



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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www.mnhs.org

Van Doran, Frank J.

R 13074

DEAD

1	R	OTI	5
1	R	III	7

FRANK J. VAN DORAN (FRANK DWYER, FRANK DEVOUR)
ASSR. WITH EARL LASHOMB, DICK FORTUNA
KILLED BY SC. POLICE 1-12-38

STATE CAPITOL BUILDING - ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

(Address) St. Paul, Minn.

On the above line please state whether Police Department, Sheriff's Office, or County Jail

Charge Rape

Disposition of case M.S.R. max 2 1/2 y

Residence

Place of birth Muskatine Ia.

Nationality

Criminal specialty

Age 23. 1930. Height 5. 9. 5/8

Weight 136 $\frac{1}{2}$ Hair M Lt. Ch.

Build Slender Eyes Blue

Comp. M Florid

Marks and Scars 2. Both upper and lower arms covered with tattoo

3. Brows distant. Furrow upper lip. thin face. Cic below outer corner of mouth. 4. Tat. R&B Bull dog head left side of chest

CRIMINAL HISTORY

[illegible]

R 13074

Duplicate
Leave This Space Blank

Name Van Doran. Frank J.

Alias Frank J. Dwyer; Frank J. Devour





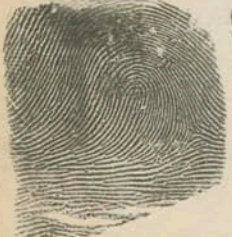


Classification

I R O II 5

Ref.

I R III 7

No. 22079 Color White Sex Male

1.—Right Thumb  20	2.—R. Index Finger  12	3.—R. Middle Finger  10	4.—R. Ring Finger  11	5.—R. Little Finger  5
6.—Left Thumb  17	7.—L. Index Finger  5	8.—L. Middle Finger  5	9.—L. Ring Finger  11	10.—L. Little Finger  7

Four fingers taken simultaneously

Four fingers taken simultaneously

Left hand

Amputations

Right hand

Left Thumb

Right Thumb

Classified by _____

Verified by _____

Searched by _____

Prisoner's signature

Frank Van Doran

STATE OF MINNESOTA, BUREAU OF CRIMINAL APPREHENSION

STATE CAPITOL BUILDING - ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

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



Received from Ramsey Count

Date received Oct. 7, 1931

Charge Burglary 3d Degree

Sentence 0-2½ years

Place of birth Muscataine, Iowa

Nationality Du-Ir-Amer.

Age 23

Height 5'8"½"

Weight 139

Hair md Chest

Build Med

Eyes md Gray

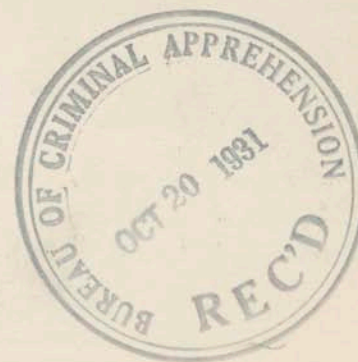
Complexion Yellow

Marks and Scars

Paroled

Discharged

CRIMINAL HISTORY



Leave This Space Blank

Name Frank Van Dorn
 Alias

Classification

Ref.

No. 9586 Color White Sex Male

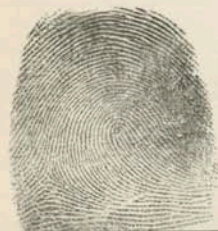
1.—Right Thumb

2.—R. Index Finger

3.—R. Middle Finger

4.—R. Ring Finger

5.—R. Little Finger



6.—Left Thumb

7.—L. Index Finger

8.—L. Middle Finger

9.—L. Ring Finger

10.—L. Little Finger



Four fingers taken simultaneously

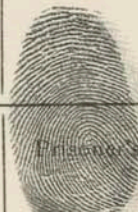
Left hand

Amputations

Four fingers taken simultaneously

Right hand

Left Thumb Right Thumb



Classified by
 Verified by
 Searched by

Prisoner's signature

Frank Van Dorn 9586

PLEASE DO NOT FOLD THIS CARD

STATE OF MINNESOTA, BUREAU OF CRIMINAL APPREHENSION

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

Record from

Police Dept.

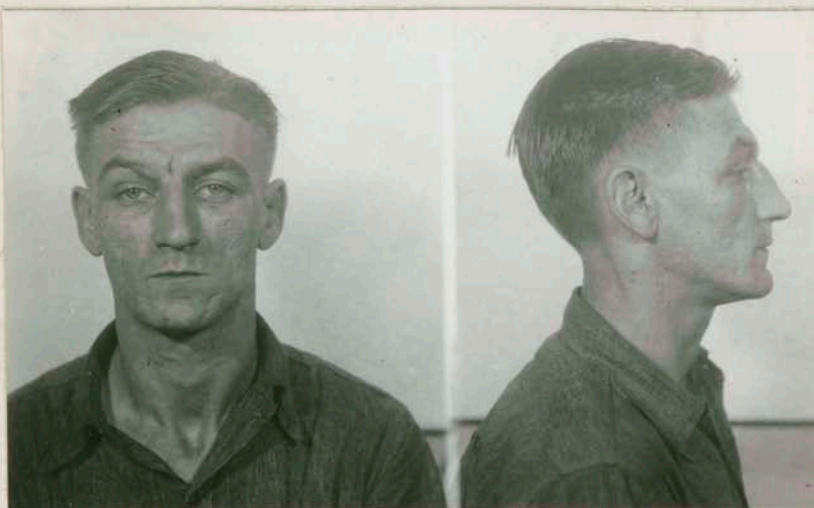
(Address)

St. Paul Minn.

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

Paroled

Discharged



Date of Arrest

8-13-37

Place of Arrest

Date received at Institution

Charge Mal Des of Property.

Disposition of Case

Residence 49 1/2 Valley St.

Place of Birth Muskatine, Ia.

Nationality

Age 30-1937 Height 5'9" 5/8

Weight 140 Hair Med Lt Ch.

Build Slender Eyes Blue.

Complexion M Florid.

Tat's R & B. Covering both arms.

Marks and Scars Brows dist.

Mason's Minn. Statutes—1927, Sec. 9950-10, as amended by Ch. 197, L. 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 fingerprint records, reports or other information required by this act shall neglect or refuse to comply with such requirement, 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.

1920 St. Paul Minn Incorrigible, Sent to Boys Ref School Red Wing. Served 11 Months.

Retd two times for 6 and 11 months.

1929 St. Paul Minn. A & B. 90 Days W.H. Served 10 Days Released.

1930 Chicago Ill, Invest Released.

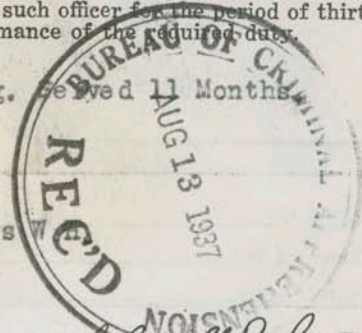
5-31-30 St. Paul Minn. Invest Rape, 6-11-30 F.G. A & B. 60 Days

9-26-33 St. Paul Minn. Inv Robbery. 9-29-33 F.G. Drunk 30 Days.

11-22-33 " Invest Released.

11-13-34 " Released.

1/2/38 With Earl LaShomb # 20135 & Richard Fortuna # 51925 shot & seriously wounded by St. Paul Police after killing station chief. Died 2 hrs later.



P13074

DEAD

Name Van-Doran, Frank J.Alias Frank J Dwyer, Frank J Devour.
Frank J. Van-Dorn, (T.N.)

Classification

22 M / P OII 5
L / P III 8

Ref. _____

No. 22079 Color White Sex Male

1.—Right Thumb



2.—Right Index



3. R. Middle Finger



4.—R. Ring Finger



5.—R. Little Finger



6.—Left Thumb



7.—L. Index Finger



8.—L. Middle Finger



9.—L. Ring Finger



10.—L. Little Finger



Four fingers taken simultaneously

Left hand

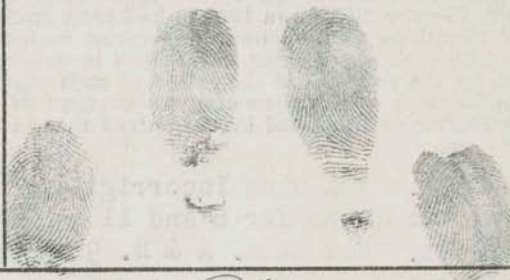
Amputations _____

Four fingers taken simultaneously

Right hand

Left Thumb

Right Thumb



Taken by _____

Classified by _____

Searched by _____

Prisoner's signature

PLEASE DO NOT FOLD THIS CARD

United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

August 18, 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

RECEIVED

AUG 20 1937

FBI-1344741

J. E. Hoover

Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

J. E. HOOVER, Director.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
SRef., St. Cloud, Minn.	Frank Van Dorn, #9586	10-7-31	burglary 3rd deg.	0-2½ yrs.
PD, St. Paul, Minn. AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY	Frank J. Van-Doran, #22079	8-13-37	mal. des. of property	
*	St. Paul, Minn., 1920, incorrigible; sent. to Boys' Ref. School, at Red Wing; served 11 mos., ret'd. 2 times, served 6 and 11 mos.			
*	St. Paul, Minn., 1929, A. and B.; 90 days; served 10, rel.			
*	Chicago, Ill., 1930, inv. rel;			
*	St. Paul, Minn., 5-31-30, inv. rape; P. G., A. and B.; 60 days W.H.			
*	St. Paul, Minn., 9-26-33, inv. robbery; rel.			
*	St. Paul, Minn., 11-22-33, inv.; rel.			
*	St. Paul, Minn., 11-13-34, inv.; rel.			

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.

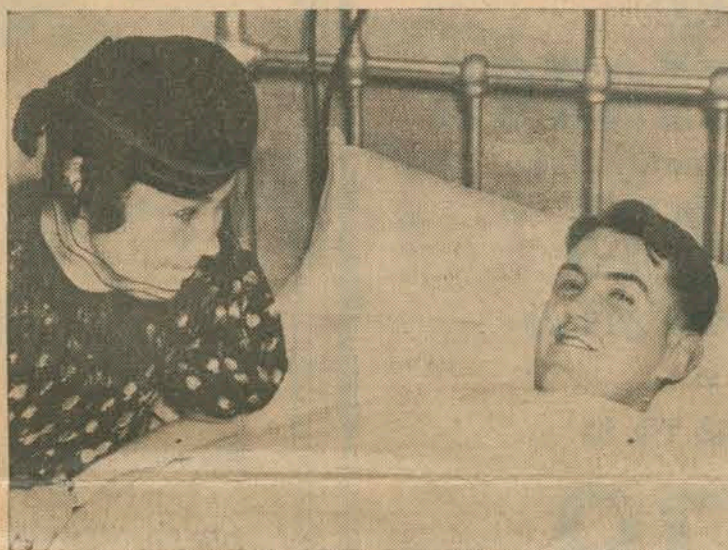
Bandit Slain in Police Gunfight, Two Pals Shot

Journal 1/11/38

Bandits Lose Battle



SCENE OF GUN BATTLE—A SHOOTING GALLERY
Three Bandits and One Detective Were Shot



AFTER THE BATTLE
Detective Ralph Merrill, Wounded, Comforted by Wife



FRANK L. VAN DORN
Police Bullets Killed Him



DETECTIVE MERRILL
Shot in Leg



EARL LA SHOMB
Critically Wounded



DETECTIVE SHANLEY
Unscathed in Battle

St. Paul Detective Is Wounded—Saved by Fellow Officer

Score of Holdups Laid to Gang Surprised in Shooting Gallery

Three detectives in a pitched gun battle in a St. Paul shooting gallery early today killed one bandit and wounded two others.

One of the detectives was wounded as bandit bullets crashed about them.

One was saved a probable mortal wound by quick action of another detective.

Frank Van Dorn Killed

Killed was Frank L. Van Dorn, 26, 29½ Valley street, St. Paul, leader of the alleged gang police said was responsible for a score of robberies in the last two months.

Wounded were Earl La Shomb, 26, 412 Aurora avenue, in critical condition; and Dick Fortuna, 22, 174 LaFond street, both of St. Paul.

Detective Ralph Merrill was in Ancker hospital with a bullet in his thigh.

Detective Louis Schultz probably saved Merrill's life. He knocked down Van Dorn's gun that was aimed at Merrill's abdomen, just as Van Dorn fired.

See Trio Enter Gallery

The detectives saw the three gunmen enter an all-night shooting gallery at 475 St. Peter street 20 minutes after a robbery at a lunchroom and filling station at Central avenue and St. Peter street. Van Dorn dangled a gun in his hand as the three walked into the shooting gallery.

Merrill, Schultz and Thomas Shanley, the third detective of the detail, walked into the gallery behind the trio.

"We're officers; stick 'em up!" a detective commanded.

Bullets Spray Gallery

Van Dorn spun around. His gun came up spitting fire. He swung toward Merrill. Schultz slapped the gun down as it exploded. Merrill's coat was ripped by slugs. One entered his leg. One went through Schultz' coat.

Detectives unlimbered and bullets splattered against the walls. Van Dorn went down, mortally hit. An instant later Fortuna and La Shomb were on the floor, groaning beside Merrill.

Police Chief Clinton Hackert called scores of bandit victims today to view the three. One victim identified Fortuna and Van Dorn. Police said Fortuna confessed last night's \$15 robbery of the filling station and lunchroom. He has denied others.



DICK FORTUNA
Wounded and Captured



DETECTIVE SCHULTZ
Saved Partner's Life

Three detectives battled three gunmen in a St. Paul shooting gallery early today. These pictures show the net result of the gunfight: one bandit killed, two wounded; one detective wounded.