



## MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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DECEASED

6	1	aR	12
	1	aAa	12

PASTER, Herman

associated with Sammy TARAN - brother in law ALLEN N. IVAN  
SHOT by gang ~~leader~~ in ST. PAUL - (Booze & Gambler Rings)  
(1960)

## POLICE DEPARTMENT, Milwaukee Wis.

## Bureau of Identification

Date of Arrest Nov 13<sup>th</sup>, 1933, at \_\_\_\_\_

(Name of city if arrested elsewhere)

Charge Confidence Game (Held for PD, Chicago Ill)Disposition Surrendered at PD Chicago, Ill., where he was wanted (was out on BondDate of disp. ---, 19--- Officer ---District \_\_\_\_\_ Residence St. Paul MinnNativity JewishOccupation SalismanAge 30 Ht. 5 Ft. 6 1/2 In.Wt. 155 Build Med WellComplexion MedHair Dark ChestnutEyes Greenish Blue

Marks, Scars \_\_\_\_\_

Prisoner's signature \_\_\_\_\_

## BERTILLON MEASUREMENTS

Ht.	O. Arm	Trnk.	H. L.	H. W.	C. W.	R. Ear	L. F.	L. M. F.	L. L. F.	(L. Em.

## RECORD

(Give name used, number, place, date, charge, disposition)





**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**MILWAUKEE, WIS.**

*Duplicate*  
LEAVE THIS SPACE BLANK

Name Herman Paster

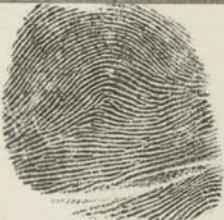


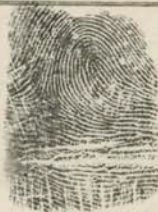
Class. 1 a R 12

Alias Herman Pastor

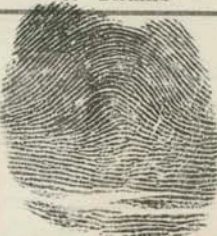




No. 25541 Color white Sex male

Ref. 1 a Aa 12

**RIGHT HAND**

1. Thumb	2. Index Finger	3. Middle Finger	4. Ring Finger	5. Little Finger
				
a	5	3	5	12
		Bandaged Ulnar loop	Bandaged Ulnar loop	

**LEFT HAND**

6. Thumb	7. Index Finger	8. Middle Finger	9. Ring Finger	10. Little Finger
				
a	A	a		12

Classified..... Assembled.....  
Searched..... Verified.....  
Index Card..... Answered.....

Note Amputations

Date NOV 13 1933, 19.....  
Impressions taken by: .....

Four Fingers Taken Simultaneously

Left Hand



L. Thumb

R. Thumb



Four Fingers Taken Simultaneously

Right Hand





# STATE OF MINNESOTA, BUREAU OF CRIMINAL APPREHENSION

ROOM 22 STATE OFFICE BUILDING - ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

Record from Minneapolis Minn (Address) \_\_\_\_\_  
 On the above line please state whether Police Department, Sheriff's Office, or County Jail

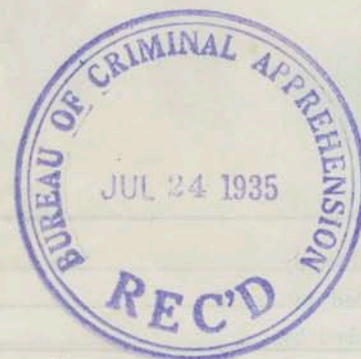


Received from Henn County \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date Received 7/12/35  
 Charge G. Larc  
 Sentence \_\_\_\_\_  
 Place of birth Mich  
 Nationality \_\_\_\_\_  
 Age 30 Height 5-6½  
 Weight 158 Hair Dk Cht  
 Build M. Stocky Eyes M. Dk. Blue  
 Complexion Dk  
 Marks and Scars \_\_\_\_\_

Paroled \_\_\_\_\_

Discharged \_\_\_\_\_

## CRIMINAL HISTORY





R36720

Duplicate  
Leave This Space BlankName Herman Paster.

Alias \_\_\_\_\_

Classification 6 1 aP 12Ref. 1 aHa 12No. 26928-e Color W Sex M

1.—Right Thumb

2.—R. Index Finger 63.—R. Middle Finger 34.—R. Ring Finger 55.—R. Little Finger 12

6.—Left Thumb

7.—L. Index Finger R

8.—L. Middle Finger

9.—L. Ring Finger 1510.—L. Little Finger 12

Four fingers taken simultaneously

Left hand

Four fingers taken simultaneously

Right hand

Amputations \_\_\_\_\_

Left Thumb

Right Thumb

Classified by \_\_\_\_\_

Verified by \_\_\_\_\_

Searched by \_\_\_\_\_

Prisoner's signature

Herman Paster

PLEASE DO NOT FOLD THIS CARD



836720

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

1-4

4-8-57 429 72

J. Edgar Hoover  
Director.

732 906

The following FBI record, NUMBER

, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Police Department Milwaukee Wisconsin	Herman Paster #25541	November 13, 1933	confidence game fugitive	held for Police Department Chicago, December 5 1933 dismissed.
Police Department Chicago, Illinois	Henry Pastoro #C-54108	December 4, 1933	general principles	
Police Department Minneapolis Minnesota	Herman Paster #26928-E	July 12 1935	grand larceny	August 23, 1935 dismissed
Civil Aeronautics Administration Washington District of Columbia	Herman Paster #--	applicant finger- printed August 31 1942		
Alcohol Tax Unit Saint Paul Minnesota	Herman Paster #7953-M	inquiry November 15, 1943		
United States Marshal Saint Paul Minnesota	Herman Paster #6055	March 3 1944	conspiracy Title 18, Section 88 Internal Revenue Liquor Laws	March 3, 1944 released on \$2000. bond, May 16, 1944 6 months and \$5000. fine first count; \$5000. fine second count.
Federal Correctional Institution Sandstone Minnesota	Herman Paster #2198	June 15 1944	violation Office Price Administration regulations, sale distilled spirits above ceiling price	6 months, November 14 1944 discharged minimum expiration.
United States Marshal Saint Paul Minnesota	Herman Paster #8046	September 19, 1952	transporting gambling machines inter- state	September 19, 1952 released on \$10,000. bond, January 5, 1953 1 year and 1 day custody of Attorney General on charge of Interstate Transportation of Gambling Devices; conspiracy.

Notations indicated by \* ARE NOT BASED ON FINGERPRINTS IN FBI files. The notations are based on data furnished this Bureau concerning individuals of the same or similar names or aliases and ARE LISTED ONLY AS INVESTIGATIVE LEADS.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

1-4

2

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
Director.

The following FBI record, NUMBER

732 906

, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
United States Penitentiary Terre Haute Indiana	Herman Paster #11929	January 5, 1955	Conspiracy to transport gambling devices Interstate.	1 year 1 day
USP Leavenworth Kans	Herman Paster #72115-L	3-5-55	in trans transport from USP Terre Haute Ind	exp-GT 10-22-55
USM St Paul Minn	Herman R Paster #9339	6-5-56	shipping gambling machines inter-state	reported to begin service of sent at Leavenworth Kans
USP Leavenworth Kans	Herman Paster #73443-L	6-6-56	I/S transport of gambling devices	2 yrs
Med Cen for Fed Prisoners Springfield Mo	Herman Paster #5929-PCS	8-22-56	consp to trans trans fr gamb devices USP Leavenworth	
PD St Paul Minn	Herman Paster #46627	4-2-57	fel regis(ex-con)	

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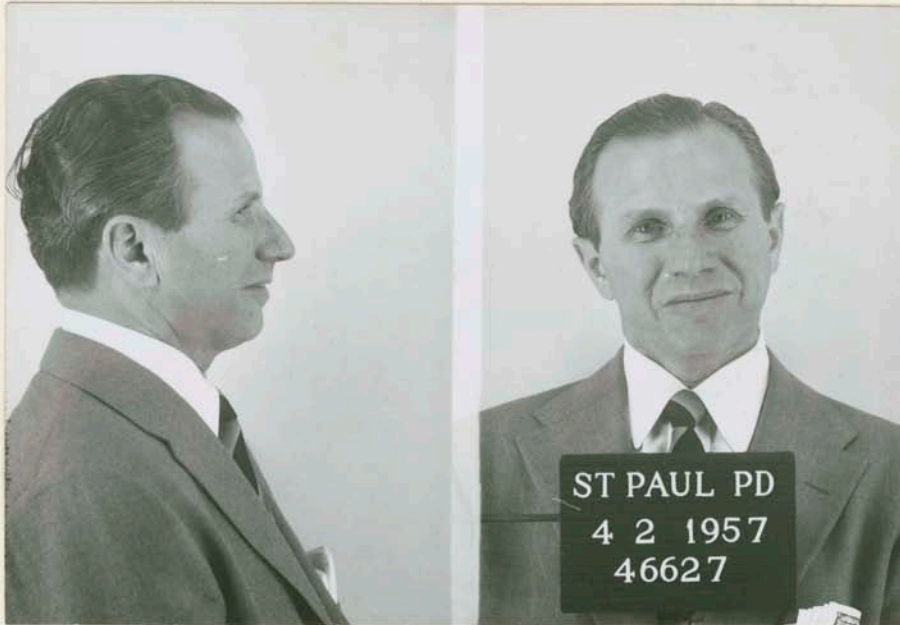


STATE OF MINNESOTA, BUREAU OF CRIMINAL APPREHENSION  
488 WABASHA, ST. PAUL, MINN.

Record from PD, St. Paul, Minn.

(Address) \_\_\_\_\_

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



Date of Arrest April 2, 1957  
Place of Arrest St. Paul Ramsey  
City County

Charge Felony Registration  
Disposition \_\_\_\_\_

Date received at Institution \_\_\_\_\_  
Residence 1752 Pinehurst Ave.  
Place of Birth Russia  
Nationality \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation Real Estate  
Age 54 Date of Birth 9-10-1903  
Height 5'7" Weight 161  
Hair Lk. Brn.-grey Eyes Blu-green  
Comp. Med. Ruddy Build Medium  
Scars & Marks \_\_\_\_\_

PREVIOUS RECORD



R36720

DECEASED

6 1 2 R 12  
1 2 A 2 12Name Paster, Herman






Alias \_\_\_\_\_

Class. \_\_\_\_\_






Reference \_\_\_\_\_

No. 46627 Color White Sex Male

## RIGHT HAND

1. Thumb	2. Index	3. Middle	4. Ring	5. Little
				
<u>2</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>12</u>

## LEFT HAND

6. Thumb	7. Index	8. Middle	9. Ring	10. Little
				
<u>2</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>12</u>

Impressions taken by:

Rasmussen

Note Amputations

Signature of Person Fingerprinted:

Date:

4/2/59

Four Fingers Taken Simultaneously

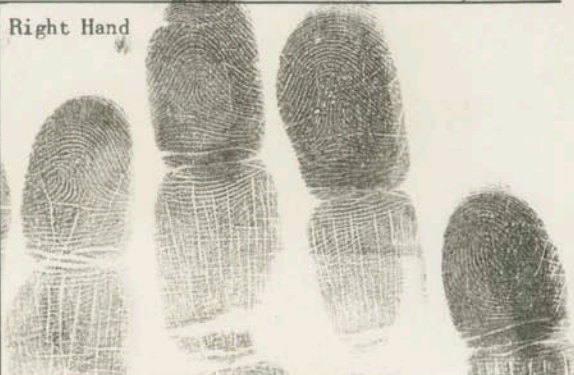
Four Fingers Taken Simultaneously

Left Hand

L. Thumb

R. Thumb

Right Hand





Mpls. Morning Tribune  
10-29-60

# St. Paul Police Figure Slain in Gangland Shooting

By JIM HICKS and WILLIAM JOHNSON  
Minneapolis Tribune Staff Writers

Herman Paster, one-time Upper Midwest pinball machine boss, was shot to death Friday night as he sat reading a newspaper in his fashionable Highland park home.

Three bullets slammed through the window of Paster's den at the rear of his home, 1752 Pinehurst Av., about 7:35 p.m. One struck him in the head. The other two apparently missed, police said.

Twenty minutes later Paster, 57, died in an ambulance en route to Ancker hospital.

St. Paul police said last night it was a gangland murder.

Police Chief William Proetz said: "This killing reaches high into the circles of national crime."

Paster, involved in a sensational slot machine case in 1954 which resulted in a two-year prison term for him, had returned home only a few minutes before he was shot, police reported.

He and his brother-in-law and partner, Allen Nilva, 1830 Hillcrest Av. had arrived at Wold-Chamberlain airport, from Milwaukee, Wis., about 6:30 p.m. Paster's son Arnold, a high school student, met them at the airport.



Nilva

Nilva was let out at his home, two blocks from Paster's, and Paster and his son arrived at their home shortly after 7:15 p.m.

Paster, in his shirtsleeves, seated himself on a couch in the den, facing the window 10 feet away. There is an alley behind the house and neighboring homes on either side are no more than yards away.

Paster's killer fired the three shots into the lighted room. The bullet holes in the glass were clustered within six inches of each other.

Police said they believed the slayer used a .38 caliber pistol, and that he may have stood on a small cement stairway leading to a porch near the den window or on a narrow sidewalk under the window.

The window ledge is five

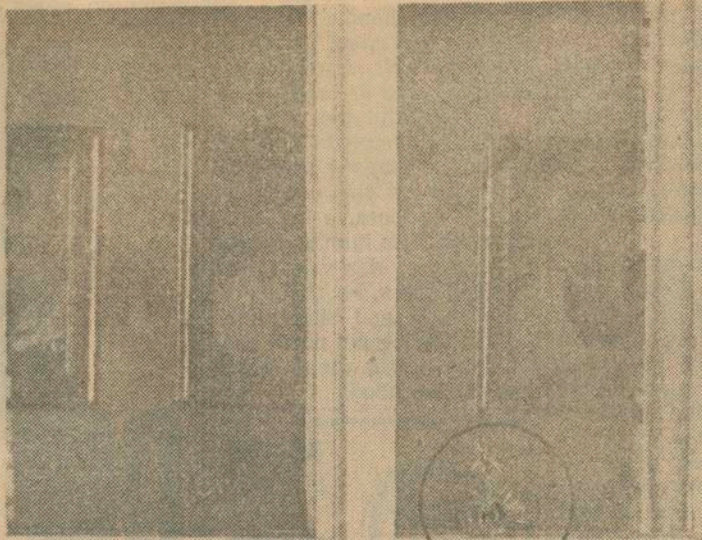
Paster

Continued on Page Six



HERMAN PASTER  
Killed in home





MINNEAPOLIS TRIBUNE PHOTO BY PETE HOHN

**A BULLET FIRED THROUGH HIS DEN WINDOW KILLED HERMAN PASTER**

*Slayer's shots left three holes (circled) in pane*





MINNEAPOLIS TRIBUNE PHOTO BY PETE HOHN  
**POLICEMAN RESTRAINS SLAIN MAN'S SON**  
*Arnold Paster earlier attacked radio newsman*

*Minneapolis Tribune  
 10-29-60*

## Paster

Continued from Page One

feet from the ground, police said.

**THE BULLET** that caused Paster's death smashed into his right cheek, pierced his head and lodged in a wall.

His wife, Celia, and Arnold were home when he was killed. They called the ambulance and police.

Minutes later dozens of policemen, including Chief Proetz, were in the area. They roped off the yard as hundreds of spectators, attracted by sirens, milled around Paster's brick home.

Police searched for footprints or cartridge cases in the backyard.

**THEY ALSO** tried to find residents in the neighborhood who had heard the shots or seen the murderer.

Officers dug through the blanket of dead leaves over the yard and searched garbage cans in the area for the weapon.

The St. Paul fire department brought in a searchlight to aid in the search and officers went over the alley inch-by-inch in an effort to find footprints.

Several neighbors said they heard "car backfires" at the time of the shooting. But police said last night they could find no one who had heard anyone running or had seen suspicious persons in the area.

Shortly after the slaying, St. Paul police were ordered to stand watch at Paster's office, Paster Enterprises, 2227 University Av.

Paster had served at least three terms in federal prisons — once for liquor black market activities during World War II and twice for illegal gambling device shipments during the 1950s.

**THE LIQUOR** operation was said to be in league with Sammy Taran, who was described as the "king of St. Paul hoodlums" in the 1930s and '40s. Taran, now reportedly living in Miami, Fla., has for several years fought a federal order which seeks to deport him as an undesirable alien.

Paster was a nephew of Taran.

In 1952 Paster was charged with illegal shipment of pin-ball machines from Illinois and Iowa into Minnesota. At the time he was president of Mayflower Distributing Co., 2227 University Av., St. Paul.

He was found guilty in St. Paul federal court and sentenced to two years in prison. The case was in the courts until late 1954. Paster's attorney claimed that the law under which he was convicted was unconstitutional.

**THE APPEALS** were lost and Paster became an inmate at the Leavenworth, Kan., prison.

At the same time Paster's appeals were in higher courts he was involved in another gambling device case.

Paster and the attorney general of North Dakota, Elmo T. Christianson, were charged with conspiracy to bring gambling machines into North Dakota. Both were found guilty in Bismarck federal court in April 1954.

They began a series of appeals and went to the United States supreme court where they were denied a hearing. All appeals were denied subsequently, and both were ordered to serve their prison terms.

**PASTER WAS** sentenced to two years and fined \$10,000.

Also involved in the North Dakota case was Nilva. He was sentenced to a year and a day in prison for contempt of court in connection with the trial.

Last year he was barred from practice before federal courts.

After release from prison

the second time, Paster returned to St. Paul and began a new operation, Paster Enterprises, 2227 University Av., St. Paul.

This was basically a real estate operation and the firm reportedly owns a number of shopping centers in the Twin Cities area.

**IN 1959** Paster and his wife were involved in a dispute with federal tax officials. Internal revenue agents claimed the couple owed \$57,827 back taxes and penalties for 1952 through 1955.

The Pasters also protested a government claim that they owed \$20,250 in taxes during 1947 to 1950.

About a year ago, police reported a plot to bomb Paster's new offices. A dynamite charge was found in the mail box of the building. It was discovered before it blew up.