at a summer resort at Lake Ouimet, 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. While he was at the lake, he said, he struck up a liaison with a woman from Ottawa who was on holiday.

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.

On Aug. 19, Ray drove to Ottawa to see the woman he had met at Lake Ouimet, but decided not to ask her to help him get a Canadian passport because he found out she worked for the Government and he feared she might turn him in.

## 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 said Raoul told him to buy a car, and on Aug. 30, he bought a 1966 white Mustang, paying for it with \$2,000 Raoul had given him.

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.

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

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.

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 had planned to settle down in Puerto Vallarta.

## Drove to Los Angeles

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 Club or the Sultan Room, drinking beer or vodka and orange juice.

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.

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.

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.

## Had Nose Shortened

Early in March, after he had graduated from the bartenders' school, Ray had his nose shortened. The long pointed end of his nose was his most prominent physical feature, and he said in his memorandum to Mr. Huie that he hoped to disguise his looks.

On March 15, Ray said he

got a letter from Raoul instructing him to go to Selma and Birmingham, Ala., Mr. Huie reported.

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 the appearance was canceled and Dr. King returned to his home in Atlanta.

On March 23, Ray drove from Atlanta, where he checked into a rooming house, paying a week's rent in advance.

At this rooming house, the F.B.I. later found a map with circles drawn around the addresses of Dr. King's home, his church and his office. Following Dr. King's death, the landlord had called the F.B.I. after noticing the resemblance between his missing roomer and Eric Starvo Galt in the Atlanta newspapers. A fingerprint found on a television set in Ray's room led the F.B.I. to conclude that Ray and Galt were the same man.