



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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McCool, Frank H.

DEAD

13	I	31	W	IIM	9
	I	28	W	OII	14

KILLER 'TOO DESPERATE'—

PP 9/28/37

Goff Wants Him Held

How to keep a convict in prison after his term has expired is the problem with which County Attorney Ed J. Goff is struggling.

Frank McCool, slayer of George Connery, Minneapolis policeman, in 1917, will be released November 17, after serving nearly 20 years of a 30-year sentence.

"McCool is too desperate a man to be let free," Goff said.

He wants to prosecute McCool on a robbery charge, but doubts whether a conviction can be obtained because Frank Brunskill, former police chief and John Galvin, former detective inspector, who saw McCool rob Patrolman Connery of his gun before he killed him, have both died.

In addition to the murder of Connery, McCool, according to a confession he gave police, previously was implicated in the murder April 26, 1917, of Mrs. Alice McQuillan Dunn, estranged wife of a St. Paul teaming contractor.

McCool told police he was a lookout during the murder which was committed by Joseph Redenbaugh, and that both of them were in the pay of Dunn, who had conspired his wife's death. Dunn and Redenbaugh received life sentences for the crime.



FRANK M'COOL IN 1917

Killer Faces Robbery Trial on Release

9/29/37

Frank McCool, murderer of George Connery, Minneapolis policeman, in 1917, will be released November 17, after serving nearly 20 years of a 30-year sentence. County Attorney Ed J. Goff said he intended to prosecute McCool on a robbery charge.

McCOOL FREED AND JAILED AGAIN



Stillwater prison doors opened for Frank McCool, (left) today. He was received (in picture) by Ramsey county Sheriff Thomas Gibbons (middle) and Acting Warden Leo Utecht. McCool was rushed to Ramsey county District Court to face a new murder charge.

McCool Seized at Stillwater's Gates

Pleads Not Guilty to New Murder Charge — Tells Of 20-Year 'Stretch'

Frank "Cop-killer" McCool faced another judge today.

He walked out of Stillwater prison's gates into the arms of 10 deputy sheriffs. Manacled, he was whisked to Ramsey county jail.

An hour after he saw the "outside" for the first time in 20 years, he was arraigned on a murder charge—a charge accusing him of participating in the hired killing of Mrs. Alice McQuillen Dunn in 1917.

He had just completed a 20-year term for a part in the murder of Patrolman George Connery of Minneapolis April 24, 1917.

McCool was arraigned before District Judge John W. Boerner, accused of the Dunn murder. A grand jury reindicted him yesterday. The arraignment was continued to give McCool time to arrange for an attorney.

When he left the prison, he left behind him two men against whom he appeared as a state witness. They are Joseph Redenbaugh, convicted in the Connery murder, and Frank Dunn, husband, who, McCool had testified, hired Redenbaugh and McCool to kill his wife.

Mrs. Dunn was slain as she lay in bed beside her sister, Katherine McQuillen. McCool served as lookout while Redenbaugh stood above the two women and pulled the fatal gun's trigger.

Sallow with prison pallor, mild-mannered and somewhat dejected, McCool stood in the jail bull pen

Relaxing of Rules Is Great, Says McCool

Changes have been made in disciplinary rules at Stillwater penitentiary. Some of the late Warden J. J. Sullivan's drastic regulations have been relaxed.

"The boys are tickled pink," said Frank McCool, cop killer who finished 20 years of a 30-year sentence today. "They get as excited as kids over the radio broadcasts they hear now. We can—could—cheer out loud during the football and the World Series broadcasts."

"I bet on the Yanks."

today, answering questions put by Thomas J. Gibbons, Ramsey county sheriff.

Occasionally wan humor showed through his dejection.

They asked him the color of his hair. (There isn't much of it.) "You didn't ask me which side I parted it on," McCool grinned.

Others asked him what he had been doing in prison. He said he had been in the tailor shop all the time.

"I design my own suits," he said. "And I can crochet, too."

He said the news he was to be tried again was "a blow to me."

"I was astounded. It was like hitting me on the head with a sandbag. I think, after 20 years and good behavior, a guy deserves a break, don't you?"

He said he saw Redenbaugh and Dunn occasionally during his imprisonment—but didn't have much to do with them.

"I'm going to fight this charge," he said, his face set grimly.

"What will you do if you get out of this?" he was asked.

"It's California, here I come," he replied. "I've got a job waiting for me in a tailor shop out there and I'm going to make good, too."

M'COOL AWAITS DEATH HEARING



—Tribune Staff photographer.
Frank McCool.

Hearing Set for Monday After His Arrest at Stillwater Gates.

In a cell at the Ramsey county jail to which he was taken after his release from Stillwater penitentiary earlier in the day, Frank McCool Wednesday night calmly awaited a hearing on charges of murdering Mrs. Alice McQuillen Dunn, wife of a St. Paul contractor 20 years ago.

He was taken into Ramsey county district court for arraignment, but because he had no lawyer Judge John Boerner set the hearing for Monday. Booked at the jail to await prosecution on the old charge in the Dunn slaying, McCool neither denied nor admitted the crime.

McCool, who was re-indicted in the Dunn murder case Tuesday to meet any technicalities that might arise, was brought from Stillwater during the day by Ramsey county authorities. He was released from the prison after serving 20 years for the murder of Patrolman George Connery on April 24, 1917.

The cold-blooded murderer and bank robber of 20 years ago is now a mild-mannered and soft-spoken little man who blinked and gazed curiously at newspaper photographer's paraphernalia during his few seconds of "freedom" before he was hustled away from Stillwater to face the new charge.

He is charged with the slaying of Mrs. Dunn with the assistance of Joe Redenbaugh, a pal of McCool during his bank looting days, and Tacoma Johnny Doyle. Redenbaugh, Doyle and Dunn are serving life sentences in the Dunn murder. Two of the men, Redenbaugh and Doyle, are expected to be called as witnesses in the trial of McCool.

Jail Mc Cool on Murder Charge

11/17/27

Associate Justice to Be Witness for State

An associate justice of the State Supreme Court, a Ramsey county District Court judge and three former Minneapolis policemen will be among witnesses against Frank McCool when he goes on trial for the murder of Mrs. Alice McQuillan Dunn, it was reported late today.

They were understood to be among the dozen persons who testified before the grand jury which reindicted McCool on the 20-year-old murder charge, which, earlier in the day, brought his arrest as he left Stillwater prison after serving 20 years for murder of Patrolman George Connery of Minneapolis.

Peterson May Be Witness

Harry H. Peterson, associate justice of the State Supreme Court, was first assistant Ramsey county attorney when McCool testified against Frank Dunn, St. Paul teaming contractor, who hired three gunmen to kill his wife. Judge Hugo Hanft presided at the trial. Both were believed slated as prosecution witnesses.

The former Minneapolis policemen understood to be scheduled by the state included Lewis Harthill, then Minneapolis police chief, and Charles Ziegler and F. X. Kort.

McCool was back in Ramsey county jail late today after being granted a stay of arraignment until Monday in order to give him a chance to arrange for an attorney.

CLAIM NO PROMISE WAS MADE McCool

Ramsey county prosecutors late today took into Ramsey county district Court affidavits intended to refute Frank McCool's claim of an immunity agreement in the Alice Dunn murder of 1917.

Judge R. D. O'Brien of St. Paul (Ramsey county district attorney at the time, and Lewis Harthill, then Minneapolis police chief, both declared in affidavits that no promises of any kind had been made to McCool.

The affidavits were filed in opposition to a move by McCool's attorney, John DeCourcy, seeking dismissal of the Dunn murder indictment on the ground that the defendant's constitutional right of early trial had been violated. DeCourcy claimed that McCool did not ask for trial on the old Dunn charges because of the immunity promise if he turned state's evidence.

McCool was arrested, however,

62427

as he was freed from Stillwater prison after completing 20 years for murder of Patrolman George Connery of Minneapolis.

New McCool Trial Ordered for Jan. 3

12/16/37 Journal

Jury Is Dismissed After Failing to Arrive at Verdict in 67 Hours

Deadlocked for 67 hours, the jury in the murder trial of Frank McCool was dismissed today and Judge John W. Boerner set January 3 as the date for starting a new trial.

McCool is accused of participation in the murder of Mrs. Alice

McQuillan Dunn and is charged with first degree murder.

When the jury was discharged McCool grinned broadly and shook hands with John C. De Courcy, his attorney.

"You're all right, Frank," the attorney told him.

The jury which began its deliberations at 4 p.m. Monday, sent out word today through F. Carl Middents, foreman, that it had not reached a verdict.

"I believe we have made an honest and conscientious effort but are not able to do so," Middents reported.

After brief further discussion, the judge thanked jury members for their services and dismissed them.

Murder charges against McCool should be dismissed, DeCourcy insisted after the jury was discharged.

DeCourcy was unsuccessful in attempting to wring a motion for dismissal out of James F. Lynch, first assistant Ramsey county attorney.

"In view of the fact the state has virtually admitted a promise of immunity to this defendant, and in view of the failure to agree, I think this case should be dismissed," DeCourcy said.

The jury in the murder trial of Frank McCool started out with a bare majority of seven against five for conviction, it was learned today. As deliberations progressed three jurors swung over to favor conviction, making it 10 to 2 and most of Wednesday the vote stood 11 to 1. The last vote could not be won over.

McCool Jury Out Nearly 24 Hours

62427

12/14/37 Journal

McCOOL JURY OUT 48 HOURS

12/15/37 Journal

Apparently hopelessly deadlocked, the Ramsey District Court jury in the Frank McCool murder case was still out late today almost 48 hours after it received the case.

Judge John W. Boerner sent the jury back to its deliberations last night after jurors reported a deadlock. Since then no word has come from behind the jury room door.

The jurors deliberated until 11 p.m. yesterday, were then locked up for the night and resumed work today without giving any signs of being closer to agreement.

McCool, former convict, is on trial on charges of participating in the murder of Mrs. Alice McQuillan Dunn in St. Paul 20 years ago.

Gets Instructions On Immunity 'Promise'

The jury deliberating the fate of Frank McCool, gunman of 20 years ago charged with the murder of Alice McQuillan Dunn, was still out after almost 24 hours late today.

The jury came in once earlier in the day and asked further instructions from Judge John W. Boerner, presiding. Jurors asked particularly about the law governing the alleged promise of immunity which the defense claims was made to McCool in 1917 in exchange for his testimony against Frank Dunn, convicted husband of the slain woman.

Judge Boerner instructed the jurors that the validity of the promise was not within their jurisdiction, but that they should consider whether McCool's testimony at the Dunn trial was given on the understanding he was immune from prosecution.

McCool Found Guilty; Given 7 to 30 Years

Journal
Connery Killer Convicted of Third Degree Murder in Dunn Case 1/10/38

The second jury to try Frank X. McCool for the slaying of Alice McQuillen Dunn today found him guilty of third degree murder. He was sentenced immediately to 7 to 30 years in prison.

His sentence came less than two months after he stepped from Stillwater prison in November, at conclusion of a 20-year term for the murder of Patrolman George Connery, Minneapolis.

Upon his release from prison after serving for the Connery slaying, McCool was arrested for complicity in the sensational Dunn murder in St. Paul in 1917.

A jury which tried him last month on the new charge disagreed.

Jurors who heard the retrial received the case in Ramsey county District Court at 1 p.m. Saturday and returned with their verdict at 10 a.m. today—45 hours later.

Policemen are shown hurling liquor jugs and bottles against the wall house in Brooklyn, N. Y., when authorities destroyed some 10,000 gallons in raids since 1933. The beverages were made illegally and in violation

Mysterious Mrs. Robinson Identified as N. Y. Woman

Moscow, Jan. 5. — (AP) — An American today identified a passport photograph of Ruth Marie Rubens of New York as that of the woman who gave her name as "Mrs. Donald L. Robinson" before disappearing in Moscow last month.

The person making the identification interviewed the woman at her Moscow hotel before she vanished December 9. She is now reported under arrest.

The identification was telegraphed to the state department in Washington. The United States embassy is awaiting instructions from Washington before reopening its inquiries into



RUTH MARIE RUBENS

McCOOL GOES BACK TO STATE PRISON

Journal
1/10/38
Less than four hours after a jury in Ramsey county district court had pronounced Frank X. McCool guilty of complicity in the 1917 murder of Alice McQuillen Dunn, McCool was on his way, un-

der heavy guard, to the St. Cloud prison, to begin a 7 to 30 year sentence.

Sheriff Thomas J. Gibbons and three deputies rushed McCool from the Ramsey county jail at 1:30 p.m. They used two cars.

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

October 15, 1937.

The following is a transcript of the record, including the most recently reported data, as shown in the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation concerning our number

FBI-418003

62427

J. E. Hoover

J. E. HOOVER, Director.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
PD, Kansas City, Mo.	James Lynn, #--	1-29-17	not given	
PD, Omaha, Nebr.	Frank J. Curtis, #5145	4-29-17	G. L.	
PD, Minneapolis, Minn.	Frank McCool, #15698	5-12-17	murder	
SP, Stillwater, Minn.	Frank McCool, #5593	6-18-17	murder 3rd deg.	30 yrs.
PD, St. Paul, Minn., #15359 (AIR MAIL * SPECIAL DELIVERY)	Frank McCool, #15359	Inquiry (10-14 37)		
*	St. Paul, Minn., 90 days WH.			
*	Omaha, Nebr., May 1, 1917, fugitive (murder.)			

Copy for State Bureau

* Represents notations unsupported by fingerprints in FBI files.

For completion of our records, please supply dispositions to this Bureau in any of the foregoing cases where they do not appear

STATE OF MINNESOTA, BUREAU OF CRIMINAL APPREHENSION

ROOM 22, STATE OFFICE BUILDING - ST. PAUL, MINN.

RAMSEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

ST. PAUL, MINN.

Record from _____

(Address) _____

On the above line please state whether Police Department, Sheriff's Office or Institution.

Paroled _____

Discharged _____

Date of Arrest

Nov. 17, 1937

Place of Arrest

Stillwater Penitentiary

Date received at Institution

Charge

Murder 1st

Disposition of Case

held for trial

Residence

St Paul, Stillwater Minn.

Place of Birth

Wichita Kans.

Nationality

Irish

Age

46

Height

5 8

Weight

147

Hair

Bro Bald

Build

Med

Eyes

Bro

Complexion

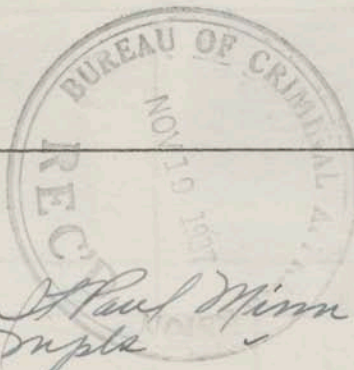
Fair

Marks and Scars

six operations

left jaw abdomen and upper legs.

PLEASE PASTE PHOTO HERE



Frank Mc Cool. St Paul Minn
Dupla

1916 Disced 90 days Wks
1917 Murder 3rd 30 days 5 mo
Stillwater Minn

Mason's Minn. Statutes—1927, Sec. 9950-10, as amended by Chap. 197, Laws 1935. It is hereby made the duty of the sheriffs of the respective counties and of the police officers in cities of the first, second and third classes under the direction of the chief of police in such cities, to take or cause to be taken immediately finger and thumb prints, photographs and such other identification data as may be requested or required by the superintendent of the bureau; (a) of all persons arrested for felony, (b) of all persons reasonably believed by the arresting officer to be fugitives from justice, (c) of all persons in whose possession, when arrested, are found concealed firearms or other dangerous weapons, burglar tools or outfits, high-power explosives, or articles, machines or appliances usable for an unlawful purpose and reasonably believed by the arresting officer to be intended for such purposes, and within 24 hours thereafter to forward such finger print records and other identification data on such forms and in such manner as may be prescribed by the superintendent to the bureau of criminal apprehension.

Section 8, Chapter 197, Laws 1935 to be known as Section 9950-22 of Mason's Minn. Statutes. If any public official charged with the duty of furnishing to the bureau fingerprints records, reports or other information required by this act shall neglect or refuse to comply with such requirements, the bureau in writing shall notify the state, county or city officer charged with the issuance of a warrant for the payment of the salary of such official. Upon the receipt of such notice, such state, county or city official shall withhold the issuance of a warrant for the payment of the salary or other compensation accruing to such officer for the period of thirty days thereafter until notified by the bureau that such suspension has been released by the performance of the required duty.

R 62427






Name Frank Xavier McCool

Class.


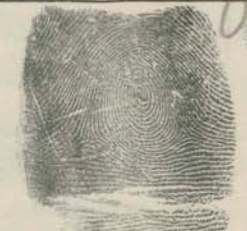



13 I 31 W IIM 9
I 28 W OII 14

No. 2604 Color wht Sex male

RIGHT HAND

Thumb	Index	Middle	Ring	Little
 I 13	 I	 I	 M	 9

LEFT HAND

Thumb	Index	Middle	Ring	Little
 I 9	 0	 I	 I	 14

Impressions taken by

Date

Classified by

Filed by

Four Fingers Taken Simultaneously

Prisoner's Signature

✓ Frank X. McCool

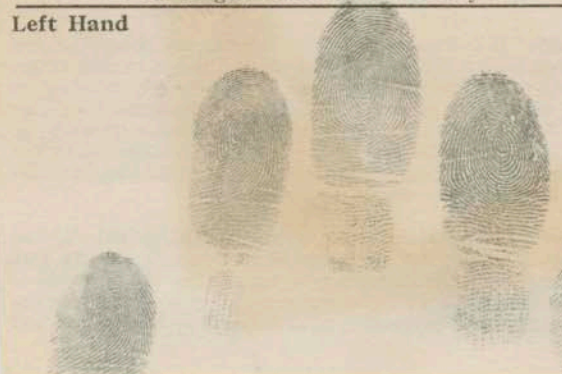
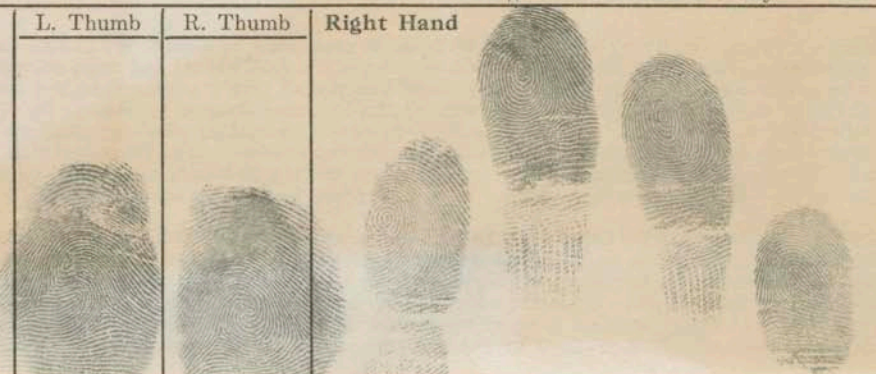
Four Fingers Taken Simultaneously

Left Hand

L. Thumb

R. Thumb

Right Hand

	
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United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

November 24, 1937

The following is a transcript of the record, including the most recently reported data, as shown in the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation concerning our number

NOV 27 1937

Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

FBI-418003

62427 J. E. Hoover

J. E. HOOVER, Director.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
PD, Kansas City, Mo.	James Lynn, #--	1-29-17	not given	
PD, Omaha, Nebr.	Frank J. Curtis, #5145	4-29-17	G.L.	
PD, Minneapolis, Minn., *	Frank McCool, #15698	5-12-17	murder	
	Frank McCool, Mpls., Minn., 1917, murder 3rd; 30 yrs. - 20 yrs., 5 mos. time done.			
SP, Stillwater, Minn.	Frank McCool, #5593	6-18-17	murder 3rd deg.	30 yrs.
PD, St. Paul, Minn., #15859	Frank McCool, #5593	inquiry 10-14-37		
SO, St. Paul, Minn.	Frank Xavier McCool #2604	11-17-37	murder 1st.	
AIR MAIL				
*	St. Paul, Minn., 90 days WH.			
*	Frank McCool, St. Paul, Minn., 1916, D.C.; 90 days WH.			
*	Omaha, Nebr., 5-1-17, fugitive (murder)			

COPY FOR STATE BUREAU

*Represents notations unsupported by fingerprints in F. B. I. files.

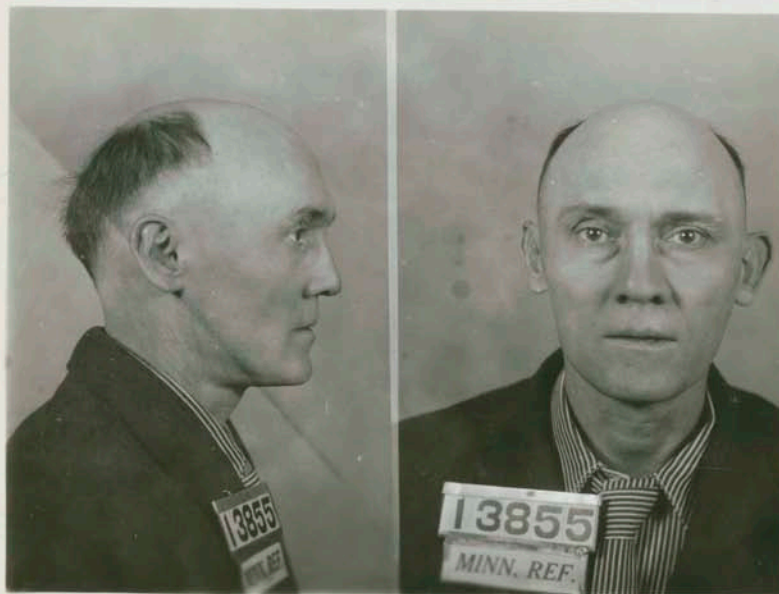
For completion of our records, please supply dispositions to this Bureau in any of the foregoing cases where they do not appear.

STATE OF MINNESOTA, BUREAU OF CRIMINAL APPREHENSION

ROOM 22, STATE OFFICE BUILDING - ST. PAUL, MINN.

Record from Reformatory (Address) St. Cloud
On the above line please state whether Police Department, Sheriff's Office or Institution.

Paroled _____ Discharged _____



Date of Arrest _____
Place of Arrest Ramsey County
Date received at Institution Jan. 10, 1938
Charge Murder 3d Degree
Disposition of Case 7 - 30 years
Residence Stillwater, Minn.
Place of Birth Witchita, Kans.
Nationality Ir-Amer.
Age 45 Height 5' 7 5/8" bald
Weight 139 Hair Dk Chestnut/
Build Medium Eyes Slate
Complexion Sallow
Marks and Scars _____



Mason's Minn. Statutes—1927, Sec. 9950-10, as amended by Chap. 197, Laws 1935. It is hereby made the duty of the sheriffs of the respective counties and of the police officers in cities of the first, second and third classes under the direction of the chief of police in such cities, to take or cause to be taken immediately finger and thumb prints, photographs and such other identification data as may be requested or required by the superintendent of the bureau; (a) of all persons arrested for felony, (b) of all persons reasonably believed by the arresting officer to be fugitives from justice, (c) of all persons in whose possession, when arrested, are found concealed firearms or other dangerous weapons, burglar tools or outfits, high-power explosives, or articles, machines or appliances usable for an unlawful purpose and reasonably believed by the arresting officer to be intended for such purposes, and within 24 hours thereafter to forward such finger print records and other identification data on such forms and in such manner as may be prescribed by the superintendent to the bureau of criminal apprehension.

Section 8, Chapter 197, Laws 1935 to be known as Section 9950-22 of Mason's Minn. Statutes. If any public official charged with the duty of furnishing to the bureau fingerprints records, reports or other information required by this act shall neglect or refuse to comply with such requirements, the bureau in writing shall notify the state, county or city officer charged with the issuance of a warrant for the payment of the salary of such official. Upon the receipt of such notice, such state, county or city official shall withhold the issuance of a warrant for the payment of the salary or other compensation accruing to such officer for the period of thirty days thereafter until notified by the bureau that such suspension has been released by the performance of the required duty.

This law should be strictly adhered to.

P62427

DEAD

8 I 31 W IIM 9
I 28 W OIT 14

Name Frank McCool
Alias _____

Class. _____

No. 13,855 Color White Sex Male

RIGHT HAND

8	Thumb I-13	Index I	Middle I	Ring M	Little 9

LEFT HAND

	Thumb I-9	Index 0	Middle I	Ring I	Little 14

Impressions taken by

A. L. Johnson

Date _____

Prisoner's Signature

Frank McCool 13855

Classified by _____ Filed by _____

Four Fingers Taken Simultaneously

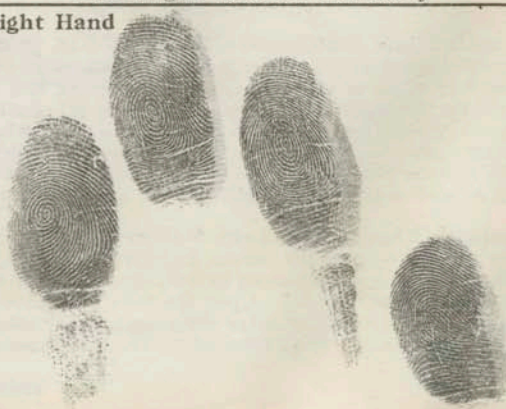
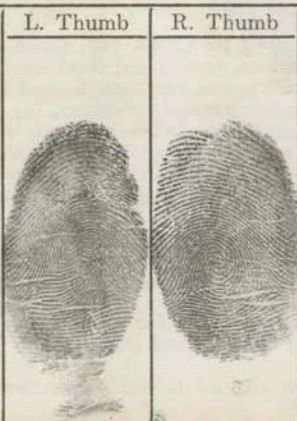
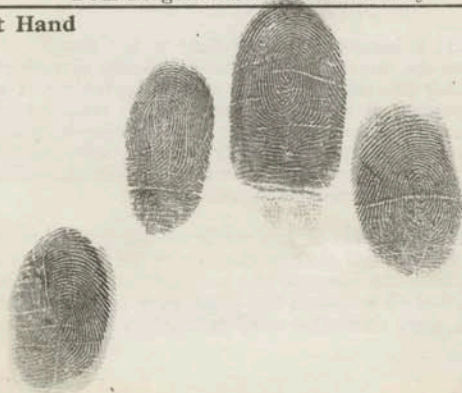
Four Fingers Taken Simultaneously

Left Hand

L. Thumb

R. Thumb

Right Hand



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

January 21, 1938.

Superintendent,
State Reformatory,
Saint Cloud, Minn.

Dear Sir:

Referring to fingerprint on Frank McCool, #13855, please be advised that an examination of the fingerprint records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation fails to disclose any data concerning this individual in addition to that supplied in Bureau letter dated **Nov. 24, 1937**, copy attached for your information.

Your print mentioned shows the following:

Copy to:


St. Bu.,
St. Paul,
Minn.

SO, St. Paul,
Minn. (Frank
Xavier McCool,
#2604)

PD, St. Paul,
Minn. (#15859)
SP, Stillwater,
Minn. (#5593)

Subject as Frank McCool, #13855, received SRef., St. Cloud, Minn., Jan. 10, 1938, from Ramsey County, crime murder 3rd degree; sentence 30 yrs.

Very truly yours,



John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Encl.

Refer to File #FBI-418003.

For completion of our records, please supply dispositions to this Bureau in any of the foregoing cases where they do not appear.