



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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www.mnhs.org

Fernekes, Henry
Ward, Jimmie
Richards, C. F.
Goodwin, Henry
Knight, Jimmy

DEAD

9	U	II	12
1	U	II	11

HENRY J. FERNEKE

(MIDGET, Jimmy WARD, C.F. RICHARDS, HENRY DAREHE
Jimmy KNIGHT, HENRY GOODWIN, RALPH GOODWIN
HENRY J. FERNEKE)

(over) AMENN

Escaped JOLIET 8-5-35 for Robbery, spec. murder
Recaptured 10-28-35 - took poison & died 10-29-35



Prisoners' Signature Henry J. Hernandez

Henry J. Fernekes
46789

Age	38 (1935)
Height	5' 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
Weight	134 lbs
Comp	Dark
Hair	Dk Cht
Eyes	Grn slate
Build	Med Slim

	F	P	C
9	U	II	12
1	U	II	11

Name Henry J. Turner # 44-E109 U II 12
 Alias DEAD 1 U II 11
ESCAPED
 Ref. AUGUST-3-1935
 Right Hand

1. Right Thumb 10 2. Right fore-finger 3 3. Right middle finger 6 4. Right ring finger M 5. Right little finger 12



Left Hand

6. Left Thumb 5 7. Left fore-finger 4 8. Left middle finger 3 9. Left ring finger 9 10. Left little finger 11



Left Hand

Right Hand

ILLINOIS STATE PENITENTIARY
Joliet Illinois

Rec'd from Cook Co. Aug. 5th 1925 to
 serve 10 yrs to life for Robbery etc
 NOW 38 yrs old, height 5'4 1/2", weight
 134 lbs, dark compl., chest. dark hair
 Haz. Grn Sl eyes, med. slim build
 SCARS AND MARKS:- RIMS OF EARS FLAT-
 TENED AND EARS STAND OUT. III-2 blue
 scars on head edge of hair. I-Pl red
 sc 1 1/2 lg back of hand II-cut curve
 sc outer thumb.

Fifty (\$50) dollars will be paid for
 the capture of this man. WIRE
 Colonel Frank D. Whipp, Warden
 Joliet Illinois



Prisoners' Signature Henry J. Turner

10/28/35 Captured in Chicago, Ill. 10/29/35 Committed Suicide by Poisoning in Jail at Chicago.

RECEIVED

AUG 5 1935

Bureau of Criminal Apprehension



KILLER WALKS OUT OF ILLINOIS PRISON

By Associated Press.

Joliet, Ill., Aug. 3.—Henry "Midget" Fernekes, 38, diminutive quick-shooting gunman accused of at least five murders and a dozen bank robberies, was missing from his cell in the state penitentiary Saturday night. Officials said he apparently had escaped by donning civilian clothing and walking past the guards as a visitor.

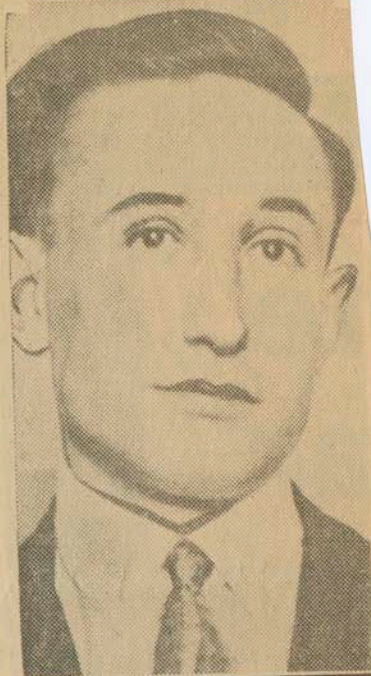
Fernekes, serving a 10 year to life sentence for the robbery of the Inland Trust & Savings bank in Chicago, was described at the time of his arrest a decade ago as "a gunman who could give Gerald Chapman and Tommy O'Connor lessons in both shooting and robbery."

The gunman, who was given the name "Midget" because of his size—he was five feet three inches tall and weighed only 140 pounds—was missed during a daily check of prisoners.

A short time before, guards recalled, a mysterious man entered the interview room, inside the prison walls. He presented a card on which was written "Amenn-4408"—the name and number of a prisoner friend of Fernekes.

A clerk in the interview room directed the "visitor" to seek Amenn at the new prison. Still bearing the card, the man, whose resemblance to Fernekes was later recalled by guards, walked through gates and disappeared.

Ends Life in Cell



MIDGET FERNEKES

Chicago, Oct. 29.—(INS)—Henry J. (Midget) Fernekes, diminutive escaped killer and bank robber, recaptured here yesterday, collapsed and died today in a cell at the detective bureau.

Physicians said that Fernekes had taken poison to cheat the long prison term he faced at Joliet penitentiary where he escaped last August.

Fernekes escaped from Joliet by merely walking out in citizens' clothes and disguised in dark horn-rimmed glasses.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HENRY HORNER, GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE
GENERAL OFFICE, SPRINGFIELD
A. L. BOWEN, DIRECTOR
MRS. DOROTHY L. KAY, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
FRANK D. WHIPP, SUPERINTENDENT OF PRISONS
JOHN C. WEIGEL, FISCAL SUPERVISOR
PAUL L. SCHROEDER, M. D., CRIMINOLOGIST
H. DOUGLAS SINGER, M. D., ALIENIST
W. C. JONES, SUPERVISOR OF PAROLES

BUREAU OF CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION
AND INVESTIGATION
T. P. SULLIVAN, SUPERINTENDENT
PAYNE BUILDING, SPRINGFIELD
TELEPHONE, CAPITOL 1400 STATION 721

August 14, 1935.

Mr. Roscoe C. Hill,
Superintendent,
Bureau of Criminal Identification
and Investigation,
Boston, Massachusetts.

R 46789

Dear Sir:

You will find enclosed herewith a number of our circulars #33, concerning Henry J. Fernekes alias "Midget" Fernekes, Illinois State Bureau #192, Illinois State Penitentiary Joliet #44-E, who escaped from the Illinois State Penitentiary Joliet (Old Prison) on August 3, 1935, about 1:45 P.M.

Fernekes is a notorious bank robber and a dangerous killer, and all police departments should make every effort to cause his apprehension. Fernekes is reputed to possess considerable wealth, which he saved from his bank depredations prior to his incarceration in the Illinois State Penitentiary.

I shall appreciate it if you will use any and all means that are available to you to broadcast this information throughout your state, and in the event that a bank robbery occurs in your state, will you see to it that a photograph of Fernekes is shown to the victims of the robbery? On account of his very small size Fernekes will be easily identified.

I shall also appreciate it if you will have your officers keep a sharp look-out for this man, and as he is known to be a dangerous killer, every precaution should be taken by persons attempting to place him under arrest.

Thanking you for your cooperation in this matter, I am

Very truly yours,

T. P. Sullivan

T. P. Sullivan,
Superintendent.

RECEIVED

CC-State Bureau, East Lansing, Mich.

CC-State Bureau, St. Paul, Minn.











AUG 16 1935

Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

NAME--HENRY J. FERNEKES,
ALIAS "MIDGET".

CLASSIFICATION _____

CIRCULAR NO. 33 ISSUED AUGUST 12, 1935.

1. Right Thumb 	2. Right fore-finger 	3. Right middle finger 	4. Right ring finger 	5. Right little finger 
6. Left Thumb 	7. Left fore-finger 	8. Left middle finger 	9. Left ring finger 	10. Left little finger 



\$1000.00 REWARD

Governor Henry Horner has offered a reward of \$1000.00 for the apprehension of the following subject who escaped from the Illinois State Penitentiary, Joliet, Ill., August 3, 1935.

HENRY J. FERNEKES, alias "MIDGET". Age--38. Height--5'4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Weight--134. Hair--dk. ch. Eyes--hazel green slate. Complexion--dark.

FERNEKES is a notorious bank robber and killer and a very clever operator. Officers should take no chances.

Notify Frank D. Whipp, Warden, Illinois State Penitentiary, Joliet, Ill.; or this Bureau.

HENRY J. FERNEKES
STATE BUREAU #192.

ILLINOIS STATE BUREAU OF CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION AND INVESTIGATION
T. P. SULLIVAN, SUPT. SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.

**IDENTIFICATION
ORDER NO. 1296**

August 29, 1935.

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.**

Fingerprint Classification

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S 1 U III 11

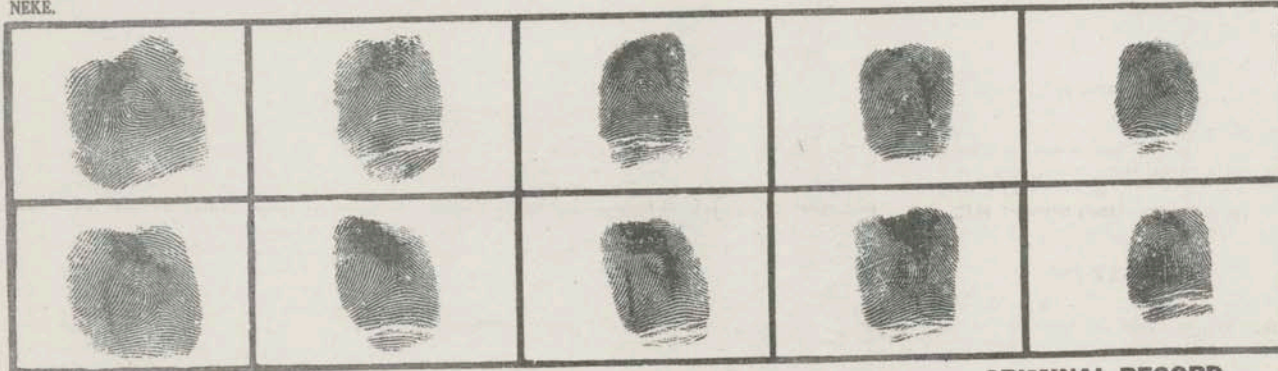
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1 U

WANTED

HENRY J. FERNEKES, with aliases: "MIDGET" FERNEKES, JIMMIE WARD, C. F. RICHARDS, HENRY J. DARCHE, JIMMY KNIGHT, HENRY GOODWIN, RALPH GOODWIN, HENRY J. FERNEKE.

ENDEAVOR TO LOCATE



DESCRIPTION

Photograph taken August 5, 1925.

Age, 38 years (born July 27, 1897 in Illinois); Height, 5'4½"; Weight, 140 lbs. (1935); Build, medium slim; Hair, dark chestnut; Eyes, hazel green slate; Complexion, dark; Ears, rims of ears flattened and stand out; Teeth, fair, upper right and left molars crowned; Nose, vex slight elevation M.L. M.W., M. deep root. Chin, medium short and straight. Scars: Left hand, vertical scar 1½" long on back of hand between thumb and index finger. Right hand - cut curved scar on outer and palm of thumb, outer phalanx. Face, dim oblique scar root of nose; rough blue scar on upper right side of head at edge of hair; curved blue scar on center upper forehead at edge of hair. Peculiarities: Very quiet. Occupation: Electrician and chemist.



CRIMINAL RECORD

- *As Henry J. Fernekes, served one term in the Illinois State Reformatory, Pontiac, Ill., #9520; crime, armed robbery; paroled and discharged.
- As Henry J. Fernekes, #95872 arrested P. D. Chicago Ill. Apr. 18, 1925.
- As Henry J. Fernekes, #E 44, received Illinois State Penitentiary, Joliet, Ill., Aug. 5, 1925 from Cook County, Ill.; crime, robbery; sentence, ten years to life; escaped Aug. 3, 1935.

RELATIVES

Mrs. J. C. Fernekes, wife,
2724 Lehmann Court, Chicago, Ill.
Robert Darche, son,
454 West Lincolnway, Valparaiso, Ind.
Donald Fernekes, son,
2216 Pleasant Street, South Bend, Ind.
Irvin J. Fernekes, brother,
R.F.D.#1, Valparaiso, Ind.

Henry J. Fernekes

Henry J. Fernekes is wanted by the Warden of the Illinois State Penitentiary, Joliet, Illinois for his escape from that Institution on August 3, 1935.

Law enforcement agencies kindly transmit any additional information or criminal record to the nearest office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice.

If apprehended please notify the Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice, Washington, D. C., or the Special Agent in Charge of the office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation listed on the back hereof which is nearest your city.

*Represents notation unsupported by fingerprints.

(over)

Issued by: JOHN EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR.

Federal Bureau of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,

Located at:	Building	Tel. No.
ABERDEEN, S.Dak.,	610 Alonzo Ward Hotel	4652
ATLANTA, Georgia,	501 Healey Walnut	3698
BIRMINGHAM, Alabama,	320 Federal	7-1755
BOSTON, Massachusetts,	1002	
	Post Office & Court House	Liberty 7634
BUFFALO, N.Y.,	612 Marine Trust	Cleveland 2030
BUTTE, Montana,	302 Federal	2-4734
CHARLOTTE, N. C.,	234 Federal	3-4127
CHICAGO, Ill.,	1900 Bankers'	Randolph 6226
CINCINNATI, Ohio,	426 U. S.	
	Custom House & P. O.	Main 6720
CLEVELAND, Ohio,	1448 Standard, Prospect	2456
DALLAS, Texas,	420 Post Office	2-3866
DENVER, Colo.,	722 Midland Savings	Main 6241
DETROIT, Mich.,	907 Federal	Cadillac 2835
EL PASO, Texas,	1331 1st Nat'l Bk.	Main 501
INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.,	506	
	Fletcher Trust	Riley 5416
JACKSONVILLE, Florida,	412 U. S.	
	Court House & P. O.	3-2780
KANSAS CITY, Mo.,	1616 Fed. Res. Bk.	Victor 3113
LITTLE ROCK, Ark.,	500 Rector Office	6734
LOS ANGELES, Calif.,	617 Fed.	Mutual 2201
LOUISVILLE, Ky.,	769 Starks	Jackson 5139
MILWAUKEE, Wisc.,	1021 Bankers'	Daly 3431
NASHVILLE, Tenn.,	508 Medical Arts	6-6771
NEW ORLEANS, La.,	326½ P. O.	Raymond 1965
NEW YORK, N. Y.,	370 Lexington	
	Avenue, Room 1403	Caledonia 5-8691
OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla.,	224 Federal	2-8186
OMAHA, Nebr.,	629 1st Nat'l Bk.	Atlantic 8644
PHILADELPHIA, Pennsylvania,		
	1300 Liberty Trust	Locust 0880
PHOENIX, Ariz.	318 Security	3-4870
PITTSBURGH, Pa.,	620 New Fed.	Grant 0800
PORTLAND, Ore.,	411 U.S.Ct. House	Atwater 6171
SALT LAKE CITY, Utah,	503-A	
	U. S. Court House & P. O.	Wasatch 3980
SAN ANTONIO, Texas,		
	1216 Smith-Young Tower	Fannin 8052
SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.,	405 P.O.	Hemlock 4400
ST. LOUIS, Missouri,		
	801 Title Guaranty	Central 1650
ST. PAUL, Minn.,		
	232 Uptown Sta. & Fed. Cts.	Garfield 7509
TRENTON, N.J.	827 Broad St. Nat'l Bk.	3-0881
WASHINGTON, D.C.,	5252 Justice	National 5303

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Official Business

Penalty for Private Use to
Avoid Payment of Postage, \$300

Harry J (Midget) Farnes
escaped Bank Robber & Killer from Joliet
Pen - Captured in Chicago today
Oct. 28th - 1935.

Schultz

REPORT OF ROBBERY

Place County
(city or village)

Make of car.....

Color of car.....

License No.

No. of men.....

DESCRIPTION OF MEN

No. 1 Age Height.....

Weight Complexion.....

Eyes Hair.....

No. 2 Age Height.....

Weight Complexion.....

Eyes Hair.....

No. 3 Age Height.....

Weight Complexion.....

Eyes Hair.....

Descriptive Marks

Date.....