

17431

Robert F. Stroud

No. ...



ASSOCIATE WARDEN'S RECORD CARD

Offense **Murder**
 Sentence **Life** Begins **2-28-1922**
 Date Imp **5-10-1920** At **D Kansas**
 Date Rec'd **2-28-1922**
 Par. Elig **2-27-1937**
 C. R. **Life** Max. **Life**
 Comm. Fine G. T.
 PREVIOUS RECORD:
 Jails Ref.
 Pens: Fed. **1** State
 Detainers: Fed. State
 Escapes: Fed. State
 CUSTODY: **Maximum**
 Crimes Involved: (Enumerate)

1 Previous term for Murder



Race **White** Age **1890**
 Married **Single** Deps. **0**
 Citizen **Yes** Relig **None**
 Physical Cond. **Light Duty**
 Mental Cond. **Negative**
 Education: S.A.T.
 G.S. **GB- College Level**

PSYCHOLOGICAL and APTITUDE TEST:
MA 18-6
IQ 116

Occupational Skills:
 Avocational Interests:
Scientific Study of Birds

History of Occupational Experience

Occupations	No. Yrs.	Verification of Performance	
		Quality	Dependability
None			

Aliases:

Name	Number	Residence	Occupations
STROUD, Robert	17431-L	Unknown	None

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1 Previous term for Murder

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 Married Single Deps 0
 Citizen Yes Relig None
 Physical Cond. Light Duty
 Mental Cond. Negative
 Education: S. A. T.
G. S. G. - College Level
 PSYCHOLOGICAL and APTITUDE TEST:
MA 18-6
IQ 116
 Occupational Skills:
 Vocational Interests:
Scientific Study of Birds

History of Occupational Experience

Occupations	No. Yrs.	Verification of Performance	
		Quality	Dependability
<u>None</u>			

Name	Number	Residence	Occupations	
<u>STROUD, Robert</u>	<u>17431-1</u>	<u>Unknown</u>	<u>None</u>	

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History of Occupational Experience

Occupations	No. Yrs.	Verification of Performance	
		Quality	Dependability
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Name	Number	Residence	Occupations	
STROUD, Robert	17431-1	Unknown	None	

UNITED STATES
PENAL AND CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Leavenworth, Kansas.
(Institution)

September 8, 1942., 19.....

Authorization to Mail Packages out of Institution

Robert Stroud, Register No. 17431,
(Name of Inmate)

is authorized to ship from the institution the following items to the address given below: EX. Collect
The following items, (One Bird)

Express Collect
Valuation, \$ 10.00.

.....
Captain

Arrangements have been made for collection of commissary coupons of sufficient value, from the above named inmate, to cover cost of this shipment.

.....
Commissary Clerk

The articles indicated above were packed in my presence in accordance with the above instructions.

9-8-42

delivered to me
for shipment

Shos M. Shane

.....
Custodial Officer

Duplicate
of address
shown on
label

To L.G. Marcus (Name) Minneapolis (City)

3810 West 46th Street (Box No. or Street Address) Minn. (State)

UNITED STATES
PENAL AND CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Leavenworth, Kansas.
(Institution)

October 19, 1942., 19.....

Authorization to Mail Packages out of Institution

Robert Stroud, Register No. 17431,
(Name of Inmate)

is authorized to ship from the institution the following items to the address given below: **EX. Collect**

The following items, (**One Bird**) Value, \$ **10.00.**

Express Collect
Valuation, \$ 10.00

.....
Captain

Arrangements have been made for collection of commissary coupons of sufficient value, from the above named inmate, to cover cost of this shipment.

.....
Commissary Clerk

The articles indicated above were packed in my presence in accordance with the above instructions.

P. Bolliger
.....
Custodial Officer

Duplicate
of address
shown on
label

To L.G. Marcus Minneapolis
(Name) (City)

3810 West 46th Street, Minnesota
(Box No. or Street Address)

RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY

INCORPORATED

AIR MAIL EXPRESS RECEIPT—NON-NEGOTIABLE—TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. The provisions of this receipt shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the consignee, the consignee and all carriers handling this shipment and shall apply to any reconsignment, or return thereof.

2. In consideration of the rate charged for carrying said property, which is dependent upon the value thereof and is based upon an agreed valuation of not exceeding fifty dollars for any shipment of 100 pounds or less and not exceeding fifty cents per pound, actual weight, for any shipment in excess of 100 pounds, unless a greater value is declared at the time of shipment, the shipper agrees that the company shall not be liable in any event for more than fifty dollars for any shipment of 100 pounds or less, or for more than fifty cents per pound, actual weight, for any shipment weighing more than 100 pounds, unless a greater value is stated herein. Unless a greater value is declared and stated herein the shipper agrees that the value of the shipment is as last above set out and that the liability of the company shall in no event exceed such value.

3. Unless caused by its own negligence or that of its agents, the company shall not be liable for—

- a Difference in weight or quantity caused by shrinkage, leakage, or evaporation.
- b The death, injury, or escape of live freight.
- c Loss of money, bullion, bonds, coupons, jewelry, precious stones, valuable papers, or other matter of extraordinary value, unless such articles are enumerated in the receipt.

4. Unless caused in whole or in part by its own negligence or that of its agents, the company shall not be liable for loss, damage or delay caused by—

- a The act or default of the shipper or owner.
- b The nature of the property, or defect or inherent vice therein.
- c Improper or insufficient packing, securing, or addressing.
- d The Act of God, public enemies, authority of law, quarantine, riots, strikes, perils of navigation, the hazards or dangers incident to a state of war, or occurrence in customs warehouse.
- e The examination by, or partial delivery to the consignee of C. O. D. shipments.
- f Delivery under instructions of consignee or consignee at stations where there is no agent of the company after such shipments have been left at such stations.

5. Packages containing fragile articles or articles consisting wholly or in part of glass must be so marked and be packed so as to insure safe transportation by express with ordinary care.

6. When consigned to a place at which the express company has no office, shipments must be marked with the name of the express station at which delivery will be accepted or be marked with forwarding directions if to go beyond the express company's line by a carrier other than an express company. If not so marked shipments will be refused.

7. As conditions precedent to recovery claims must be made in writing to the originating or delivering carrier within nine months after delivery of the property or, in case of failure to make delivery, then within nine months and fifteen days after date of shipment; and suits will be instituted only within two years and one day after the date when notice in writing is given by the carrier to the claimant that the carrier has disallowed the claim or any part or parts thereof.

8. If any C. O. D. is not paid within thirty days after notice of non-delivery has been mailed to the shipper the company may at its option return the property to the consignor.

9. Free delivery will not be made at points where the company maintains no delivery service; at points where delivery service is made free delivery will not be made at addresses beyond the established and published delivery limits.

Special Additional Provisions as to Shipments Forwarded by Vessel from the United States to Places in Foreign Countries.

10. If the destination specified in this receipt is in a foreign country, the property covered hereby shall, as to transit over ocean routes and by their foreign connections to such destination, be subject to all the terms and conditions of the receipts or bills of lading of ocean carriers as accepted by the company for the shipment, and of foreign carriers participating in the transportation, and as to such transit is accepted for transportation and delivery subject to the acts, ladings, laws, regulations, and customs of overseas and foreign carriers, custodians, and governments, their employees and agents.

11. The company shall not be liable for any loss, damage, or delay to said shipments over ocean routes and their foreign connections, the destination of which is in a foreign country, occurring outside the boundaries of the United States, which may be occasioned by any such acts, ladings, laws, regulations, or customs. Claims for loss, damage or delay must be made in writing to the carrier at the port of export or to the carrier issuing this receipt within nine months after delivery of the property at said port or in case of failure to make such delivery then within nine months and fifteen days after date of shipment; and claims so made against said delivering or issuing carrier shall be deemed to have been made against any carrier which may be liable hereunder. Suits shall be instituted only within two years and one day after the date when notice in writing is given by the carrier to the claimant that the carrier has disallowed the claim or any part or parts thereof. Where claims are not so made, and/or suits are not instituted thereon in accordance with the foregoing provisions, the carrier shall not be liable.

12. It is hereby agreed that the property destined to such foreign countries, and assessable with foreign governmental or customs duties, taxes or charges, may be stopped in transit at foreign ports, frontiers or depositories, and there held pending examination, assessments and payments, and such duties and charges, when advanced by the company shall become a lien on the property.

To Destination Office

Consignee

L. G. Marcus

Enter Date Shipped

194

Street Address or Non-Agency Destination

3810 W. 46th St

Receipt Number

7755

Advances

Name of Forwarding Office

(1031-I) Leavenworth, Kans. (W)

Declared Value

10.00

Value Charges

DO NOT

Pieces

Article

Description

Weight

Express Charges

1 Box (live bird)

4 lbs 9 oz

USE THESE

Total SPACES

Shipper

U. S. Penitentiary

Class

Paid in Part

C. O. D.

Shipper's Street Address

Leas Haus

COLLECT
(Original)

Scale or Rate

Verified by

C. O. D. Service Charge

Write in YES or NO

X

SHIPPER'S COLLECT RECEIPT

(Form 5082)

NOTE—The Company will not pay over \$50, in case of loss, or 50 cents per pound, actual weight, for any shipment in excess of 100 pounds, unless a greater value is declared and charges for such greater value paid.

RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY

INCORPORATED

Received shipment described hereon, subject to the Classifications and Tariffs in effect on the date hereof, value herein declared by Shipper to be that entered in space hereon reading "Declared Value," which the Company agrees to carry upon the terms and conditions printed hereon, to which the Shipper agrees and as evidence thereof accepts this receipt.

Number Pieces

Hour

Samp

1

1. P.M.

For the Company

RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY

INCORPORATED

UNIFORM RECEIPT—NON-NEGOTIABLE—TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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3. Unless caused by its own negligence or that of its agents, the company shall not be liable for—

- a Difference in weight or quantity caused by shrinkage, leakage, or evaporation.
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- d The Act of God, public enemies, authority of law, quarantine, riots, strikes, perils of navigation, the hazards or dangers incident to a state of war, or occurrence in customs warehouse.
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- f Delivery under instructions of consignee or consignee at stations where there is no agent of the company after such shipments have been left at such stations.

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To Destination Office

Consignee <i>L. G. Marcus</i>		Enter Date Shipped <i>10/19/07</i>		194
Street Address or Non-Agency Destination <i>3810 West 4th St</i>		Receipt Number N: 7787		Advances
Name of Forwarding Office <i>(1031-l) Leavenworth, Kans. (W)</i>		Declared Value <i>10.00</i>		Value Charges DO NOT
Pieces	Article	Description	Weight	Express Charges USE THESE SPACES
<i>1-</i>	<i>live bird</i>	<i>Boxed</i>	<i>two</i>	Total
Shipper <i>S.M.B. 17431</i>	Class		Paid in Part	C. O. D.
Shipper's Street Address <i>U.S.P. Leao Kans.</i>	COLLECT (Original)		Scale or Rate	Verified by
				C. O. D. Service Charge Write in YES or NO X

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(Form 5082)

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INCORPORATED

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<i>J. M. Leggett</i>	Number Pieces	Hour
For the Company		<i>30</i> M

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To Destination Office

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Consignee

Bertha M. Hayden

Street Address or Non-Agency Destination

4937 Colfax Ave., South

Name of Forwarding Office

(1031-l) Leavenworth, Kans. (W)

Enter Date Shipped

11-12-42

104

Receipt Number

N^o

7841

Advances

Declared Value

\$10.00

Value Charges

DO NOT

Piece-s

Article

Description

Weight

Express Charges

(1 Live Bird)

5 Lbs.

USE THESE

Total

SPACES

Shipper

P.M.B. 17431

Class

Paid in Part

C. O. D.

Shipper's Street Address

U.S.P. Leavenworth, Kansas.

COLLECT

Scale or Rate

Verified by

C. O. D. Service Charge

(Original)

Write in YES or NO

X

SHIPPER'S COLLECT RECEIPT

(Form 5082)

NOTE—The Company will not pay over \$50, in case of loss, or 50 cents per pound, actual weight, for any shipment in excess of 100 pounds, unless a greater value is declared and charges for such greater value paid.

RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY

INCORPORATED

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<p style="text-align: center;">For the Company</p>	Number Pieces	Hour	
1	1	30	M



United States
of America

PROFESSIONAL # 17431-L

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 87th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Robert Stroud—"Birdman of Alcatraz"

(Excerpt from Congressional Record—Senate, July 25, 1962)

Mr. LONG of Missouri. Mr. President, during the week of July 15, 1962, the Washington Post carried a series of seven articles dealing with Robert Stroud—better known perhaps as the "Birdman of Alcatraz." A movie with the "Birdman" title is currently being shown throughout the country.

These articles, appearing in serial form, were written by Eve Edstrom, nationally known, award-winning writer.

With the movie being shown across the country, undoubtedly we will be asked time and again why this prisoner is still in custody.

In order for the entire Nation to know of heretofore unpublished facts concerning this convict, I now ask unanimous consent that these articles be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the articles were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

THAT BIRDMAN OF ALCATRAZ REALLY FEATHERED HIS NEST

(Senator EDWARD V. LONG, Democrat, of Missouri, as chairman of a Senate Judiciary Subcommittee concerned with Federal penitentiaries, has interested himself in the case of Robert F. Stroud, the "Birdman of Alcatraz." The following is based on official records, court proceedings and other data known to Senator LONG. Much of it was never before available to other writers on the subject.)

(First of a series)

(By Eve Edstrom)

Robert Franklin Stroud got 12 years for shooting the bartender who welched on the \$10 price that prostitute Kitty O'Brien usually received.

That happened in 1909 in Alaska. From that day to this, for more than half a century, Stroud has been in Federal custody.

His life behind bars spans the evolution of the Nation's prison system. When he was convicted at the age of 19, prison guards carried clubs and prisoners wore stripes, ate in silence, and were shackled to cell bars as punishment.

Federal Prison Director James V. Bennett succeeded in changing all that—but he never has succeeded in changing Stroud, now 72 and still at war with his keepers.

To Federal authorities, Stroud is known as the most cunning and cantankerous prisoner ever to be their guest. To the public, Stroud is known as the "Birdman of Alcatraz," a self-educated scientist who achieved a worldwide reputation for his painstaking research on the disease of birds.

TWO VIEWS OF KILLING

For decades now, bird lovers have insisted that Stroud should be freed from his own

caged existence. Currently, a new effort is underway timed to coincide with the release of a motion picture purportedly based on Stroud's life.

In the public mind, Stroud's work is proof of his rehabilitation. He has won a sympathetic following because of his apparent concern over the welfare of birds. In his book, "Stroud's Digest of the Diseases of Birds," he wrote:

"The lives of literally thousands of birds, the heartbreak of hundreds of blasted hopes have gone into these pages. For every truth I have blundered through a hundred errors. I have killed birds when it was almost as hard as killing one's children. I have dedicated my book to the proposition that fewer birds shall suffer because their diseases are not understood."

But Stroud—after plunging a knife through the heart of a prison guard—also is the author of this passage:

"The guard took sick and died all of a sudden. He died of heart trouble. I guess you would call it a puncture of the heart. Anyhow there was a knife hole in it. I have never given any reason for doing it, so they won't have much to work on, only that I killed him, and that won't do much good, for I will admit that."

WELCOME ISOLATION

For that murder—the killing of Guard Andrew F. Turner before 1,200 inmates at the Leavenworth Penitentiary, March 26, 1916—Stroud went on trial for his life. He was sentenced to be hanged and the gallows were being built when President Woodrow Wilson commuted his sentence to life.

Considered too dangerous to be mixed with the general prison population, Stroud was placed in segregated quarters, where he was to remain for most of his adult life. Subsequently Stroud's supporters viewed this as cruel and inhumane punishment. Actually, segregation was tailor made for Stroud's purposes.

Back in the 1920's it was not unusual for a prisoner, especially a life term, to keep one or two canaries in his cell. Prison industries were not organized then and there was no emphasis on rehabilitation through academic learning. Wardens welcomed any diversion to keep inmates from going "stir crazy."

However, it was highly unusual for a prisoner to raise as many as 300 canaries at one time, to be given a second connecting cell for an aviary, to accumulate one-half ton of equipment, to operate a canary-breeding business for the sale of birds to the general public, and to correspond with 2,000 bird owners and breeders.

Stroud did all these things. In addition, he used scraps of glass and metal to make scientific equipment such as a microtome capable of slicing tissue to one twelve-thousandth of an inch.

DISTILLERY AS A SIDELINE

But Stroud's work was not just for birds and bird lovers. When his cell finally was shaken down by experts, it was discovered that his bird paraphernalia hid a home-made still which was turning out 188 proof alcohol.

In addition to moonshining, a letter-smuggling operation was conducted from his cell. Letters were shipped out in birdcages.

It was for violations such as these—in addition to espousing homosexuality—that Stroud earned the reputation as a prisoner who could not be trusted, who was not rehabilitated even though he had some scientific accomplishments to his credit.

Long before prison gates shut on Stroud, he was a nonconformist. He quit school at the end of the third grade "because I was learning nothing." He fled his Seattle home at age of 13 because "home life was an awful pain in the neck."

During his childhood, his personality was a paradox. He was "considered very timid," a child who "hated trouble," one who "would walk blocks to keep from having to offend anybody." Yet he was "continually having trouble and serious trouble. Somebody was always getting hurt."

On one occasion when his father knocked him down, he reportedly "came up out of the dirt with a rock in each hand. The first one hit him in the chest hard enough to break two ribs. He treated me with respect after that."

PRECOCIOUS MISANTHROPE

He hated his father before he was two and considered his mother a "veritable Agrippina," the mother of Nero who was so possessive that Nero finally arranged for her murder.

He never had a meaningful, lasting relationship with any individual. Although he once was close to his younger brother Marc, he ultimately turned on him for bungling his affairs and berated Marc for being on the outside during "the 10 most prosperous years this Nation has ever had, yet you are not a millionaire."

Stroud "married" as he did everything else—to gain personal publicity and to show his superiority over others by finding a way to do something that could not be done.

"Can't is a strange little word," he once wrote. "Many persons fall on their faces in Oriental obeisance at its merest mention. To some, it is a refuge from the futility of their existence; to others, it is an alibi, a sop to their conscience.

"To me, it has always been like the flag is supposed to react on a bull; whenever anyone says 'can't' to me, I ask myself: 'Why and why not?' For regardless of the proposition, one usually can if one wants to."

And so when it looked as if prison officials were going to put a halt to Stroud's bird business and transfer him from Leavenworth to Alcatraz, Stroud took himself a "bride."

After determining that Leavenworth was part of the Louisiana Purchase Territory and that Congress had enacted no marriage laws for the reservation, Stroud maintained that the 1803 Treaty of Paris, recognizing marriages entered into by the signing of a simple contract, was still in effect. He drew up a contract which was signed by himself and his business partner on the outside, Della Mae Jones. She filed it with the probate court in Leavenworth and the Federal court in Topeka.

The Justice Department refused to recognize the validity of the marriage and Della's name was removed from the list of Stroud's approved correspondents. But she visited enough newspaper offices with the marriage contract to start a new public clamor for Stroud's release and to gain him permission to conduct his business as usual.

Stroud always had a compulsive need to do the big thing. He could never achieve this on the outside. Although he went to Alaska to participate in the railroad-building boom, he wound up as a peanut vendor, cook, and pimp.

But in prison Stroud flourished. Although he had only a third-grade education when he entered prison, he took courses which showed he was operating at a college level. He had a verbal intelligence quotient of 139 and an overall rating of 130.

Appalled by his own lack of knowledge, he took courses in English and taught himself to use an old typewriter which he had acquired. He studied astronomy, bacteriology, biology, chemistry, the classics, the French, Italian, Latin, and Spanish languages, mathematics, ornithology, and pharmacology.

BIRDSEED, ETC.

As he began raising birds, his demands upon prison officials were endless. The public thought that all Stroud wanted was "a little bit of birdseed." Actually, on one occasion, a partial list of his "requirements" included:

Seed—rope, hemp, canary, and tonic—in 100-pound lots; mineral food, cuttle bone, disinfectant, insecticides, louse powder, sodium fluoride, sodium perborate; cotton, cups, wire, sheet steel, glue, nails, paint; typewriter supplies; green food for birds in winter; fresh eggs for them the year around but especially during the breeding season; new stock; meal worms; bacteriological glassware, including test tubes, baker's funnels and thermometers, and materials for making and testing cultures.

Whenever Stroud didn't get his way he complained to Washington. One complaint, forwarded to the Attorney General, accused the prison administration of refusing him an adequate supply of mouthwash and adhesive tape. Questioned about this, Leavenworth's warden replied:

"He wants the [mouthwash] solution by the gallon. In fact, he has been using it in connection with his bird raising. He wants adhesive tape by the roll, which he has been using to paste boxes together.

"He has been furnished a reasonable amount of adhesive tape to be used in case of skin abrasions but not sufficient to make boxes. He has been furnished a 6-ounce bottle of * * * solution as a mouthwash but not sufficient to disinfect his birdcages."

A ROMANTIC CONCEIT

As Stroud began to conduct research into the causes of bird diseases and to publish his findings in bird journals, his ego knew no bounds. He likened himself to the Count of Monte Cristo, declaring that his "trials, triumphs, and unbelievable accomplishments" outstripped those of the fictional hero. On other occasions, he likened himself to Columbus and to Louis Pasteur in suggesting that his original discoveries matched theirs.

Stroud went so far as to demand that prison officials sign an agreement governing

his activities and living arrangements while in custody. He wanted 500 square feet of floor space "divorced from the regular prison routine" but preferably "on our side of the walls" and a special mailbox number "to be paid for by me and to appear on my stationery and in my advertising."

Stroud also wanted a prison employee—college educated, not lazy, of pleasant disposition and inquiring mind—to be assigned to him to conduct his business affairs. In explaining this request, Stroud noted that many excellent men were in the employ of the prison system but were wasting their talents "on jobs fit for morons."

"Why not give one of them a break?" he asked. "Put him in complete charge of me and my affairs * * * raising his pay to \$2,000 a year. I will pay his wages and raise them some more the minute the business justifies it. * * * I'll admit that this has never been done. That is why it is good. Big men do not follow precedents; they create them."

Needless to say, Stroud's scheme was not adopted. He proposed it just after he had become eligible for parole in 1937 but was turned down. Each year since then, his case has been reviewed and parole has been denied.

OWN PAROLE TERMS

Stroud's supporters insist that the Birdman's failure to win his freedom is the result of a personal vendetta against him by Federal prison officials. Actually, Stroud is a problem inherited by the Federal Bureau of Prisons when it was organized in 1930.

Its mandate from Congress was clear. It was to end prison abuses and begin a pioneering effort to rehabilitate prisoners. But Stroud has consistently resisted every attempt to return him to the general prison population as the first step toward giving him his release. He fights any change that would deprive him of his bird empire.

And just as he has wanted prison on his own terms, he wants to set the conditions of his parole. He does not believe, for example, that traveling restrictions should be placed upon him. And in recent years he has expressed unwillingness to accept an offer of a home and a job caring for birds if parole were granted.

"I have spent years of my life with birds and this man imagines that I would enjoy taking care of a flock of birds—which at my age is not the case," he has written. "That, to me, was always the most drudging chore, one that I was willing to undertake only because it was one avenue open to me, and they were my birds.

"* * * I most certainly would never accept such employment from anyone else. * * * If that is the kind of strings they are trying to tie on me, I think the wise thing to do will be to keep on fighting right from where we are rather than try to make pleasing concessions * * * to appease others."

If there is one consistent factor about Stroud's life, it is that he always has refused to make any concessions.

"I have never been conquered. I never will be conquered," he has said.

So prison has been his home for 53 years.

STROUD SAYS MOTHER RUINED LIFE SHE HELPED SAVE

(Second in a series)

(By Eve Edstrom)

It was largely through the efforts of his mother that Robert Franklin Stroud, now known as the "Birdman of Alcatraz," didn't hang on April 23, 1920, for killing a Leavenworth Penitentiary guard.

But to this day the 72-year-old Stroud expresses extreme bitterness against his mother, blaming her for the events which have caused him to be a Federal prisoner for 53 years.

"My every thought was tempered by her teachings and prejudices and my life was a series of disasters," he once said. "I was taught to hate my father before I was 2 years old."

Stroud was born January 28, 1890, in a middle-class residential neighborhood in Seattle.

DEPARTURE FROM HOME

Constant bickering between his parents, he has said, kept him in "such a state" that he was unable to make any progress in school. His mother's "continual domination" made it "impossible for me to develop the spirit of give and take so necessary for success in later life."

Stroud has given various accounts of the events which triggered his departure from home at age 13. He related, on one occasion, that in his 13th year he "attempted to murder my father and declared my complete emancipation from parental authority of any kind."

At another time he said his parents had separated, leaving him with his mother, two older stepsisters and a younger brother.

"I was at an age when a boy most needs the direction and guidance of a wise father and I found myself dominated by three women in a household where petty bickering had become a habit. Naturally I cut from under as soon as I was big enough."

Always good with his hands, particularly around machinery, he picked up odd jobs as he hoboed about the United States. Finally, in 1907 when he was 17, he went to Alaska to take part in the railroad building boom.

DISTORTED ACCOUNTS

Stroud's record shows he worked as a real estate salesman, peanut vendor, and cook, was convicted of larceny in Katalla, Alaska, and then went to Juneau. There, on August 23, 1909, he was sentenced in the U.S. district court to a term of 12 years for manslaughter.

Over the years flagrantly distorted accounts of Stroud's offense have been churned out by those who have sought to free him. Stroud's victim has been pictured as a "burly Yukon miner" who violated Stroud's "first, last, and only love."

Another version, attributed to Stroud's mother during her efforts to free him, suggests that Stroud "just away from a sheltered home" was the victim of a "bad woman of the dance halls."

"My poor boy, infatuated with her, under her influence but chivalrous and brave, pleaded guilty to save her," Stroud's mother was quoted in a widely reprinted article.

But official reports of Stroud's offense state:

"This man [Stroud] * * * started pimping for a woman of the streets who was addicted to the use of dope. This woman was much older than Stroud and of a very low type, even for that sort of woman."

The woman, Kitty O'Brien, had reportedly told Stroud she had been abused by a local bartender who "only paid her \$2 whereas the usual and customary fee was \$10." Stroud then went to the bartender's home and shot him. When found, the bartender's "pantaloon pockets were turned inside out and what money he was supposed to have had was gone."

NO SIGN OF STRUGGLE

"Nothing about the room would indicate that there had been any struggle," the U.S. Commissioner reported. "* * * It is quite likely that Stroud would never have surrendered himself * * * had he not known he was recognized when coming out of (the) house."

On August 30, 1909, Stroud arrived at the Federal penitentiary at McNeil Island, Wash. McNeil was typical of the prisons of its day. Convicts wore stripes, were served meals

from food-splattered buckets and were sent to the "hole" if they got out of line.

But it was at McNeil, tough as it was, that Stroud embarked on his long career of attempting to break prison rules. He wanted a fellow inmate, who worked as a hospital orderly, to obtain drugs for him. The orderly told prison officials and Stroud "carved" him up for "snitching."

Just before the noon meal on November 1, 1911, Stroud attacked the orderly "without warning" * * * striking him in the back with a knife." As the victim attempted to run the length of the dining room aisle, Stroud gave chase and inflicted seven stab wounds before guards disarmed him. Subsequently, the warden reported that Stroud regretted that he had been "unsuccessful" in the effort to kill the stool pigeon.

Stroud was tried for the assault and sentenced to a 6-month term consecutive to the 12-year sentence imposed in Alaska. Federal authorities decided to take no more chances with Stroud. On September 5, 1912, he was shipped one of the "hard joints," the U.S. penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kans.

**CONVICTS CARRIED HOMEMADE ARMS WHEN
STROUD KILLED PRISON GUARD**
(Third in a series)

(By Eve Edstrom)

When James V. Bennett became Federal Prison Director, he ordered that all prison guards stop carrying clubs.

That was in 1937—a quarter of a century after Robert Franklin Stroud arrived at the Leavenworth, Kans., Penitentiary to finish serving a 12-year sentence for manslaughter.

Back in World War I days no prison guard was dressed for duty without a club. And inmates with bandages wrapped around split skulls were not an unusual sight.

Prisoners had their weapons, too. They carried homemade "shivs." Stroud, the 72-year-old Federal prisoner who now is known as the "Birdman of Alcatraz," had concealed a double-edged dagger in a leather sheath sewn in his Sunday dresscoat.

That dagger was drawn by Stroud on Sunday, March 26, 1916, when he knifed guard Andrew F. Turner before 1,200 convicts gathered for the noon meal in Leavenworth's mess hall.

Over the years several reasons have been given for the killing. The guard has been pictured as a typical sadist of his day. This story, thoroughly discredited by prison officials, has caused great anguish to Turner's widow, who still is alive and who was left without funds to raise two children.

Stroud has stated he wanted to put an end to the split heads at Leavenworth—"when they start a little of that, just grind out a good blade and shove it through a few of them."

On another occasion Stroud said he feared that Turner was going to report him for violating a prison rule. If that happened, Stroud believed he would be unable to see his younger brother who unexpectedly had arrived to visit him. (This version of the motive for the killing is romanticized in the moving picture, "Birdman of Alcatraz" by substituting Stroud's mother for the brother).

Stroud, it was said, decided to ask Turner if the disciplinary report had been filed. When Stroud asked the question during the Sunday noon meal, Turner told him to return to his seat.

"Stroud turned * * * and at the same time pivoted and doubled back on Turner and shoved the knife through his heart," an official report states. "He (Stroud) said Turner was dead before he fell to the floor and it could have been avoided if the officer had answered his question because he found out later that Turner had not reported him."

Fred Robertson, the U.S. Attorney who handled the case, declared the killing was "the most cruel, inexcusable deliberately planned, and cunningly executed murder ever committed anywhere."

"The taking of the life of this guard represented the protest of Stroud and his rebellious associates against the discipline of the Leavenworth prison," Robertson said. " * * * Stroud has for years been their leader. He is in a sense, a superior individual, having unusual mental capabilities and attainments.

" * * * It has been proven—in fact, admitted by Stroud himself in my presence—that he was the maker of five other similar daggers, one of which was used to murder another convict. There can be no doubt that it was then and is yet Stroud's ambition to bring about an organized mutiny in the Leavenworth prison, which would result in killing the officers and guards and a complete escape of all the inmates who desired to go."

Stroud was tried three times for the crime. At all three trials he was convicted of first degree murder. But reversals were won on two occasions because of errors, such as excluding the testimony of convicts prior to a Supreme Court ruling on this issue.

During this litigation Stroud was unmanageable. He bragged about the murder and kicked, cursed, and threatened to kill another guard. He tried to escape by cutting his way through a wall of his cell. And for trying to stop a guard from quelling a fight, he was cuffed to his cell door as punishment.

But when he wasn't in trouble, he studied music, mathematics, engineering, chemistry, biology, and physics.

His third conviction was upheld by the Supreme Court and Stroud was sentenced to be hanged April 23, 1920. Stroud's mother came to Washington and was successful in her efforts to stay the execution. President Woodrow Wilson commuted Stroud's sentence to imprisonment for life.

Then as now there were strong feelings against capital punishment, particularly in Kansas, where State law forbade it. But also then as now there was widespread sentiment that no convict should get away with killing a law enforcement official.

Prison discipline demanded that Stroud not be housed with other inmates nor given the opportunity to get possession of weapons. So he was confined by himself in an open-front cell in an isolation building. He was allowed all the privileges of an ordinary prisoner except the right to move about the prison without close supervision.

Stroud's mother wanted him removed from Leavenworth because she feared for his safety, but he wanted to remain.

" * * * I knew it is always easier to make a friend of an enemy who knows and respects you personally than of one who only knows you as a paper record," he said.

Stroud agreed to remain in isolation and to cause no trouble within the prison in return for a number of special privileges such as being allowed to pursue academic studies which he had begun when he was under sentence of death.

"The special privileges I wanted were not defined or limited," he once wrote. "I insisted on this point, for I knew what I was going to do and I did not want the matter fixed and closed."

DEPUTY WARDEN ALSO LIKED PETS

(Fourth in a series)

(By Eve Edstrom)

Prison guard killer, Robert Franklin Stroud, knew that Leavenworth Penitentiary's deputy warden, L. F. Fletcher, was a "pet lover."

And back in the 1920's it was the deputy warden who ran the "inside" of a prison.

The warden occupied the front office while his deputy dispensed discipline, decided where inmates would live and work, and granted special privileges.

It was, therefore, a happy set of circumstances for Stroud, now 72 and still a Federal prisoner, that Fletcher was the deputy when Stroud found a broken nest of young sparrows in an exercise yard near his cell.

According to Thomas E. Gaddis, Stroud's biographer and author of the "Birdman of Alcatraz," Stroud's interest in birds developed as he nursed the sparrows back to health. To warm the birds, Stroud improvised an incubator consisting of a sock hung near a 25-watt bulb. To aid a sparrow with a broken leg, Stroud made a splint from a match and a bit of thread.

Stroud, in his prolific outpouring of writing, states he taught the sparrows to do tricks, then called Fletcher to the door of his cell to watch.

"I would not ask you for myself but these little fellows would appreciate some bird seed," Stroud said he told Fletcher.

"They deserve it and they could sure have it if I had any," Fletcher is quoted as replying.

Thereupon, Stroud told Fletcher:

"I was so sure that that is what you would say that I have already had some sent here. It is now impounded in the storeroom and I would like an order from you permitting me to get it."

Stroud got his bird seed. Subsequently three canaries, which were presents to other prisoners, drifted into his hands. By the following year, Stroud had 50 birds and, with his mother's aid on the outside, began selling the birds, sending them out of prison disguised as gifts.

Using only a "razor blade and nail for tools," Stroud states he made his first bird cage out of wooden crates. Later, he built cages from sliced-up cigar boxes.

He obtained Government bulletins and books on birds, zoology, bacteriology, pharmacology, chemistry, and medicine. He obtained a magnifying glass and cultured microorganisms. When one of his birds died he studied it by dissecting it with his fingernails.

Then in the early 1920's Stroud's flock was struck down by a highly contagious disease, avian septicemia, which until then was considered fatal.

Through a long series of experiments, Stroud developed a treatment for the disease based on two of his findings: The tolerance of birds for oxygen-liberating compounds is greater than that of mammals, and chemicals of the citrocarbonate type to restore the balance lost in avian septicemia.

Stroud went on to discover control methods for secondary diseases affecting canaries and also isolated the source of an infection which sickened poultry as well as canaries, thus receiving the gratitude of poultry breeders.

Soon Stroud was publishing his findings in bird journals. With increasing frequency, such articles as "My Bird Is Dead" (some advice on diagnosing bird diseases) or "Aspergillosis in Canaries" (a highly fatal disease caused by the use of moldy food) were appearing in the Roller Canary Journal and Bird World under Stroud's bylines.

Bird fanciers throughout the country—as many as 2,000 at the peak of Stroud's career—wrote to him, seeking advice. They didn't know he was a Federal prisoner, merely wrote to Robert Stroud, Box 7, Leavenworth, Kans.

Meanwhile, Stroud reported he had reached a perfect understanding with Leavenworth's warden at that time.

"Every important man and woman who came to Leavenworth during his tenure was brought to my cell," Stroud once wrote. "We had as much love for each other as two

strange bulldogs yet we put on an act for visitors that was a masterpiece.

"* * * He would certainly lay it on, telling them how many people I had killed. Why, when I came here, he would say, 'this man was so dangerous that they were afraid to open his door to give him food.'

"[Then] I would show off the birds * * * and he would praise me to the skies. We went through this little scene as often as eight times in a single day * * * without ever deviating one syllable from our script. Onlookers went away saying to themselves: 'My, what a fine courageous, human warden.'

"Me—I * * * established my bird business. If I really had a squawk to make it was written out and handed to him. Never was one word said to indicate that life was not all love and roses."

BUSINESS BOOMS FROM PRISON

(Fifth of a series)

(By Eve Edstrom)

Della Mae Jones, widow or divorcee from Shelbyville, Ind., was one of the numerous bird fanciers who corresponded with Leavenworth Penitentiary prisoner and canary breeder, Robert Franklin Stroud.

In December 1930, she arrived in Kansas City with \$1,200 obtained from the sale of property. She wanted to help Stroud advertise and market the bird medicines he had developed while treating sick canaries in his prison cell.

Until then, Stroud's mother had conducted his outside activities. But the two broke with each other about this time. Stroud was incensed over an interview his mother gave the press. For the first time he learned that she had argued that "I was a mental incompetent" when seeking the commutation of his death sentence for killing a Leavenworth guard.

FEARED INSANITY STIGMA

"I would rather be dead than to have the stigma of a madman," he said in declaring that his mother was "thwarting my efforts because she had some morbid fear that someone would find out that I was not a madman."

Stroud's mother came to believe that her son was where he belonged and a move to win Stroud a pardon collapsed when she refused to take part in it.

And so it was through Della that Stroud began to market his remedies for poultry and bird diseases—Stroud's Effervescent Bird Salts, Stroud's Special Prescription, Stroud's Salts No. 1, and Stroud's Specific.

The sale of his birds continued and he also operated a brokerage business in seeds. Seed companies paid him a commission for orders sent to him by bird breeders.

By 1931, Stroud reported his bird business was going so well that he had ordered 500 envelopes with his name and box number imprinted on them to conduct his business with the general public. Prison officials ordered that the personal printing be blacked out.

Then the U.S. Department of Agriculture complained that the labels on the bird medicines claimed to cure a disease for which veterinary science knew no cures. Stroud and Della were unable to finance new labels.

(Much later, a staff member for Scientific American reported he had checked several scientists who said "Stroud had put out a number of medicines that were of absolutely no value" but there were "five or six areas where he had made real contributions.")

NEW RULE ISSUED

And finally, the fledgling Federal Bureau of Prisons, organized in May 1930, issued a new rule. To correct abuses and to set the stage for organizing the prison industries system, prisoners were prohibited from conducting outside businesses.

"I can say sincerely that nobody in this Bureau thought of what enforcement of this rule would mean to Stroud," the then Assistant Federal Prison Director A. H. MacCormick said. "His bird business had grown so gradually * * * that we were not aware of its extent. We had always thought of it as a form of mental therapy and not as a business."

But Stroud viewed the new rule as the result of "little-mindedness" on the part of prison personnel who resented his ambition and originality. The rule triggered Stroud's war with the Prison Bureau—a war still being fought by Stroud who remains a Federal prisoner at age 72.

Declaring it was a "damn poor man who will not fight with every legitimate means at his disposal to protect the things he has created," Stroud sat down and wrote a letter.

He revealed how he was "a bird in a cage," a convict serving a life sentence in solitary confinement, and how the heartless Bureau of Prisons was bent on depriving him of his canaries.

SMUGGLED LETTER

Della smuggled the letter out of prison. It was reproduced and mailed to thousands of bird breeders who were told to inform their Congressman of Stroud's plight.

The Prison Bureau was so deluged with letters concerning Stroud that the then Prison Director Sanford Bates told the U.S. pardon attorney that "the President and yourself may have to decide whether the welfare of the Nation's canaries is more important than an attempt to keep human beings from being murdered."

Stroud's supporters insist that the letter-writing campaign forced the Prison Bureau into making such concessions as providing Stroud with an additional cell for his birds, new laboratory equipment, and eyeglasses to correct his poor vision.

But prior to the publicity over the Stroud case, Assistant Federal Prison Director MacCormick had visited Leavenworth and had expressed concern over the fact that Stroud's cell lacked sufficient natural daylight and that he was working by the light of a 25-watt bulb. MacCormick suggested to Leavenworth's warden that a window be cut in Stroud's cell and that Stroud be given a second connecting cell for his aviary.

OFFICIALS AT WORK

Furthermore, prison officials already were at work trying to modify their rules so that Stroud would not be deprived of his birds. If they did not do this, they firmly believed that "we would very soon have an insane man on our hands."

At first, it was suggested to Stroud that he continue to raise his birds but not as a private business. Instead, any earnings would be turned into the welfare fund for all prisoners and he would keep a small amount as wages.

But this was vetoed because prison officials visualized the plan as permitting him to go into the bird business as extensively as he saw fit, foreseeing earnings of \$1,500 a year for himself and a chance to employ one or two inmates to assist him.

Finally, by January 1932, prison officials had arrived at this solution:

Stroud could continue to raise birds in the same numbers he had been doing, he could sell his surplus birds and the money realized would be credited to him. From these funds, he could purchase feeds, medicines and other equipment for his birds if approved by Leavenworth's warden.

PURCHASE LIMIT

But like other prisoners, he could purchase only \$10 worth of supplies for his personal use from the commissary each month. And his correspondence was subject to the same limitations as that of other inmates.

At that time, prison officials said:

"We hope that the public will believe that Stroud is not being harassed and hampered needlessly in his desire to carry on legitimate activities, that he is not the victim of revengeful punishment carried on year after year but that on the contrary an intelligent, conscientious and sympathetic effort is being made to provide for him a mode of living that is consistent with the conflicting demands of humanity to the man himself and the safety of his fellow men.

"The factor of punishment for his offenses has long since passed out of the problem."

RESEARCH BY STROUD RESULTS IN NEW BOOK

(Sixth of a series)

(By Eve Edstrom)

Until Robert Franklin Stroud was shipped off to Alcatraz in 1942, he spent endless hours conducting the research which resulted in his book, "Stroud's Digest of the Diseases of Birds."

To aid him with his experiments, prison officials assigned to him a second cell at Leavenworth Penitentiary and provided new laboratory equipment. He obtained a microscope, a gift from Wesleyan University.

After he got the microscope he complained that he was not getting the reagents he wanted. His list of needed supplies that time included:

Alum haematoxylin, alum carmine, carbol-fuchsin, eosin, methylene blue, eosinate methylene blue, indigo carmine, neutral red, denatured alcohol, methyl wood alcohol, glycerin, Canadian balsam, xylene, paraffin, cedar-wood oil, collodion, formalin, tartaric acid, citric acid, sodium perborate, ophthalmic ointment, iodine, potassium iodine, and potassium permanganate.

LAVENDER CANARIES

He experimented with feeding anthraquinone dyes to canaries, with the result that he not only had lavender and pink canaries but a treatment for a fungus disease of birds.

When he obtained a gift of some old slides of tissue sections, he tried to make slides of his own but had difficulty in making tissue sections thin enough to see through. He finally built a microtome capable of slicing tissue to one twelve-thousandth of an inch.

To produce his book, he studied 20,000 tissue sections, cut and mounted by himself. He spent more than 3,000 hours over the microscope. He illustrated it with more than 200 pathological drawings. When published in 1943, the book was considered the most authoritative source on the methods to treat bird diseases. Since then antibiotics have antiquated it.

During this time, Stroud consistently refused all efforts to return him to the prison population. When on occasion he was with other inmates—during exercise periods, for example—guards reported that he was "an agitator, tricky and boastful."

BELIEFS EXPRESSED

And Stroud never expressed any remorse for his crimes, the killing of the bartender in Alaska and the prison guard at Leavenworth. Just before he became eligible for parole in 1937, he said:

"Twice I have had the misfortune of being placed in situations where I believed the taking of life was necessary in the defense of my own body. I so believed then and I so believe now."

Stroud's plea for freedom was based solely on his belief that "continued imprisonment is robbing me of the fruits of my years of labor and it is robbing the bird and poultry industries of the benefits of my special knowledge."

He made clear that he would accept none of the usual conditions of parole. He wanted unlimited traveling privileges, wanted to decide where he would live, who would be responsible for him and what requirements would govern his activities.

COMPLAINTS MOUNT

When parole was denied, he renewed his demands on prison officials "to permit me to create a routine to fit myself."

By 1942, prison officials found Stroud's activities intolerable. Beseated with problems arising from the incarceration of draft dodgers, conscientious objectors and other World War II prisoners, Leavenworth's staff found that a disproportionate amount of time was being spent to supervise Stroud.

In addition, the committee reviewing Stroud's institutional progress deplored the "unsanitary conditions" resulting from his bird-breeding activities. Furthermore, the dozens of cages, books, magazines and test tubes that cluttered Stroud's cell made effective inspection impossible.

About this time prison officials became aware that Stroud had flagrantly violated their trust. By reading incoming correspondence to other prisoners, officials became aware that letters were being smuggled out of Leavenworth and that this "letter-kiting" operation coincided with Stroud's shipments of birds.

It also was suspected that Stroud's cell was the center of moonshining activities. Much of the feed ordered by Stroud was suitable for fermentation and his bird medicines included many with an alcoholic base. The odor from his birds could provide cover for this operation.

CELL ACCESSORIES

When his cell finally was "shaken down," it was found that Stroud had:

An improvised still heated by a homemade electric hotplate and made from an old pipe, glass and rubber tubing and electric light bulbs converted into flasks.

Three one-half gallons of mash and various quantities of alcohol concealed in sealed glass tubes, pint bottles, one quart bottle and gallon jugs.

Other contraband in his cell included a stiletto-like dagger hidden in a hollowed-out niche under a table. It could be taken out and used instantly.

At 8 a.m. December 16, 1942, Stroud ended his 30-year residence at Leavenworth Penitentiary. In handcuffs and leg irons, he was transported to the Nation's top security institution, Alcatraz. En route, he boasted about how he had been "cooking" 188 proof grain alcohol continuously for 12 years and how he once had more than 60 pounds of sugar in his cell without the "dumb bunch" at Leavenworth knowing it.

STROUD TRIES RAW MEAT, FRENCH BOOKS

(Seventh of a series)

(By Eve Edstrom)

Even without his birds, Robert Franklin Stroud did little to dispel the notion that

he was a difficult prisoner after he arrived at Alcatraz from Leavenworth.

Placed in an open-front cell in the "D-block" treatment unit, the "Birdman" established leadership over the 40 or 50 inmates confined there and "incited" them to "create disturbances" and "destroy Government property."

Federal officials reported that Stroud was a "self-professed homosexual." His "constant counseling" concerning adoption of his homosexual ideas and "his insolent, contemptuous attitude toward officers caused the general behavior of other inmates to degenerate."

Stroud also was contemptuous of his fellow inmates, declaring that they were a "bunch of crybabies" and not "like the convicts who were in Leavenworth in the old days."

SOMETHING TO HIS CREDIT

During this time, Stroud had one thing to his credit. He was not implicated in the May 1946 riot at Alcatraz. Nor was he a hero in trying to break up the riot as the motion picture "Birdman of Alcatraz" suggests. However, he did offer to precede any guard in a search of D-block's cells to prove no guns were in the block.

By 1948, Stroud was reported for influencing other inmates to join in a hunger strike, for smuggling a letter out of Alcatraz and for circulating an obscene story he had written.

Alcatraz officials decided to remove him from D-block, vacating a hospital ward to house him. It was reported the attitude of D-block's prisoners "improved perceptibly and immediately."

But Stroud didn't change. Initially, the door to his hospital ward was left open and he was permitted to talk with other inmates. But after he obtained contraband items, such as drugs and razor blades, from the inmates, his door was locked.

The locked door and the lack of individual toilet facilities in the ward until 1955 have been cited by Stroud's defenders as examples of how Stroud has been treated inhumanely.

Throughout his Alcatraz stay, Stroud initiated numerous court suits to win his freedom or to win special privileges, ranging from changes in diet to a renewal of his bird-breeding business.

At one point he wanted to eat only raw meat and raw vegetables. He went through a French phase, insisting upon the works of Hugo, Dumas, Moliere and Voltaire in French. He requested so much research material that it was reported his quarters soon would be in the same condition which necessitated his transfer from Leavenworth.

He also was at work on a history of the Federal prison system as he had known it since he first became a prisoner in 1909 and as it should be.

"There is a lot of work for me to do," he once said. "But dammit * * * the floodlight outside my window has been burned out for several nights and I can't get any work done. I've sent word up front telling them to get it fixed but it takes forever to get anything done around one of these places."

On two occasions, Stroud attempted suicide. He consumed large quantities of medicines he had secreted and subsequently slashed himself in the groin after complaining that he did not have enough handkerchiefs.

But then he became embroiled in his outside business affairs. Thomas E. Gaddis, who had never met Stroud and who did not have access to his prison records, was preparing the story of Stroud's life, "Birdman of Alcatraz," published in 1955. Preliminary negotiations also were underway for filming Stroud's story.

Stroud was certain he would win his freedom and he told his younger brother Marc to "go direct to Eisenhower, get on the ball and get something done for me."

"Eisenhower is a politician," Stroud said, "and with the Gaddis book at the top of the best-seller list, he won't dare buck public opinion by turning me down. He'll have to turn me out."

By 1958, Stroud's progress reports finally took a turn for the better. It was noted that "oddly enough for him" Stroud had no complaints; in fact, he was complimentary about Alcatraz' staff and food.

Stroud was assigned to part-time work as a yard orderly and did well. By mid-1959, prison officials believed Stroud's medical problems—arthritis, chronic nephritis and chronic gastritis—could be managed better at the Springfield, Mo., Medical Center.

At Springfield, Stroud is considered exceptionally skillful as a bookbinder but it still is noted that he has a "strong propensity to try and circumvent ward rules." He was disciplined there after he was caught in an attempted homosexual act with a young Springfield patient. He admitted the offense.

During the last year, he has been involved in new litigation against Federal prison officials. The suit now centers on the release for possible publication of his prison history and other manuscripts confiscated from him. Prison rules forbid a prisoner to write about his own case or to write material considered to be subversive or obscene.

Meanwhile, author Gaddis and Stroud's attorney, Stanley A. Furman, have been active in directing efforts of the Committee for the Release of Robert F. Stroud. They declare a "full-scale public investigation" is needed to determine why Stroud, "world-renowned scientist," has remained in prison so long.

But Justice Department officials state that accounts of Stroud's life, as published in the Gaddis book and as filmed in the current "Birdman of Alcatraz" movie, are sensationalized and not an accurate reflection of the complete record which was not available to them.

They point out that every Attorney General since 1920 has familiarized himself with the Stroud case, and Robert F. Kennedy is the most recent one to conclude that the 72-year-old Stroud is where he belongs, in the only home he has known for more than a half-century—a U.S. prison.

UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS.

Name *Robert F. Stroud* No. *8154* Color *White*

Alias

Received *Sept 5* 19*12*

Military or Civil Prisoner *Civil*

From *Dist. Alaska - Juneau*

Crime *Manslaughter & Assault com. U.S. Pen.*

Sentence *1 1/2* Years Months Days

Date of Sentence *Aug 23* 19*09*

Sentence Begins *Aug 30* 19*09*

Full Sentence Expires *Feb. 28* 19*22*

Lost all good time on 12 yr. sent. - 60 das allowed on 6 mos. sent.

Good-Time Sentence Expires *Dec 30* 19*21*

Trade *Electrician*

Education *Com.*

Religion *Theosophist*

Where Born *State of Washington*

Nationality *Am.*

Habits *Chews, Smokes & Drinks*

Parents Living *Yes*

Left Home at what Age *16*

Married *No.* Children *—*

Father Born Where *Ind.*

Mother Born Where *Ills.*

Residence *Juneau, Alaska*

Father: *Benj. F. Stroud* } *Juneau,*

Mother: *Elizabeth J* " } *Alaska,*

Age *23* Apparent Age

Height *6'* — Weight *141*

Color of Hair *Ch m* Beard *Ch dk*

Color of Eyes *— Az. m #1*

Complexion *fair* Chin *roc*

Teeth *fair*

Build *m slen.* EARS *m*

BERTILLON MEASUREMENTS

Height	83.5	Forehead	Inclin	<i>i</i>
Outs A.	82.		Height	<i>m h</i>
Trunk	96.		Width	<i>m</i>
Head Length	20.1	Nose	Ridge	<i>rec hp</i>
Head Width	15.4		Bass	<i>hor</i>
Cheek Width	13.8		Root	<i>m</i>
R. Ear	6.5		Length	<i>m</i>
L. Foot	27.0	Pecul	Project	<i>m pr</i>
L. Mid. F.	12.1		Width	<i>m</i>
L. Lit. F.	9.5			<i>Al bas + R</i>
L. Fore A.	48.8			

Remarks concerning measurements

MARKS, SCARS AND MOLES.

II. Irreg. sc. of 1/2" @ 1st ph. R. index rear.

Remarks

Prisoner's signature witnessed, Finger Prints and Measurements taken by

at the United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas. on

A. J. Penno
Sept 23 - 1912






Name Robert F. Stroud
Aliases _____
21369
17431

MALE






Classification No. 5 UOI 24
(12) 17 RIO 26

Prison Register No. 17431

RIGHT HAND.

1.—Right Thumb.	2.—R. Fore Finger.	3.—R. Middle Finger.	4.—R. Ring Finger.	5.—R. Little Finger.
	12	8	21	24
				
w	/	/	/	/

LEFT HAND.

6.—L. Thumb	7.—L. Fore Finger.	8.—L. Middle Finger.	9.—L. Ring Finger.	10.—L. Little Finger.
	5	20	27	26
				
w	/	/	/	/

LEFT HAND.

21369 RIGHT HAND.



I, _____, a prisoner in the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, do hereby authorize the Warden of said Penitentiary by himself or his authorized representative to open and examine all letters, papers and other mail matters and all express packages which may be directed to my address so long as I am a prisoner in said Penitentiary.

Dated at the United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, this 5 day of Sept 12
R. F. Stroud

UNITED STATES
PENAL AND CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Leavenworth, Kansas.
(Institution)

November 12, 1942., 19

Authorization to Mail Packages out of Institution

Robert Stroud, Register No. # 17431
(Name of Inmate)

is authorized to ship from the institution the following items to the address given below:

(One Bird, Value \$ 10.00

Express Collect
Valuation, \$ 10.00

Captain

Arrangements have been made for collection of commissary coupons of sufficient value, from the above named inmate, to cover cost of this shipment.

Commissary Clerk

The articles indicated above were packed in my presence in accordance with the above instructions.

J. Boliger

Custodial Officer

Duplicate
of address
shown on
label

To Bertha M. Hayden Minneapolis
(Name) (City)

4937 Colfax Ave, Minn,
(Box No. or Street Address) (State)

SHOES ISSUED

REGISTER NO. 17431

NAME

Robert F. Stroud
Life

REC'D.

EXPIRATION

SIZE

DATE	WORK	CANVAS	DISCHARGE	SPECIAL	REPAIRED	REMARKS
------	------	--------	-----------	---------	----------	---------

MAR 16 1938

2

OCT 28 1938

2

JAN 29 1940

19A

returned Customs 1-30-40

MAR 6 1940

#6

FEB 17 1941

#6 ordered

JUN 11 1942

6

DISCHARGED
DEC 16 1943

TRANSFERRED
TO

ALCATRAZ

26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31

GARMENT	NEW	OLD	SENTENCE	CRIME	GARMENT	NEW	OLD	RECEIVED FROM
			DATE	COLOR				NAME
			<i>Life</i>	<i>Returned</i>				<i>17431</i>
			<i>2-18-22</i>	<i>White</i>				<i>Robert F. Stroud</i>
Overalls					Coats, Blue			
					Pants, Blue			
					Coats, Office			
Jumpers					Coats, White			
					Pants, White			
Shirts, Hickory			<i>2-9-19-42</i>		Sheets			
					Pillow Slips			
					Blankets			
Shirts, Kitchen					Duck Coats			
Heavy Undershirts					Rain Coats			
Light Undershirts			<i>2-4-22-42</i>		Rubber Boots			
Heavy Drawers					Handkerchiefs			
					Comb			
					Toothbrush			
Light Drawers			<i>2-4-22-42</i>		Suspenders			
					Belts			

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
BUREAU OF PRISONS
WASHINGTON 25

April 29, 1960

Mr. Arthur J. Freund
7 North Seventh Street
St. Louis 1, Missouri

Dear Mr. Freund:

You have asked for my comments on the article by Paul O'Neil in LIFE magazine with regard to Robert Stroud which I'll be happy to give you so far as possible without violating the long-standing policy of the Department of Justice limiting access to the detailed records and files of prisoners to officials of the government. United States Attorney General Mitchell in 1929 issued this order and at the same time directed that prisoners were not to be permitted to give interviews to newspaper reporters or others concerning their own cases. This has been found to be a sound policy by subsequent Attorneys General and accounts for the fact Mr. O'Neil was not permitted to examine our records or interview Stroud.

I can assure you, however, that we had nothing to hide and that there is no basis for the inference in the article that there is some sort of personal feud between myself and Robert Stroud. That sort of thing could not happen in the Federal Penal Service where our actions are open to the scrutiny of the federal courts, various Congressional committees, and United States Attorneys General, all of whom have been appealed to from time to time by Stroud or his friends, and some of whom have personally inspected Stroud's quarters and examined his record.

I have in the past, and would welcome again, an inquiry by any official body of the manner in which his case has been handled since I have been Director, and an examination of the problems he presents to the safety and orderly administration of our institutions as well as the threat he represents to the loyal and courageous men who are in charge of our prisons.

There is, however, detailed information about Stroud which is open to the public. This is the record of Stroud's several court trials from which Mr. O'Neil quotes whenever it pleases his purpose but omits when it destroys the image he is seeking to create of a "prodigious intellect" whom an

Attorney General and prison officialdom resolved would "live the rest of his days as an object lesson to other recalcitrant convicts." Mr. O'Neil does not document this charge and there was, of course, no such resolve or statement even by those who were responsible for Stroud back in 1916. To be sure, prison policies and conditions then were considerably different from those now prevailing, and no one now is interested in reverting to them or carrying out today any resolves of those times.

Reference to the trial records show that the murder Stroud committed in Alaska was carefully premeditated and without a single extenuating circumstance. They also show that the unprovoked murder of a guard at Leavenworth was, in the words of the United States Attorney, "one of the most cruel, inexcusable, deliberately planned and cunningly executed murders ever committed anywhere."

An examination of the several hearings Stroud has been granted by various federal courts also would demonstrate how groundless are his oft-repeated charges that he has been unfairly treated. Incidentally, these also show the extent of the patient effort of the Prison Service to deal with his many demands and promote his institutional adjustment.

In all the numberless stories that have been written about Stroud (taken largely from letters he has written to his relatives and friends) he has shown no remorse or made no reparation for the murders he has committed or indicated the slightest sympathy for the guard's widow, Mrs. Andrew F. Turner, who has struggled courageously to educate her children without one cent of compensation from the government her husband served loyally, patiently, and in good conscience.

While I have had responsibility for carrying out the sentence of the court in Stroud's case only since 1937, I can understand why the Assistant Attorney General in 1919 directed that Stroud be carefully guarded and that he be given no further opportunity to carry out his homicidal tendencies. He could not, of course, be permitted to roam about the institution at will or be allowed to participate in institutional activities to the same degree as other prisoners who conformed to the rules of the institution. He was therefore placed in the "isolation" building at Leavenworth in an open-front cell, allowed all of the privileges of an ordinary prisoner except to move about the prison without close supervision. What else can be done with a prisoner who is defiant, aggressive and homicidal? This same policy is followed with respect to other prisoners of similar character.

Over all the years since Stroud has been in prison he has rejected the efforts of warden after warden and doctor after doctor to assist him. As a matter of fact, it was the hope of one of the wardens who granted him the unusual privilege of raising canaries in his cell that this would bring about some change in his attitude. He was repaid by Stroud for these efforts in his behalf and for the opportunities he was afforded not only by continued recalcitrance but by abuse of the institutional regulations, threats, and the manufacture in his cell of "shivs" (dangerous knives).

He continued to absorb increasing amounts of staff time and disproportionate institutional space until in 1942 when, because of serious inroads upon our staff and space by World War II problems, it was decided that no further exception could be made for Stroud and he was transferred to Alcatraz where every other dangerous, assaultive and escape-conscious federal prisoner is confined.

After arrival at Alcatraz Stroud was confined in an open-front cell in "D" Block with other prisoners, was allowed exercise in the yard and was not in solitary confinement, as the LIFE article would have you believe. Again he refused to conform to acceptable standards of behavior.

Seven years later Stroud, because of his continued recalcitrance and participation in an inmate strike and agitation of others, was removed from his open-front cell in "D" Block to a separate outside room in the hospital area of the institution. He was permitted books, visitors, correspondence privileges, and had the same food as all other inmates. Significantly, the unrest in "D" Block disappeared promptly after his removal.

While in his hospital quarters he was offered the opportunity to write anything he wished and send it out provided it did not concern his own case. He was also told that he could revise his book on the diseases of birds if he cared to do so. This latter offer he rejected on the excuse that it would be impossible to do so at that time and under the circumstances in which he found himself. How Mr. O'Neil or the headline writers arrived at the conclusion Stroud has a "prodigious intellect" I do not know, but it is certainly regrettable that he has not channeled whatever abilities he has into something other than persistent efforts to thwart the law and the institutional regulations.

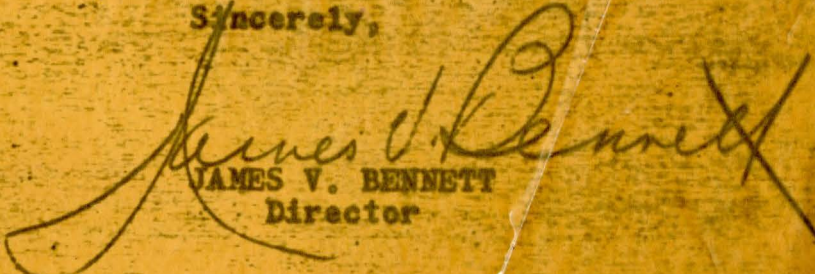
While at Alcatraz he came under the supervision of several wardens, including Mr. James A. Johnston, Mr. Edwin B. Swope, and the present warden, Mr. Paul Madigan, all

of whom have been generously applauded as humane and understanding officials. No direct orders as to details of Stroud's institutional treatment were ever issued them from the Washington office.

These are the salient facts about Stroud. We believe they were all available to the magazine writer since he was permitted to visit Alcatraz, talk with Warden Madigan, and had access to a pamphlet describing Alcatraz and containing a picture of "D" Block where Stroud was held. Instead of stating them objectively he chose to color his story by intimating that I, personally, had been responsible for keeping Stroud confined in solitary for many years and held in prison beyond the time he should have been released. The facts are that the Director of the Bureau of Prisons has no authority whatever to release a prisoner except when his sentence has expired or he has been paroled by the United States Board of Parole, in which I have no voice. Nor am I consulted ordinarily as to the propriety of clemency action by the President. I have never, as a matter of fact, made any recommendation to the Parole Board or anyone else for or against parole or pardon of Stroud. Incidentally, so far as I know, no responsible person has ever made a "bona-fide" offer to assume responsibility for Stroud which he is willing to accept. Moreover, no action with regard to the transfer of a prisoner in or out of Alcatraz is taken except on the basis of reports and recommendations of the institutional classification committee. Stroud's transfer to and from Alcatraz was recommended by the institutional staff and approved by the central office.

While there are many other factual inaccuracies in Mr. O'Neil's article which I do not have the space here to refute, there is one statement in it which is entirely correct. I did try to dissuade Mr. O'Neil from writing the article because, as you know, I am convinced that glamorizing criminals and murderers, whether in the press, in magazines, on the screen, or on the air, is detrimental to our national wellbeing, harmful to our young, impressionable youth, and is a handicap to law enforcement. I devoutly pray that no one who reads the LIFE article thinks that he too can be a hero by following in Stroud's footsteps.

Sincerely,


JAMES V. BENNETT
Director

PERSONAL LEDGER

Form No. 1 Cms.

Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 26, 1930

Name Robert Stroud Register No. 17431 10b

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U. S. Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas

(KIND OF PENAL INSTITUTION)

DATE	POSTING REFERENCE	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CREDITS		DEBITS		BALANCE	INMATE'S NUMBER
			Cash	Earnings	Coupons	Withdrawals		
				Bal fwd 2-3-42	ODE		20.05	
FEB 3	30,0044	20.05				10.00	10.05 S	17,431
FEB 20	310	10.05						
FEB 20	310						1.05	
FEB 20	468	8.45	25.00				.55	8.45 S 17,431
FEB 28	450	33.45	2.00					33.45 S 17,431
MAR 3	32,472	35.45				10.00		35.45 S 17,431
MAR 3	145,285					5.00 M		
FEB 13	465	20.34	25.00	ERROR IN BAL PICKUP GT			20.45 S	17,431
FEB 13	465	45.34		TO CORRECT ABOVE ERROR			45.34 S	17,431
FEB 13	465	.11		DITTO			45.45 S	17,431
FEB 20	468	45.45	10.00				55.45 S	17,431
MAR 17	353,578	55.45				2.00 M		
MAR 17	353,579					2.00 M		
MAR 17	32,562					10.00 M		
MAR 17	32,563					10.00 M	31.45 S	17,431
MAY 5	33,339	31.45				10.00	21.45 S	17,431
JUL 7	36,723	21.45				10.00	11.45 S	17,431
AUG 4	37,213	11.45				10.00	1.45 S	17,431
OCT 5	370,149	1.45				1.00	.45 S	17,431
OCT 12	638	.45	15.00				15.45 S	17,431
NOV 3	38,513	15.45				10.00	all - 5.45 S	17,431
DEC 7	170,287	5.45				5.00	.45 S	17,431
DEC 18	22	.45				3.50 +		
DEC 18	22					5.00 +	8.95 S	17,431
JAN 2	26	8.95					9.80 S	17,431
JAN 2	600	9.80					.00 S	17,431

Chief Clerk
TO CENTRAL FILE
DATE MAR 5 1943
BY *J.S.*

Transferred to Alcatraz, 12-26-42

Redeemed Coupons.
9.80

PERSONAL LEDGER

Form No. 1 Cms.

Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 26, 1930

Name Robert Stroud

Register No. 17431

10a

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U. S. Penitentiary

at Leavenworth, Kansas

(KIND OF PENAL INSTITUTION)

FPI INC-FLK-3-17-37-10000-5179-1

DATE	POSTING REFERENCE	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CREDITS		DEBITS		BALANCE	INMATE'S NUMBER
			Cash	Earnings	Coupons	Withdrawals		
			Bal brot fwd 3/31/41		GDE		81.55	
APR 1	318,714	81.55			2.00 M			
APR 1	26,905				10.00 M			
APR 1	26,906				10.00 M			
APR 1	26,907				10.00		49.55 S	17,431
MAR 26	221	49.55	8.00				57.55 S	17,431
MAY 8	27,778	57.55			10.00		47.55 S	17,431
MAY 6	137,880	47.55			5.00 M		42.55 S	17,431
MAY 10	260	42.55	5.00				47.55 S	17,431
JUN 24	342,009	47.55			2.00 M		45.55 S	17,431
JUL 1	27,655	45.55			10.00		35.55 S	17,431
AUG 26	342,633	35.55			2.00 MDSE		33.55 S	17,431
AUG 26	342,634	33.55			2.00		31.55 S	17,431
SEP 2	28,140	31.55			10.00		21.55 S	17,431
SEP 17	364	21.55	7.20					
			10.80				39.55 S	17,431
OCT 7	28,858	39.55			10.00		29.55 S	17,431
NOV 4	29,137	29.55			10.00		19.55 S	17,431
NOV 21	409	19.55	5.00				24.55 S	17,431
NOV 25	321,939	24.55			1.00 MDSE			
NOV 25	143,676				5.00 MDSE		18.55 S	17,431
NOV 29	18							
NOV 29	415	18.55	1.00				19.55 S	17,431
DEC 20	430	19.55					19.55 S	17,431
DEC 26	434	19.55	5.00				24.55 S	17,431
JAN 2	439	24.55	6.50				31.05 S	17,431
JAN 6	144,337	31.05			5.00 MDSE			
JAN 6	29,794				10.00 MDSE		16.05 S	17,431
JAN 20	430	16.05	5.00				21.05 S	17,431
JAN 29	454	21.05	1.00				22.05 S	17,431
JAN 30	280	22.05				2.00	20.05 S	17,431

1942

Stroud

PERSONAL LEDGER

Form No. 1 Cms.

Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 26, 1930

Name Robert Stroud

Register No. 17431

9b

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U. S.

Penitentiary

at Leavenworth, Kansas

(KIND OF PENAL INSTITUTION)

DATE	POSTING REFERENCE	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CREDITS		DEBITS		BALANCE	INMATE'S NUMBER
			Cash	Earnings	Coupons	Withdrawals		
				Bal brot fwd 11/12/40 GDE			74.02	
NOV 12-40	3,163.33	74.02			2.00 -w			
NOV 12-40	1,231.02				5.00 -w			
NOV 12-40	228.65				10.00 -w		57.02	\$174.31
NOV 19-40	3,206.79	57.02			1.00 -w			
NOV 19-40	3,164.20				2.00 -w			
NOV 19-40	229.24				10.00 -w		44.02	\$174.31
NOV 19-40	3,165.75	44.02			2.00 -w			
NOV 19-40	3,165.76				2.00 -w		40.02	\$174.31
NOV 26-40	1,234.36	40.02			5.00 -w		35.02	\$174.31
DEC 3-40	230.74	35.02			10.00 -		25.02	\$174.31
DEC 11-40	1.36	25.02	5.00				30.02	\$174.31
DEC 31-40	.15	30.02			.35		30.37	\$174.31
JAN 7-40	3,210.48	30.37			1.00 -w		29.37	\$174.31
JAN 7-40	185.33	29.37			10.00 -		19.37	\$174.31
FEB 4	26,479	19.37			10.00		9.37	17,431
FEB 4	182	9.37	57.00				66.37	17,431
FEB 18	136,555	66.37			5.00 MDSE		61.37	17,431
FEB 25	26,640 26640 26641	51.37	posted on top of previous posting GR		10.00 MDSE		51.37	17,431
					10.00 MDSE		41.37	17,431
FEB 26	197	41.37	5.00				46.37	17,431
MAR 4	26,691	46.37			10.00		36.37	17,431
MAR 3	201	36.37	1.00				37.37	17,431
MAR 15	315	37.37					36.37	17,431
MAR 17	213	36.37	43.00	Hold for 30 days RB			79.37	17,431
MAR 27	222	79.37	2.18				81.55	17,431
							Forward	

PERSONAL LEDGER

Name Robert Stroud

Register No. 17431

Form No. 1 Cms.
Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 26, 1930

Life White

~~H. B. S.~~

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U. S. Penitentiary

at Leavenworth, Kansas

(KIND OF PENAL INSTITUTION)

FPI INC-FLK-3-17-37-10000-9179-1

DATE	POSTING REFERENCE	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CREDITS		DEBITS		BALANCE	INMATE'S NUMBER
			Cash	Earnings	Coupons	Withdrawals		
			Balance brought forward 2/20/40/		G.T.		34.92	
20-40	2,916.23	34.92			2.00 -		27.92	\$174.31 M
20-40	1,120.78				5.00 -			
20-40	2,953.62	27.92			1.00 - M			
20-40	2,916.24				2.00 - M			
20-40	1,120.79				5.00 - M		19.92	\$173.41 ⁴³¹
FEB 29-40	.12	19.92			.15		20.07	\$174.31
MAR 12-40	195.54	20.07			10.00 -		10.07	\$274.31
MAR 12-40	2,920.43	10.07			2.00 - M			
MAR 12-40	2,920.44				2.00 - M		6.07	\$174.31
MAR 16-40	2.14 M	6.07	1.50				7.57	\$164.31
APR 2-40	1,127.78	7.57			5.00 -		2.57	\$174.31
APR 19-40	2.43 M	2.57	35.88				37.57	\$174.31
APR 25-40	.15	37.57			.10		37.67	\$174.31
MAY 13-40	199.74	37.67			10.00 -		27.67	\$174.31
MAY 13-40	199.75 M	27.67			10.00 -		17.67	\$174.31
MAY 13-40	1,132.68 M	17.67			5.00 -		12.67	\$174.31
MAY 28-40	.19	12.67			1.05		13.72	\$174.31
JUN 4-40	201.91	13.72			10.00 -		3.72	\$174.31
JUL 27-40	.23 M	3.72	25.00				28.72	\$174.31
AUG 5-40	206.96	28.72			10.00 -			
AUG 6-40	2,947.42				2.00 - M			
AUG 6-40	1,215.68				5.00 - M		11.72	\$174.31
AUG 24-40	.70	11.72				.70 -	11.02	\$174.31
OCT 1-40	1,225.81	11.02			5.00 -		6.02	\$174.31
OCT 8-40	3,203.87	6.02			1.00 - M			
OCT 3-40	1,226.30				5.00 - M		.02	\$174.31
7-40	1.07 M	2	25.00				25.02	\$174.31
8-40	1.09 M	25.02	49.00				74.02	\$174.31
			Bal forward 11/12/40 GDE				FWD	

PERSONAL LEDGER

Form No. 1 Cms.

Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 26, 1930

Name Robert Stroud

Register No. 17431

8b

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U. S.

Penitentiary

at Leavenworth, Kansas.

(KIND OF PENAL INSTITUTION)

DATE	POSTING REFERENCE	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CREDITS		DEBITS		BALANCE	INMATE'S NUMBER
			Cash	Earnings	Coupons	Withdrawals		
		Brot Forward	8/14/39	CRR			.62	
AUG 14-39	.38	.62	5.00				5.62	\$174.31
SEP 5-39	988.62	5.62			5.00 -		.62	\$174.31
SEP 5-39	.55	.62	25.00				25.62	\$174.31
SEP 14-39	.62	25.62	5.00				30.62	\$174.31
SEP 19-39	990.90	30.62			5.00 - M		15.62	\$174.31
SEP 19-39	173.68				10.00 - M		14.72	\$174.31
SEP 20-39	.90	15.62				90 - M	37.22	\$174.31
OCT 1-39	.75	14.72	22.50				27.22	\$174.31
OCT 1-39	174.21	37.22			10.00 -		40.50	\$174.31
OCT 5-39	.80	27.22	50.40.50	Error		40.50	67.72	\$174.31
OCT 5-39	.80	27.22	50.40.50	Error		40.50	13.28	\$174.31
OCT 5-39	.80	27.22	40.50				67.72	\$174.31
OCT 10-39	2387.30	67.72			1.00 - M			
OCT 10-39	2594.16				2.00 - M			
OCT 10-39	993.24				5.00 - M			
OCT 10-39	174.69				10.00 - M			
OCT 10-39	174.70				10.00 - M		39.72	\$174.31
OCT 27-39	1.35	39.72				22.50 - M	17.22	\$174.31
NOV 6-39	996.91	17.22			5.00 -		12.22	\$174.31
NOV 17-39	1.16	12.22	7.00				19.22	\$174.31
DEC 5-39	178.91	19.22					9.22	\$174.31
DEC 19-39	2905.40 28827	9.22			10.00 -			
DEC 19-39	2905.40				1.00 - M		6.22	\$154.31
					2.00 - M		17.92	\$174.31
JAN 1-40	1.50	6.22	11.70				12.92	\$174.31
JAN 9-40	1115.92	17.92			5.00 -		52.92	\$174.31
FEB 12-40	1.86	12.92	40.00					
2-40	2953.12	52.92			1.00 -			
2-40	2916.22				2.00 -			
2-40	1120.77				5.00 -			
	194.20				10.00 -		34.92	\$174.31

Balance carried forward 2/20/40. G.T.

34.92

PERSONAL LEDGER

Name Robert Stroud

Register No. 17431

8a

Form No. 1 Cms.
Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 26, 1930

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U. S.

Penitentiary

at

Leavenworth, Kansas

FPI INC-FLK-3-17-37-10000-9179-1

(KIND OF PENAL INSTITUTION)

DATE	POSTING REFERENCE	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CREDITS		DEBITS		BALANCE	INMATE'S NUMBER
			Cash	Earnings	Coupons	Withdrawals		
			Bal brot fwd 1/6/39 REJ				40.27	
JAN 6-39	870.31	40.27			5.00	-		
JAN 6-39	2,272.60				2.00	-M		
JAN 6-39	870.32				5.00	-M		
JAN 6-39	134.37				10.00	-M		
JAN 6-39	134.38				10.00	-M		
JAN 6-39	2,272.61				2.00	-M		
JAN 6-39	870.33				5.00	-M		
JAN 30-39	1.67	M 1.27	22.15				1.27 + S174.31	
MAR 6-39	2.00	23.42	25.00				23.42 + S174.31	
MAR 9-39	2,282.76	48.42			2.00	-M	48.42 + S174.31	
MAR 9-39	2,282.77				2.00	-M	44.42 + S174.31	
MAR 9-39	878.89	44.42			5.00	-	39.42 + S174.31	
MAR 20-39	2,044.23	39.42			1.00	-M		
MAR 20-39	879.16				5.00	-M		
MAR 20-39	139.13				10.00	-M	23.42 + S174.31	
APR 3-39	882.31	23.42			5.00	-	18.42 + S174.31	
MAY 1-39	885.84	18.42			5.00	-	13.42 + S174.31	
MAY 1-39	2,396.69	13.42			2.00	-M	11.42 + S174.31	
MAY 1-39	885.85	11.42			5.00	-M	6.42 + S174.31	
MAY 2-39	.11	6.42			2.05		8.47 + S174.31	
MAY 9-39	2.51	8.47	20.00				28.47 + S174.31	
JUN 6-39	155.55	28.47			10.00	-	18.47 + S174.31	
JUN 10-39	.16	18.47			1.15	-M	19.62 + S174.31	
JUN 20-39	2,403.72	19.62			2.00	-M		
JUN 20-39	2,403.73				2.00	-M		
JUN 20-39	924.11				5.00	-M		
JUL 3-39	926.82	10.62			5.00	-	10.62 + S174.31	
1-39	931.08	5.62			5.00	-M	5.62 + S174.31	

Balance Forwarded 8/14/39 CRR

PERSONAL LEDGER

Name Robert Stroud

Register No. 17431

7b

Form No. 1-Cms.
Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 26, 1930

March books 10.00

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U. S.

Penitentiary

at Leavenworth, Kansas

USPA-FLK-4-15-35-10000-4767-68

(KIND OF PENAL INSTITUTION)

DATE	POSTING REFERENCE	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CREDITS		DEBITS		BALANCE	INMATE'S NUMBER
			Cash	Earnings	Coupons	Withdrawals		
			Balance forwarded 3/21/38				19.23	
MAR 21-38	1,951.52	19.23			1.00 - M		8.23	\$174.31
MAR 21-38	72.55				10.00 - M			
MAY 5-38	1,893.80	8.23			2.00 M		4.23	\$174.31
MAY 5-38	1,893.81				2.00 M		3.23	\$174.31
MAY 19-38	1,958.67	4.23			1.00 - M		3.23	\$174.31
JUL 6-38	698.59	3.23			5.00 -		1.77	\$174.31
JUL 6-38	2.24	1.77	8.50	From deferred credits.			6.73	\$174.31
JUL 15-38	.15	6.73	14.00				20.73	\$174.31
JUL 17-38	1,993.80	20.73			2.00 - M		18.73	\$174.31
AUG 1-38	81.80	18.73			10.00 - M			
AUG 1-38	1,996.17				2.00 - M			
AUG 1-38	1,996.18				2.00 - M		4.73	\$174.31
SEP 6-38	1,999.95	4.73			2.00 - M		2.73	\$174.31
SEP 6-38	1,999.96	2.73			2.00 -		.73	\$174.31
OCT 1-38	.74	.73	16.00				16.73	\$174.31
OCT 18-38	734.54	16.73			5.00 M		11.73	\$174.31
OCT 25-38	.95	11.73	2.00				13.73	\$174.31
OCT 27-38	.98	13.73	12.00				25.73	\$174.31
NOV 1-38	103.82	25.73			10.00		15.73	\$174.31
NOV 12-38	2,036.16	15.73			1.00 - M			
NOV 12-38	2,265.56				2.00 - M		12.73	\$174.31
DEC 1-38	1.24	12.73	5.00				17.73	\$174.31
DEC 7-38	106.01	17.73			10.00 -		7.73	\$174.31
DEC 19-38	1.95	7.73						
DEC 29-38	1.44	7.02	33.25			.71 - M	7.02	\$174.31
							40.27	\$174.31

PERSONAL LEDGER

Name Robert Stroud

Register No. 17431

7-B

Form No. 1-Cms.
Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 26, 1930

Sep. Bks. None

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U S. Penitentiary

(KIND OF PENAL INSTITUTION)

at Leavenworth, Kansas

DATE	POSTING REFERENCE	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CREDITS		DEBITS		BALANCE	INMATE'S NUMBER
			Cash	Earnings	Coupons	Withdrawals		
			Bal. Fwd. 8-24-37		WHH		.23	
NOV 1-37	.79	M 23	75.00				75.23	S174.31
NOV 8-37	63.33	M 23			10.00		65.23	S174.31
NOV 15-37	1.63	M 23				5.00	60.23	S174.31
NOV 15-37	1,796.03	M 23			1.00			
NOV 15-37	1,860.02	M 23			2.00			
NOV 15-37	667.63	M 23			5.00			
NOV 15-37	63.74	M 23			10.00		42.23	S174.31
NOV 29-37	1,861.97	M 23			2.00		40.23	S174.31
DEC 9-37	65.87	M 23			10.00		30.23	S174.31
DEC 13-37	1.06	M 23	6.00	Hold 15 days.			36.23	S174.31
DEC 16-37	1,800.10	M 23			1.00			
DEC 16-37	671.78	M 23			5.00			
DEC 16-37	65.92	M 23			10.00		20.23	S174.31
DEC 24-37	1.15	M 23	2.00				22.23	S174.31
DEC 27-37	1.21	M 23	19.98				32.23	S174.31
JAN 10-38	1,803.18	M 23			1.00			
JAN 10-38	1,871.07	M 23			2.00			
JAN 10-38	67.82	M 23			10.00		24.23	S174.31
JAN 20-38	68.24	M 23			10.00		14.23	S174.31
FEB 2-38	677.73	M 23	50.00				64.23	S174.31
FEB 1-38	68.56	M 23			5.00			
FEB 1-38	68.57	M 23			10.00			
FEB 1-38	1.37	M 23	2.00		10.00		39.23	S174.31
FEB 3-38	69.22	M 23			10.00		41.23	S174.31
FEB 3-38	1,874.91	M 23			2.00		31.23	S174.31
MAR 7-38	71.92	M 23			10.00		29.23	S174.31
MAR 9-38	68.56	M 23			10.00		19.23	S174.31
MAR 18-38	68.56	M 23			9.40		28.63	S174.31
			Error -- Order not completed		9.40			
			deemed -- this was a mer		9.40			
							19.23	S174.31

(RM)

PERSONAL LEDGER

Name Robert Stroud

Register No. 17431

Form No. 1-Cms.

Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 26, 1930

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U. S.

Penitentiary

at Leavenworth, Kansas

(KIND OF PENAL INSTITUTION)

DATE	POSTING REFERENCE	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CREDITS		DEBITS		BALANCE	INMATE'S NUMBER
			Cash	Earnings	Coupons	Withdrawals		
					Brought Forward April 15, 1937 WAH		.47	
APR 15-37	2.25	M 47	14.59				15.06	\$174.31
APR 15-37	581.51	15.06			5.00	M		
APR 15-37	17.27				10.00		.06	\$174.31
APR 21-37	2.25	6	37.17				37.23	\$174.31
APR 22-37	1,372.42	37.23			2.00	-		
APR 22-37	582.18				5.00	-	30.23	\$174.31
MAY 13-37	19.49	30.23			10.00	-	20.23	\$174.31
MAY 17-37	1,510.11	20.23	1.00	Error posted in wrong column				
MAY 17-37	1,510.11		1.00	Correction.			20.23	\$174.31
MAY 17-37	1,510.11	20.23			1.00	M		
MAY 17-37	1,377.66				2.00	M		
MAY 17-37	587.00				5.00	M	12.23	\$174.31
MAY 27-37	2.59	M 12.23	25.00				37.23	\$174.31
MAY 31-37	1,511.85	37.23			1.00	M		
MAY 31-37	588.05				5.00	M	31.23	\$174.31
APR 9-37	2.29	M 31.23	4.00				35.23	\$174.31
APR 28-37	2.40	M 35.23	5.00				40.23	\$174.31
JUN 7-37	25.69	40.23			10.00	-	30.23	\$174.31
JUL 6-37	27.28	30.23			10.00	-	20.23	\$174.31
JUL 7-37	1,627.17	20.23			2.00	M		
JUL 7-37	1,627.18				2.00	M	16.23	\$174.31
JUL 22-37	1,630.31	16.23			2.00	M	14.23	\$174.31
JUL 29-37	.18	M 14.23	1.00				15.23	\$174.31
AUG 4-37	1,633.41	15.23			2.00	M	13.23	\$174.31
AUG 26-37	1,522.55	13.23	1.00	M				
AUG 26-37	1,522.55		1.00	-				
AUG 26-37	1,522.55				1.00	M		
AUG 26-37	1,636.47				2.00	M		
AUG 26-37	31.41				10.00	-		

PERSONAL LEDGER

Name Robert Stroud

Register No. 17431

Form No. 1-Cms.
Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 26, 1930

Sept. books \$5.
" mdse. \$18.

No earnings

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U. S.

Penitentiary

at Leavenworth, Kansas

USPA-FLK-4-15-35-10000-4787-68

(KIND OF PENAL INSTITUTION)

DATE	POSTING REFERENCE	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CREDITS		DEBITS		BALANCE	INMATE'S NUMBER
			Cash	Earnings	Coupons	Withdrawals		
			Bal. Fwd. from Page 5-b 9/24/36		EWP		24.33	
SEP 23-36	394.75	24.33			5.00-		19.33	\$174.31
OCT 1-36	1,322.18	19.33			2.00-		17.33	\$174.31
OCT 12-36	398.58	17.33			5.00-		12.33	\$174.31
OCT 29-36	400.49	12.33			5.00-		7.33	\$174.31
NOV 12-36	403.57	7.33			5.00		2.33	\$174.31
DEC 3-36	1,340.16	2.33			2.00-		.33	\$174.31
DEC 24-36	1.57	.33	1.00				1.33	\$174.31
DEC 24-36	1.57	1.33	10.00				11.33	\$174.31
DEC 28-36	1,491.18	11.33			1.00-			
DEC 28-36	1,348.29				2.00-			
DEC 28-36	412.86				5.00-		3.33	\$174.31
JAN 5-37	1.63	3.33	20.00	hold 10 days. KTR			23.33	\$174.31
JAN 18-37	1.70	23.33	2.00				25.33	\$174.31
JAN 18-37	1,494.91	25.33			1.00-M			
JAN 18-37	417.25				5.00-M			
JAN 18-37	309.23				10.00-U		9.33	\$174.31
JAN 28-37	1,355.19	9.33	2.00	} Errors and corrections			13.33	\$174.31
JAN 28-37	567.88		5.00-				9.33	\$174.31
JAN 28-37	1,355.19	13.33	2.00-					
JAN 28-37	1,355.19	9.33				2.00-		2.33
JAN 28-37	567.88				5.00-			
FEB 12-37	1,358.41	2.33			2.00		.33	\$174.31
FEB 15-37	1.90	.33	Error and correction.			1.00		
FEB 15-37			1.00			1.00		
FEB 15-37	1.90		19.14	Hold 10 Days			1.33	\$174.31
MAR 2-37	2.01	1.33	5.00				20.47	\$174.31
MAR 6-37	2.03	20.47					25.47	\$174.31
11-37	576.16	25.47			5.00		20.47	\$174.31
1-1-37	312.86	20.47			1.00			
	312.87						.47	\$174.31
					10.00			

PERSONAL LEDGER

Name Robert Stroud

Register No. 17431

Form No. 1-Cms.
Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 26, 1930

Mar. Books 10.00

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U. S.

Penitentiary

at Leavenworth, Kansas.

USPA-FLK-3-22-33-20000-283-1

(KIND OF PENAL INSTITUTION)

DATE	POSTING REFERENCE	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CREDITS		DEBITS		BALANCE	INMATE'S NUMBER
			Cash	Earnings	Coupons	Withdrawals		
							70.33	
APR 2-36	314.25	70.33			5.00		65.33	S17431
APR 6-36	316.13	65.33			5.00		60.33	S17431
APR 27-36	1,284.17	60.33			1.00	M		
APR 27-36	1,078.37				2.00	M	57.33	S17431
MAY 4-36	319.63	57.33			5.00		52.33	S17431
MAY 14-36	322.54	52.33			5.00		47.33	S17431
MAY 14-36	1,289.22	47.33			1.00	M	46.33	S17431
MAY 25-36	1,289.01	46.33			1.00		45.33	
MAY 25-36	1,089.09				2.00		43.33	S17431
JUN 1-36	324.83	43.33			5.00		38.33	S17431
JUN 8-36	4.32	M 38.33	1.00				39.33	S17431
JUN 8-36	1,093.87	39.33			2.00	M		
JUN 8-36	260.76				10.00	M	17.33	S17431
JUN 8-36	260.77				10.00	M	12.33	S17431
JUN 11-36	327.73	17.33			5.00	M	12.33	S17431
JUN 17-36	4.54	M 12.33	45.00				57.33	S17431
JUN 18-36	328.98	57.33			5.00		52.33	S17431
JUN 24-36	4.65	M 52.33	5.00				57.33	S17431
JUL 2-36	378.14	57.33			5.00		52.33	S17431
JUL 13-36	1,105.84	52.33			2.00	M		
JUL 13-36	331.73				5.00	M	45.33	S17431
JUL 23-36	383.36	45.33			5.00		40.33	S17431
AUG 1-36	384.31	40.33			5.00		35.33	S17431
AUG 20-36	388.60	35.33			5.00		30.33	S17431
SEP 3-36	1,464.94	30.33			1.00	M		
SEP 3-36	1,314.16				2.00	M		
SEP 3-36	389.95				5.00	M		
SEP 3-36	269.10				10.00	M	12.33	S17431
10-36	392.62	12.33			5.00		7.33	S17431
15-36	.85	M 7.33	7.00				14.33	S17431
23-36	.92	M 14.33	10.00				24.33	S17431

PERSONAL LEDGER

Name Robert Stroud

Register No. _____

Form No. 1-Cms.

Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 26, 1930

Oct. Books \$None

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U. S.

Penitentiary

at Leavenworth, Kans.

USPA - FLK - 3 22-33 - 20000 - 283-1

(KIND OF PENAL INSTITUTION)

DATE	POSTING REFERENCE	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CREDITS		DEBITS		BALANCE	INMATE'S NUMBER
			Cash	Earnings	Coupons	Withdrawals		
			Bro't. For'd. 10/15/35RWL				4.45	
OCT 28-35	768.95	4.45					3.45	\$174.31
OCT 29-35	1.03	3.45	15.00		1.00		18.45	\$174.31
							8.45	\$174.31
	239.34	18.45			10.00		9.49	\$174.31
NOV 1-35	1.06	8.45	1.04				14.49	\$174.31
DEC 3-35	1.36	9.49	5.00		4.50		9.49	\$174.31
DEC 5-35	163.40	14.49			.50		4.49	\$174.31
DEC 27-35	300.27	9.49			5.00		5.49	\$174.31
DEC 28-35	1.75	4.49	1.00				15.49	\$174.31
JAN 10-35	1.92	5.49	10.00				10.49	\$174.31
JAN 13-35	304.01	15.49			5.00		9.83	\$174.31
JAN 17-35	1.25	10.49				.66	24.33	\$174.31
JAN 22-35	2.02	9.83	14.50				23.33	\$174.31
JAN 23-35	1,256.01	24.33			1.00		13.33	\$174.31
JAN 23-35	241.80	23.33			10.00	M	3.33	\$174.31
JAN 23-35	241.81	13.33			10.00	M	17.33	\$174.31
FEB 7-35	2.22	3.33	14.00				16.33	\$174.31
FEB 10-35	1,260.12	17.33			1.00		14.33	\$174.31
FEB 10-35	1,051.72	16.33			2.00		11.33	\$174.31
FEB 13-35	1,261.07	14.33			1.00		7.33	\$174.31
FEB 13-35	1,053.09	11.33			2.00		2.33	\$174.31
FEB 24-35	1,056.70	11.33			2.00		28.33	\$174.31
FEB 24-35	1,056.71	7.33			2.00		23.33	\$174.31
MAR 9-35	311.77	7.33			5.00		85.33	\$174.31
MAR 19-35	2.78	2.33	26.00				23.33	\$174.31
MAR 19-35	313.25	28.33			5.00		85.33	\$174.31
MAR 28-35	2.98	23.33	62.00				70.33	\$174.31
MAR 30-35	314.00	85.33			5.00	M		
MAR 30-35	243.48				10.00	M		

For'd (Over)

PERSONAL LEDGER

Name Robert Stroud

Register No. 17431

Form No. 1-Cms.

Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 26, 1930

Dec. none.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U. S.

Penitentiary

at Leavenworth, Kansas.

USPA-FLK-3.22.33-20000-283-1

(KIND OF PENAL INSTITUTION)

DATE	POSTING REFERENCE	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CREDITS		DEBITS		BALANCE	INMATE'S NUMBER
			Cash	Earnings	Coupons	Withdrawals		
			Br. Fwd.	12/10/34a			24.92	
DEC 10-34	57.93	24.92			5.00-		19.92	S174.31
DEC 10-34	182.36	19.92			10.00-M			
DEC 10-34	57.74				5.00-M			
DEC 10-34	275.55				1.00-M		3.92	S174.31
DEC 10-34								
DEC 15-34	1.17 M	3.92	2.00				5.92	S174.31
DEC 18-34	1.18 M	5.92	35.00				40.92	S174.31
DEC 20-34	278.58	40.92			1.00-M			
DEC 20-34	248.97				2.00-M		37.92	S174.31
JAN 9-35	.95	37.92				25.00-M	12.92	S174.31
JAN 15-35	256.71	12.92			2.00-		10.92	S174.31
JAN 21-35	258.25	10.92			2.00-M			
JAN 21-35	62.53				5.00-M		3.92	S174.31
FEB 6-35	290.11	3.92			1.00-			
FEB 6-35	261.45				2.00-		.92	S174.31
MAR 13-35	1.32	.92				.47-M	.45	S174.31
JUL 9-35	7 M	.45	5.00				5.45	S174.31
JUL 26-35	724.58	5.45			1.00-		4.45	S174.31
AUG 13-35	589.06	4.45			2.00-		2.45	S174.31
SEP 25-35	.76 M	2.45	10.00				12.45	S174.31
SEP 27-35	152.65	12.45			5.00-M			
SEP 27-35	602.69				2.00-M			
SEP 27-35	760.50				1.00-M		4.45	S174.31
				Forwarded.				

PERSONAL LEDGER

Name Robert Stroud

Register No. 17431

Form No. 1-Cms.
Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 26, 1930

Mar. \$5.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U. S.

Penitentiary

at Leavenworth, Kansas.

USPA-FLK-3-22-33-20000-283-1

(KIND OF PENAL INSTITUTION)

DATE	POSTING REFERENCE	PREVIOUS BALANCE.	CREDITS		DEBITS		BALANCE	INMATE'S NUMBER
			Cash	Earnings	Coupons	Withdrawals		
				Br. Fwd. 3/15/34a			.20	
MAR 31-34	1 91 M	.20	5.00				5.20	\$1 74 .31
MAR 31-34	5 70 96	5.20			5.00 -		.20	\$1 74 .31
APR 9-34	1 97 M	.20	1.00				1.20	\$1 74 .31
APR 17-34	2 04 M	1.20	15.00				16.20	\$1 74 .31
APR 20-34	1 10 30	16.20			2.00 -		14.20	\$1 74 .31
APR 21-34	1 73 95	14.20			10.00 - M			
APR 21-34	1 10 51				2.00 - M			
APR 21-34	9 3 96				1.00 - M		1.20	\$1 74 .31
APR 30-34	2 13 M	1.20	1.00				2.20	\$1 74 .31
MAY 5-34	1 14 50	2.20			2.00 - M		.20	\$1 74 .31
MAY 8-34	2 18 M	.20	5.00				5.20	\$1 74 .31
MAY 10-34	5 88 50	5.20			5.00 -		.20	\$1 74 .31
MAY 31-34	.53 e	.20	25.00				25.20	\$1 74 .31
MAY 31-34	5 89 80	25.20			5.00 -		20.20	\$1 74 .31
JUN 4-34	1 75 90	20.20			10.00 - M		10.20	\$1 74 .31
JUN 12-34	2 43 M	10.20	1.00				11.20	\$1 74 .31
JUN 25-34	2 28	11.20				.68 - M	10.52	\$1 74 .31
JUN 28-34	5 93 48	10.52			5.00 -		5.52	\$1 74 .31
JUL 5-34	2 M	5.52	1.00				6.52	\$1 74 .31
JUL 19-34	9	6.52				.60 - M	5.92	\$1 74 .31
AUG 9-34	5 99 17	5.92			5.00 -		.92	\$1 74 .31
NOV 13-34	.94 M	.92	1.00				1.92	\$1 74 .31
NOV 16-34	2 70 40	1.92			1.00 -		.92	\$1 74 .31
DEC 8-34	1 12 M	.92	12.00				12.92	\$1 74 .31
DEC 8-34	.26 e	12.92	12.00				24.92	\$1 74 .31

(Over)

PERSONAL LEDGER

"3 B "

Name

Robert Stroud

Register No.

17431

Form No. 1-Cms.

Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 26, 1930

September Books None.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U. S. Penitentiary

at Leavenworth, Kansas,

USPA-FLK-3-30-31-5000-33302

(KIND OF PENAL INSTITUTION)

DATE	POSTING REFERENCE	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CREDITS		DEBITS		BALANCE	INMATE'S NUMBER
			Cash	Earnings	Coupons	Withdrawals		
			Brt. Fwd.				5.00	
SEP 18-33	1,006.95	5.00			2.00-		3.00	\$174.31
SEP 22-33	.59	M 3.00	1.00				4.00	\$174.31
OCT 6-33	1,011.25	4.00			2.00-		2.00	\$174.31
OCT 8-33	1,011.26	2.00			2.00-		.00	\$174.31
OCT 14-33	.67	M 5.00	5.00				5.00	\$174.31
NOV 1-33	555.16	5.00			5.00-		.00	\$174.31
NOV 16-33	.99	M 1.00	1.00				1.00	\$174.31
NOV 18-33	1.01	M 1.00	2.00				3.00	\$174.31
NOV 29-33	1.08	M 3.00	1.00				4.00	\$174.31
NOV 4-33	1,025.55	4.00			2.00-			
NOV 4-33	1,025.56				2.00-		.00	\$174.31
DEC 12-33	1.15	M 10.00	10.00				10.00	\$174.31
DEC 28-33	1.42	10.00					8.20	\$174.31
NOV 29-33	4.55	8.20						
NOV 29-33	1,033.93				M { 1.00- } M			
NOV 29-33	561.87				2.00-			
NOV 29-33	561.87				5.00-		.20	\$194.31
JAN 6-34	1.31	M .20	5.00				5.20	\$174.31
JAN 6-34	562.93	5.20			5.00-		.20	\$174.31
FEB 3-34	1.52	M .20	5.00				5.20	\$174.31
FEB 5-34	565.46	5.20			5.00-		.20	\$174.31
FEB 16-34	1.61	M .20	1.00				1.20	\$174.31
FEB 27-34	81.28	1.20			1.00-		.20	\$174.31
FEB 28-34	1.69	M .20	5.00				5.20	\$174.31
MAR 2-34	568.22	5.20			5.00-		.20	\$174.31

(To #4)

PERSONAL LEDGER

Name Robert Stroud

Register No. _____

Form No. 1-Cms.
Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 26, 1930

May 0

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U. S.

Penitentiary

at Leavenworth, Kansas

USPA-FLK-3-30-31-5000-33302

(KIND OF PENAL INSTITUTION)

DATE	POSTING REFERENCE	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CREDITS		DEBITS		BALANCE	INMATE'S NUMBER
			Cash	Earnings	Coupons	Withdrawals		
			Bal. Fwd.				.10	
MAY 10-33	2 32 M	.10	9.00				9.10	\$174.31
MAY 11-33	875.49	9.10			2.00-			
MAY 11-33	875.50				2.00-			
MAY 11-33	449.14				5.00-		.10	\$174.31
MAY 17-33	2 37 M	.10	9.00				9.10	\$174.31
MAY 22-33	2 82	9.10				* 9.00 -	.10	\$174.31
JUN 2-33	2 49 M	.10	17.00	<i>Persck</i>			27.10	\$174.31
JUN 2-33	2 49 M		10.00	<i>Persck</i>			28.10	\$174.31
JUN 5-33	2 51 M	27.10	1.00				33.10	\$174.31
JUN 6-33	2 53 M	28.10	5.00					
JUN 8-33	2 99	33.10				* 33.00 -	.10	\$174.31
JUN 13-33	2 59 M	.10	1.00				1.10	\$174.31
JUL 12-33	809.45	1.10			1.00 -		.10	\$174.31
JUL 13-33	8	.10	1.00					
JUL 13-33	8		1.75					
JUL 20-33	811.57	2.85					2.85	\$174.31
JUL 26-33	.17 M	1.85	10.00	<i>Persck</i>	1.00 -		1.85	\$174.31
JUL 27-33	.18	11.85	1.00				11.85	\$174.31
AUG 1-33	459.90	12.85			5.00 -		7.85	\$174.31
AUG 30-33	831.49	7.85			1.00 - M			
AUG 30-33	1,001.33				2.00 - M			
AUG 30-33	463.69				5.00 - M		.15	\$174.31
SEP 8-33	.47 M	.15 -	3.00				2.85	\$174.31
SEP 8-33	831.49	2.85						
SEP 8-33	831.49	2.85			.15		3.00	\$174.31
SEP 13-33	.53 M	3.00	2.00				5.00	\$174.31

PERSONAL LEDGER

Name Robert Stroud

Str

17431

Register No. _____

Form No. 1-Cms.
Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 26, 1930

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U. S.

Penitentiary,

at Leavenworth, Kans.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, 1930

7-1776

(KIND OF PENAL INSTITUTION)

DATE	POSTING REFERENCE	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CREDITS		DEBITS		BALANCE	INMATE'S NUMBER
			Cash	Earnings	Coupons	Withdrawals		
					Brought Forward		1.19	
AUG 8-32	624.92	1.19			1.00-		.19	\$174.31
AUG 25-32	.46	.19	3.00				3.19	\$174.31
AUG 25-32	699.68	3.19			2.00-		.19	\$174.31
AUG 25-32	629.76				1.00-			
SEP 2-32	.51	.19	25.00				25.19	\$174.31
SEP 7-32	90.21	25.19			10.00-		15.19	\$174.31
SEP 16-32	.65	15.19				12.00-	3.19	\$174.31
SEP 24-32	.72	3.19				.59-	2.60	\$174.31
OCT 12-32	713.93	2.60			2.00-		.60	\$174.31
OCT 20-32	.34	.60	2.00				2.60	\$174.31
OCT 31-32	739.69	2.60			2.00-		.60	\$174.31
DEC 6-32	729.21	.60			2.00-			
DEC 6-32	729.22				2.00-		3.40-	\$174.31
DEC 6-32	.31	3.40-	4.50				1.10	\$174.31
JAN 20-33	1.53	1.10	12.00	<i>Rock</i>			13.10	\$174.31
FEB 4-33	440.26	13.10			1.00-			
FEB 4-33	440.27				1.00-			
FEB 4-33	849.47				2.00-M			
FEB 4-33	849.48				2.00-M			
FEB 4-33	414.80				5.00-M		2.10	\$174.31
FEB 16-33	853.59	2.10			2.00-M		.10	\$174.31
APR 5-33	2.05	.10	2.00				2.10	\$174.31
APR 6-33	864.95	2.10			2.00-		.10	\$174.31
APR 22-33	2.18	.10	2.00				2.10	\$174.31
APR 24-33	870.89	2.10			2.00-		.10	\$174.31

To sheet 2

PERSONAL LEDGER

Name Robert Stroud

Register No. 17431

Form No. 1-Cms.

Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 26, 1930

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U. S.

Penitentiary

at Leavenworth, Kansas.

Sheet #2.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, 1930

7-1776

(KIND OF PENAL INSTITUTION)

DATE	POSTING REFERENCE	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CREDITS		DEBITS		BALANCE	INMATE'S NUMBER
			Cash	Earnings	Coupons	Withdrawals		
				Balance brought forward			15.86	
FEB 25-32	3.11	15.86					15.05	\$174.31
FEB 28-32	.72	15.05	10.00	<i>Pen. CR.</i>		.81-	25.05	\$174.31
MAR 5-32	3.19	25.05				.69-	24.36	\$174.31
MAR 5-32	2.43	24.36	13.00				37.36	\$174.31
MAR 10-32	75.37	37.36			10.00-		27.36	\$174.31
MAR 15-32	3.27	27.36				4.60-	22.76	\$174.31
MAR 21-32	3.32	22.76				11.63-	11.13	\$174.31
MAR 29-32	3.38	11.13				.50-	10.63	\$174.31
MAR 29-32	3.38	10.63				.80-	9.83	\$174.31
APR 6-32	2.68	9.83	2.00				11.83	\$174.31
APR 18-32	.28	11.83			.30		12.13	\$174.31
APR 21-32	2.80	12.13	2.50				14.63	\$174.31
APR 21-32	77.95	14.63			10.00-		4.63	\$174.31
APR 23-32	.89	4.63	8.00	<i>Pen. CR.</i>			12.63	\$174.31
APR 25-32	3.61	12.63				2.93-	9.70	\$174.31
APR 25-32	3.61	9.70				1.04-	8.66	\$174.31
MAY 20-32	3.83	8.66				.69-	7.97	\$174.31
JUN 7-32	3.97	7.97				.69-	7.28	\$174.31
JUN 8-32	240.66	7.28			5.00-		2.28	\$174.31
JUN 30-32	393.06	2.28			2.00-		.28	\$174.31
JUL 6-32		.28	2.06	<i>BAL</i>			2.34	\$174.31
JUL 22-32	.18	2.34	.85	<i>Pen. CR.</i>			9.19	\$174.31
JUL 22-32	.18		6.00				4.19	\$174.31
JUL 22-32	245.06	9.19			5.00-			\$174.31
JUL 30-32	622.80	4.19			1.00-			\$174.31
JUL 30-32	403.44				2.00-		1.19	\$174.31

PERSONAL LEDGER

Name Robert Stroud

Register No. 17431

Form No. 1-Cms.

Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 26, 1930

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U. S. Penitentiary

at Leavenworth, Kansas

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1930

7-1776

(KIND OF PENAL INSTITUTION)

DATE	POSTING REFERENCE	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CREDITS		DEBITS		BALANCE	INMATE'S NUMBER
			Cash	Earnings	Coupons	Withdrawals		
		Balance brought forward					100.77	
AUG 3-31	81.40	100.77			5.00-			
AUG 3-31	81.41				5.00-			
AUG 3-31	76.62				2.00-		88.77	S174.31
AUG 5-31	.37	M 88.77	2.60	<i>Per. Gk.</i>			91.37	S174.31
AUG 12-31	.41	M 91.37	5.00				96.37	S174.31
AUG 18-31	.49	M 96.37	11.05				107.42	S174.31
AUG 31-31	1.43	107.42				+ 90.00-	17.42	S174.31
SEP 1-31	46.05	17.42			10.00-		7.42	S174.31
SEP 3-31	.65	M 7.42	2.00				9.42	S174.31
SEP 4-31	.66	M 9.42	2.50				11.92	S174.31
SEP 5-31	.67	M 11.92	5.00				16.92	S174.31
SEP 23-31	.83	M 16.92	100.00	<i>Personal Gk.</i>			116.92	S174.31
OCT 5-31	50.08	116.92			10.00-	+ 100.00-	106.92	S174.31
OCT 12-31	1.91	106.92					6.92	S174.31
OCT 31-31	1.23	M 6.92	.25				7.17	S174.31
NOV 18-31	110.47	7.17			5.00-		2.17	S174.31
DEC 11-31	.53	G 2.17	10.00				12.17	S174.31
DEC 11-31	1.64	M 12.17	1.00				13.17	S174.31
DEC 14-31	1.66	M 13.17	10.00				23.17	S174.31
DEC 18-31	67.74	M 23.17			10.00-		13.17	S174.31
DEC 30-31	1.81	M 13.17	1.00				14.17	S174.31
JAN 7-31	2.66	14.17				+ 12.20-	1.97	S174.31
JAN 11-31	1.93	M 1.97	2.00	<i>Personal C.R.</i>			3.97	S174.31
JAN 22-31	2.81	3.97				+ 3.11-	.86	S174.31
FEB 9-31	2.20	M .86	10.00	<i>Personal C.R.</i>			10.86	S174.31
FEB 12-31	2.25	M 10.86	15.00	<i>Per. C.R.</i>			25.86	S174.31
FEB 12-31	72.98	25.86			10.00-		15.86	S174.31

Forwarded to next page.

PERSONAL LEDGER

Name Robert F. Stroud

Register No. 17431

Form No. 1-Cms.

Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 26, 1930

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U. S. Penitentiary, at Leavenworth, Kansas.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, 1930

7-1776

(KIND OF PENAL INSTITUTION)

DATE	POSTING REFERENCE	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CREDITS		DEBITS		BALANCE	INMATE'S NUMBER
			Cash	Earnings	Coupons	Withdrawals		
						JUN 1-31	70.56	
JUN 8-31	4	c/m 70.56	4.00				79.56	⌘ S174.31
JUN 8-31	3	c/m	5.00				78.36	⌘ S174.31
JUN 10-31	1	79.56			1.20-		77.56	⌘ S174.31
JUN 13-31	3	78.36			.80-		78.56	⌘ S174.31
JUN 15-31	.13	c/m 77.56	1.00	ok			78.56	⌘ S174.31
JUN 15-31	.18	78.56				60.00-	18.56	⌘ S174.31
JUN 15-31	5	18.56			1.20-		17.36	⌘ S174.31
JUN 16-31	.20	17.36				1.00-	16.36	⌘ S174.31
JUN 16-31	6	16.36			.40-		15.96	⌘ S174.31
JUN 19-31	.28	15.96				.65-	15.31	⌘ S174.31
JUN 22-31	.34	15.31				1.00-	14.31	⌘ S174.31
JUN 24-31	5 1.05	14.31			2.00-		12.31	⌘ S174.31
JUN 24-31	5 1.06	12.31			2.00-		10.31	⌘ S174.31
JUN 29-31	5	c/m 10.31	1.00				11.31	⌘ S174.31
JUN 29-31	.46	11.31				.66-	10.65	⌘ S174.31
JUL 3-31	.91	BAL 10.65	.53-				11.18	⌘ S174.31
JUL 3-31	.59	11.18				1.25-	9.93	⌘ S174.31
JUL 3-31	.59	9.93				3.00-	6.93	⌘ S174.31
JUL 3-31	7462	6.93			2.00-		4.93	⌘ S174.31
JUL 3-31		4.93			3.00-		1.93	⌘ S174.31
JUL 10-31	6	ALW 1.93	2.00		8.00-		3.93	⌘ S174.31
JUL 14-31	.14	c/m 3.93	300.00	Personal Ok			303.93	⌘ S174.31
JUL 16-31	.77	303.93				1.46-	302.47	⌘ S174.31
JUL 16-31	68.62	302.47			2.00-		299.47	⌘ S174.31
JUL 16-31	8.10				1.00-		300.77	⌘ S174.31
JUL 17-31	.16	c/m 299.47	1.30	Personal Ok.			300.77	⌘ S174.31
JUL 28-31	.95	300.77		(OVER)		200.00-	100.77	⌘ S174.31

San Jose 12. California.

97 So. 6th St.

April NO 48
NOTE

APR 14 1948

W. A. HUNTER

Grounds of Leavenworth Prison.
Leavenworth, th. Kansas.

Dear Sir: will you kindly write me
the history of Robert F. Stroud,
who, I understand was a prisoner in
Leavenworth prison in 1916 - and
was transferred to Alcatraz in
1938. I understand that Stroud
turned down a chance at Leavenworth
to be released from solitary, and to be
treated like a regular prisoner -
Also, may I ask why he turned down
this chance?

Sincerely

Annex Whitney Wakefield

(Mrs. G. F. Wakefield 97 So. 6th St.
San Jose 12. California

17431-L

April 14, 1948

Mrs. G. F. Wakefield
97 South Sixth Street
San Jose 12, California

RE: STROUD, Robert F.

Dear Mrs. Wakefield:

I have received your letter of April tenth in which you inquire concerning the above-named former inmate of this institution.

The information you request is not available.

Very truly yours,

WALTER A. HUNTER
Warden

Warden's Office
TO ~~CENTRAL~~ FILE
lead
Date. 4-30-48.....
BY *mg*

After Five Days Return to

Mrs. G. F. Wakefield
97 So. 6th St.
San Jose 12. Calif.



Mr. Walter A. Hunter.
Warden -
Leavenworth Penitentiary -
Leavenworth - Kansas

January 7, 1945

Mrs. Mary Beiswenger
1028 Maple Avenue
Jackson, Michigan

17431

Dear Mrs. Beiswenger:

We have your letter of January Fourth in which you enclosed a letter addressed to Robert Stroud which you asked us to forward to him.

This is to advise you that Stroud was transferred to the U. S. Penitentiary at Alcatraz some time ago and we are forwarding your letter to Warden Johnston at that institution for his disposition.

Yours very truly,

WALTER A. HUNTER
Warden

CC: Alcatraz

Warden's Office
TO CENTRAL FILE

Date 1-11-45

BY *MD*

Stroud San Jose '12 California
Robert S. ~~Stroud~~ April 17 - 48
no. ~~17431~~

Mr. Walter R. Hunter. NOTED
Warden.

APR 21 1948

W. A. HUNTER

Dear Sir - Many thanks for your
reply to my letter of April 10.
re. Robert F. Stroud - My inquiries
were prompted solely because of
a sensational paragraph in "San Francisco
Chronicle" - The Warden of Alcatraz
has given me the facts of Stroud's
present condition - which is

Am sure, very humane

Thank you -

Warden's Office
TO CENTRAL FILE

Stroud
Date... 4-27-48...

BY *mg*

Sincerely
Mrs. Anne Whitney Wakefield
97 So. 6th St.



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON

December 10, 1942

To the Warden, U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas

WHEREAS, in accordance with the authority contained in title 18, sections 744b and 753f, U. S. Code, the Attorney General by the Director of the Bureau of Prisons has ordered the transfer of Robert F. Stroud, #17431 from the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas to the U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz Island, California

NOW THEREFORE, you, the above-named officer, are hereby authorized and directed to execute this order by causing the removal of said prisoner, together with the original writ of commitment and other official papers as above ordered and to incur the necessary expense and include it in your regular accounts.

And you, the warden, superintendent, or official in charge of the institution in which the prisoner is now confined, are hereby authorized to deliver the prisoner in accordance with the above order; and you, the warden, superintendent, or official in charge of the institution to which the transfer has been ordered, are hereby authorized and directed to receive the said prisoner into your custody and him to safely keep until the expiration of his sentence or until he is otherwise discharged according to law.

By direction of the Attorney General,

JAMES V. BENNETT,
Director, Bureau of Prisons.

Pursuant hereunto, I have this 19 day of December, 1942, received the above-named prisoner as herein directed.

FRANK LOVELAND
Acting Assistant Director.

Name E. J. Mullen

Institutional classification

Title Associate Warden

COPY.—To be left at institution from which prisoner is transferred

TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

TELEGRAM

FROM _____

BUREAU _____

CHG. APPROPRIATION _____

10-1728 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK
MARCH 13, 1953

WARDEN
U. S. PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

PLEASE VERIFY COLLECT SOON AS POSSIBLE. GUARD ANDREW TURNER KILLED BY ROBERT STROUD
MARCH 16, 1916 STROUD'S APPLICATION FOR PAROLE DENIED 1937. WHEN WAS STROUD
TRANSFERRED FROM LEAVENWORTH TO ALCATRAZ

SHIRLEY BARDEN, COPY EDITOR, COSMOPOLITAN MAGAZINE, ROOM 523, 959 EIGHTH AVENUE

Rec'd. by phone from WU
11:00 a.m. fh

Trans 1942

TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES
COLLECT TELEGRAM

SHIRLEY BARDEN, COPY EDITOR
COSMOPOLITAN MAGAZINE
ROOM 523, 959 EIGHTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

RETEL ALL RECORDS ON ROBERT STROUD IN HANDS OF WARDEN, U. S. PENITENTIARY
ALCATRAZ ISLAND, CALIFORNIA

Phoned WU 11:40 a.m. fh

17431-L

FROM _____
BUREAU _____
CHG. APPROPRIATION _____

10-1728 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
MARCH 13, 1953

17431-L

DEAD

C.H.L.
C. H. LOONEY
WARDEN
Warden's Office
TO ~~FILE~~ FILE
Date..... MAR 16 1953
BY *J.H.*

LIFE ✓

W-C-1st 2

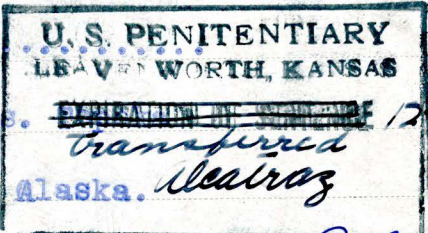
192

No. 17431

Name Robert F. Stroud

Term Life Years Months Days Fine Held.

Minimum Term



Convicted at

D. Kans.

~~LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS~~ 12-16-42

Residence

Genoa, Alaska. Alcatraz

Good Time Lost

Trans USP - Alcatraz, Calif. 12-16-42

Paroled

*file
Robt Stroud*

17431-2

December 9, 1943

Mr. V. H. Weber
Bonner Springs
Kansas

Dear Mr. Weber:

I have your letter of December 8th regarding the possibility of obtaining a canary for a friend of yours.

The prisoner who had been raising canaries at this institution is no longer here. Furthermore, his breeding of canaries was discontinued some time ago.

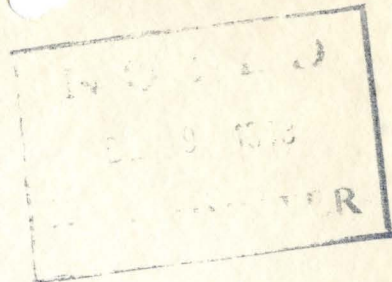
I regret that we can be of no assistance to you in this matter.

Very truly yours,

WALTER A. HUNTER
Warden

WEBER'S

V. H. WEBER, Proprietor
 December 8, '42
 Bonner Springs, Kansas



Warden,
 Federal Penitentiary,
 Leavenworth, Kansas

Dear Sir:-

Several years ago the Kansas City Star published an editorial in the Sunday Star of a man in your institution who raised canaries.

I understand that since this was published that this man is now at Alcatraz.

I have a very dear friend here in Bonner Springs who has suffered a stroke of paralysis. She is a hopeless invalid. In her earlier years she used to raise and sell canaries. She loves birds and likes to have them around, but due to her illness she has had to sell them all in order to raise enough money to take care of her doctor bills.

I would like very much to give this lady a good canary and I think possibly you could help me out.

I feel quite sure from what I have learned that this prisoner could furnish me with the type of bird that I am hunting for as I understand that he raised some very fine birds.

Do you suppose you could help me get one of his birds if he has had to dispose of them, maybe you could give me some of the names of the people that he sold them to and I could contact them.

I would certainly appreciate anything you could do for me towards helping to spread a little sunshine in this good woman's life. Very truly yours,

V. H. Weber

OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE WARDEN

November 24, 1959

TO: Custodial Supervisor

Re: Robert F. Stroud - #12495-H (Springfield Holdover for U.S. District Court
D-Kansas)

Information has been received from the U. S. Marshal, Topeka, Kansas, that a Deputy U. S. Marshal will arrive here this morning at 9 AM to take the above-named holdover into custody for production in Court at Topeka and he will be returned the same day. Stroud will again be picked up at 8 AM on Wednesday November 25, 1959 and returned to Topeka for Court proceedings.

Please arrange to release Stroud to the U. S. Marshal as stated above.

This notice will serve as an order to release Stroud to the Marshal on November 24, 1959 and on November 25, 1959.



Acting Associate Warden

Distribution:

Warden
Associate Wardens 2
Custodial Supervisor
Court Clerk
Rec & Disch Dept
Control Room
Cellhouse
O. A. Unit
Record Office
Commissary
Hospital

U. S. Penitentiary
Leavenworth, Kansas

INMATE RELEASE SCHEDULE

Stamp Photograph Here

12-16-42

Date 8:30 AM Time 8:30 AM

TO ALL DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED:

Part Inmate Robert F. Stroud, No. 17431, by reason of
1. Transfer - see below* will be eligible for release from this
institution on Dec. 16, 1942.

IF WANTED STATE BY WHOM:

*TRANSFER to USP Alcatraz, California.

(signed) R. J. Zarda Record Clerk.

Part	Inmate's Travel		Inmate's Funds	
2.	Leave Leavenworth	M	Personal Funds	\$ <u>8.95</u>
	Arrive Destination	M	Authorized Gratuity	\$
	Destination		Cash on Release	\$
	Routing		Check to be Mailed	\$

(signed) _____ Agent Cashier

Part Certificate of Release, Parole Form 21, Arrival Notice and personal papers
3. have been delivered to me by _____.

Inmate _____ No. _____

Part In order to comply with the release procedures, the above-named inmate will
4. on the day previous to release be escorted by the Discharge Officer or an
Officer assigned by the Captain, to the departments listed below in the order
most convenient:

Department	Employee's Signature
Chief Medical Officer <i>OK for travel</i>	<u>[Signature]</u>
Mail Officer	<u>[Signature]</u>
Commissary Clerk	<u>[Signature]</u>
Agent Cashier	<u>[Signature]</u>
Supervisor, Classification & Parole	<u>[Signature]</u>
Library	<u>[Signature]</u>
Educational Department	<u>[Signature]</u>
Clothing Discharge	<u>[Signature]</u>

Part On the morning of release the inmate will be escorted by the Discharge
5. Officer to the following departments, at which time the inmate will execute
receipts under Part 3 above:

Department	Employee's Signature
Record Office	_____
Captain's Office	_____
Agent Cashier	_____

The foregoing schedule approved by [Signature] Associate Warden.

Received into my custody the above-named prisoner from the Warden, U. S. Peniten-
tiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, FOR AND UNDER DETAINER noted in Part 1. Also received
the sum of \$ _____, personal funds of the above-named inmate.

DATE _____
Shoriff,
Leavenworth, Kansas

United States Marshal
District of _____

The Director, Bureau of Prisons

Leavenworth, Kansas
December 2, 1959

Warden, Leavenworth

STROUD, Robert, Former Reg. No. 17431-L

Enclosed are two clippings from the Kansas City Times and Star regarding the recent hearings accorded the above named prisoner before the U. S. District Court at Topeka, Kansas.

J. C. TAYLOR,
Warden

Enc.

WARDEN'S OFFICE TO CENTRAL FILE DATE: DEC 1 1959 BY: <u>RTe</u>
--

December 24, 1942.

WARDEN,
United States Penitentiary,
Alcatraz Island, California.

In re: Robert F. Stroud, our #17431-L.

Dear Sir:-

We are mailing to you under
separate cover all Medical, Mail and
Parole records in the case of above-
named subject.

Respectfully,

For the Warden,

Carl F. Zarter,
Record Clerk.

CFZ:t

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Warden Taylor -

DATE July 21, 1959

FROM : Carl F. Zarter - Administrative Assistant C & P

SUBJECT: Robert F. Stroud, #17431-L

This has reference to the above-named inmate transferred to Alcatraz on Dec. 16, 1942.

To-day a telephone call was received from E. Edward Johnson, Assistant, U. S. Attorney, Topeka, Kansas, stating that he was called to the office of Judge Huxman and asked to call the institution to determine if inmate Stroud had been transferred here either for confinement or for Habeas Corpus proceedings.


Judge Huxman will in the near future issue an order for the return of Stroud and desires that we inform E. Edward Johnson, Assistant U. S. Attorney if any word is received from the Bureau if it is contemplated that Stroud will be committed here. This will eliminate the U. S. Marshal making a trip to Alcatraz.

Mr. Johnson stated that Mr. Kemper the U. S. Marshal at Topeka, informed Judge Huxman that he heard from the officials at the institution that Stroud was being returned here.

Carl F. Zarter
Administrative Assistant
Classification & Parole

July 22, 1959

In a telephone conversation with Mr. E. Edward Johnson, Assistant U. S. Attorney, Topeka, Kansas, this morning, Mr. Johnson stated he contacted Dr. Settle at Springfield, who advised Stroud is now confined there; Mr. Johnson stated Stroud's Motion under Section 2255 alleged he was placed in double jeopardy when tried the third time, and made reference to a recent Supreme Court decision in a case titled Green vs US.



Ex-Con Here Leaves 'Rock' At Alcatraz

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—After 17 years, the "Birdman of Alcatraz" has left the rock.

Robert F. Stroud, 69, was transferred from the maximum security federal prison in San Francisco Bay to the federal medical center at Springfield, Mo.

Stroud has known nothing but the inside of prison walls since 1909 when he was sentenced to 12 years for killing a Juneau, Alaska, bartender.

In 1916, at Leavenworth, he killed a guard in a dining hall. He stayed at Leavenworth until last October.

He had a laboratory and 22 live birds at Leavenworth and became an authority on bird diseases.

Word of his transfer came from Stroud himself in a letter to Stanley A. Furman, a Beverly Hills attorney who has been working for the Birdman's release.

Dated July 15, the letter read:

"I was stopped while going to the yard Monday morning (July 3). I arrived here only about four hours ago.

"I have already been told that I have the run of my ward, have met old friends, one going back to 1913, and have seen my first TV.

"I have twice as much space to walk as I had in the yard at Alcatraz. I am out in the ward up to 10 p.m. and I have a night call button in my room in case of illness."

In the spring of 1920, President Woodrow Wilson commuted a death sentence to life in solitary.

At Leavenworth he wrote "Stroud's Digest of Disease of Birds," regarded by many experts as the best work on bird pathology ever published.

He was transferred to Alcatraz in 1942.

Stroud, at Alcatraz, became fluent in French, Spanish and Greek.

EASIER FOR 'BIRDMAN'

CONVICT IS TRANSFERRED FROM ALCATRAZ.

Robert F. Stroud, in Cells 50 Year, Now Is at the Springfield Medical Center.

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Inside Since 1909.

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A Happy Change.

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L-17431 → Trans AZ 12-16-42

L-8154

Robert F. Stroud

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER

Hopes Movie Will Free 'Alcatraz Birdman'

By Bob Thomas.

HOLLYWOOD, CALIF., Nov. 15. (AP)—The man on the movie set had a brush mustache, chunky build and mild manner. But when he began to talk, you could see that he had a mission.

That mission is freeing a prisoner he has never seen.

This is no ordinary prisoner. His name is Robert Stroud, and he has been in tough prisons more than 50 years, 43 of them in solitary confinement. He is a double murderer. He is also a self-taught genius specializing in the diseases of birds.

Quit Probation Job.

The man who aims to free Stroud is Thomas E. Gaddis, who learned about the prisoner 10 years ago. Gaddis dropped his job as Los Angeles probation officer to research and write a book "Birdman of Alcatraz."

He told how Stroud, an 18-year-old hobo who landed in Alaska in 1909, had killed the man who had beaten up his girl friend. A recalcitrant prisoner at McNeil island, he was shipped to Leavenworth after knifing a stool pigeon. He killed a guard in a dispute and began his long, solitary existence in tiny cells of Leavenworth and Alcatraz.

His escape from madness was in keeping and studying canaries. He produced an authoritative work, "Stroud's Digest of the Diseases of Birds."

A Federal Objection.

Gaddis' biography of Stroud came out five years ago. The film version is being made after several delays. Gaddis said James V. Bennett, federal prison director, had tried to stop the filming of "Birdman of Alcatraz."

"Twentieth Century-Fox had optioned the book and was getting ready to prepare the script," Gaddis said. "When Bennett was out here for a prison convention, he went to the studio and told them he didn't want the picture made. Shortly afterward, the option was dropped."

Hollywood has long been in awe of the wishes of federal agencies. To get co-operation in filming, producers have made script changes at the behest of the Navy ("The

NOVEMBER 15, 1960.

Caine Mutiny") and the Army ("From Here to Eternity").

Harold Hecht, a producer, decided to ignore the pressure. He bought "Birdman of Alcatraz" and made a deal with his one-time production partner, Burt Lancaster, to star as Stroud.

To Make a Request.

"We haven't heard from the Bureau of Prisons," said Hecht. "I am going to ask for permission to film locations at Leavenworth and Alcatraz." He said his hopes were not high.

Gaddis still finds it hard to believe that the movie is now being made. He is on the set every day as technical adviser. He emphasized that the film won't gloss over the facts of Stroud's criminal history as "I Want to Live" did of Barbara Graham's. The author leads a free-Stroud committee composed of noted citizens and bird lovers.

"Stroud would have been freed long ago if he had been penitent and acceded to the demands of the Bureau of Prisons," Gaddis said. "But he won't. He is too much of a nonconformist."

"I feel that the book got Stroud transferred from Alcatraz to the prison hospital at Springfield, Mo. I think the movie can get him freed."

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L-17431 → Trans AZ 12-16-42

L-8154

Robert F. Stroud

THE KANSAS CITY TIMES,

COURT HEARING SET HERE FOR 'BIRDMAN'

Prisoner-Author of Alcatraz
to Be Before U. S. Judge
April 27.

APPEALS RULING ON BOOK

Issue Concerns Restrictions
on His Work as an Ex-
pert on Birds.

Robert F. Stroud, the "Birdman of Alcatraz" who has been in solitary confinement 43 years, will appear at a hearing in U. S. District court here April 27 as the plaintiff in a motion for a restraining order for protection of property.

Judge William H. Becker yesterday set the hearing for 10 o'clock at the request of Stroud's attorney, Stanley A. Furman, Los Angeles.

Issue on Book Work.

Stroud, who has established himself as an authority on birds, based his petition on a complaint against certain restrictions placed on him by the bureau of prisons in the revising of his book, "Stroud's Digest on the Diseases of Birds," written in 1943.

Russell Millin, U. S. attorney, said it was his understanding from Stroud's petition that one

of the complaints stemmed from the prison bureau's insistence that Stroud, rather than his attorney, negotiate with the publisher.

Stroud, 73 years old, has been a federal penitentiary prisoner since 1909, when he was sentenced to 12 years at Leavenworth, Kas., on a manslaughter conviction. He killed a man in Juneau, Alaska.

Stroud killed a guard at the penitentiary in 1916 and was sentenced to life in prison. He subsequently was sent to Alcatraz, but now is confined at the U. S. Medical Center for federal prisoners at Springfield, Mo.

A Revision Task.

He published his first book, "Diseases of Canaries," in 1933. The book written in 1943 was his second such contribution. Stroud has been given permission by the bureau of prisons to revise the book and publish it, subject to certain regulations, Millin said.

"Stroud must be subject to certain limits and standards of procedure in order that the prison system may function effectively," Millin said.

In his reply brief, Millin cited cases to question the court's jurisdiction in the matter.

F. M. Wilson, U. S. marshal, said Stroud would be taken to Leavenworth from the medical center April 26, then brought here the next day.

RIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1960.

Stroud Appeal Is Argued.

DENVER, Sept. 15.(AP)—Attorneys for Robert F. Stroud, who became known as the birdman of Alcatraz during some of his 51 years in prison, argued for his release today before the Tenth U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

They contended he was placed in double jeopardy by the government when it sought and obtained a third trial.

Prison Guard Slain.

This trial and the two that preceded it involved charges of murder stemming from the slaying of a guard at the Leavenworth, Kas., prison in 1920. Stroud was serving a sentence for manslaughter there at the time.

He appealed the first trial verdict and was awarded a retrial. He now is serving a life sentence.

Harry W. Colmery of Topeka and Douglas Hudson of Fort Scott, Kas., court-ap-

pointed counsel for Stroud, said the third trial was sought by the government and therefore constituted double jeopardy.

Initiated by Stroud.

Wilbur G. Leonard, U. S. attorney for Kansas, said Stroud himself initiated the legal maneuvers which led to the third trial. This, he said, negated the claim of double jeopardy.

The court took the appeal under advisement.

Stroud, now 70, became a recognized authority on bird diseases while a convict.

He began his interest in birds at Leavenworth when a nest of sparrows was blown into an exercise yard where he found them. His research and studies led to his recognition while serving part of his sentence at Alcatraz prison.

Stroud now is at the U. S. prison bureau medical center at Springfield, Mo.

1-21-60

Topic Daily Capital

Prison 'Bird Man' Loses Latest Plea

By ARTHUR CONKLIN

Robert F. Stroud, the "Bird Man from Alcatraz", lost another bid for freedom Thursday in Federal Court when Judge Walter A. Huxman turned down his request for immediate release.

Judge Huxman ruled that Stroud, who has served more than 50 years in prison, including about 40 years in solitary confinement, failed to establish a legal cause for his release. His only remaining hope is with executive branch of the government or "from those having the administration of the penal institutions," the judge ruled.

Stroud was convicted in 1909 on a manslaughter charge involving the killing of a bartender in Alaska; he has been in prison since. He was sent to McNeil Island and from there he was transferred to the federal prison at Leavenworth after he had been involved in a stabbing. On March 16, 1916, he fatally stabbed a guard in the dining room of the penitentiary and a first degree murder charge resulted.

* * *

HE WAS TRIED three times in the Federal Court in Kansas. He was convicted on May 22, 1916, and sentenced to death but the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Dec. 19 of that year set aside the verdict and sent it back to the Kansas court for another trial.

He was convicted again May 23, 1917, but the jury did not impose the death penalty. He carried the case up to the U.S. Supreme Court which on Feb. 4, 1918, sent it back for a new trial.

He was tried and convicted for the third time in November, 1918, and was sentenced to death. He again appealed and the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed the conviction, Nov. 24, 1919.

He was sentenced to be hanged at the Leavenworth penitentiary on April 23, 1920, but President Woodrow Wilson commuted the sentence to life imprisonment on April 16, 1920, just a week before the execution was to have been carried out.

* * *
TWO DAYS after President Wilson had commuted the sentence, the U.S. attorney general ordered him to serve the sentence in solitary confinement.

Stroud remained in solitary confinement at the Leavenworth prison until Nov. 19, 1942, when he was transferred to Alcatraz. He has been at the U.S. Medical Center at Springfield, Mo., since last July.

Judge Huxman held that the attorney general's order placing Stroud in solitary confinement for a long period of time was illegal as it constituted punishment in excess of that authorized by the federal penal code. But as he no longer is in solitary confinement, it no longer is an issue in the case, the judge ruled.

* * *

HE ALSO contended that he had been placed in double jeopardy when placed on trial for his life after he had been convicted of a lesser offense for which he was given life imprisonment. But Judge Huxman quoted the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling after Stroud's third conviction to show that argument had been ruled out by the Supreme Court.

During his solitary confinement at the Leavenworth prison, Stroud began raising canary birds and he became recognized as a national authority on the raising of canaries. He wrote a book on the subject which had a wide circulation.

When he was transferred to Alcatraz, he no longer was permitted to raise birds but while he was there, he wrote a book "The Bird Man of Alcatraz."

When his case was tried, Nov. 25, before Judge Huxman, Stroud indicated that if he was released, he would go to California where some royalties from his book were on deposit for him. He said he expected to do some more writing.

..

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF KANSAS

U. S. PENITENTIARY
Leavenworth, Kansas

JAN 21 1960

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

ROBERT F. STROUD,

Defendant.

No. 4287

RECEIVED

OPINION AND JOURNAL ENTRY OF JUDGMENT

This cause came regularly on for trial on the 25th day of November, 1959, the movent being present in person and by Harry W. Colmery and Douglas Hudson, Sr., his court-appointed attorneys, and the respondent being represented by Wilbur G. Leonard, United States Attorney, and E. Edward Johnson, Assistant United States Attorney. The cause being regularly called for trial, statements were made by the parties and arguments in support of their contentions were heard by the court. At the conclusion of the hearing, the case was taken under advisement. Briefs were requested. These have been filed and considered by the court, and the court is ready to announce its decision.

This is a proceeding under 28 U.S.C.A., §2255, in which movent, Robert F. Stroud, challenges the validity of the judgment imposed upon him in the United States District Court for the District of Kansas, on June 28, 1918, which judgment reads, as follows:

"Thereupon, it is now here by the Court considered, ordered and adjudged that the said Robert F. Stroud be remanded to the custody of the Warden of the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, and by said Warden kept in solitary confinement in said penitentiary until Friday, the 8th day of November, 1918, and that on that date, between the hours of 6:00 o'clock A.M. and 9 :00 o'clock A.M., the said Robert F. Stroud be by the United States Marshal for the District of Kansas, taken to some suitable place within the walls of said United States Penitentiary and be then and there hanged by the neck until he is dead."

Thereafter, the following sequence of events occurred. On November 24, 1919, the United States Supreme Court affirmed the judgment.¹ On February 4, 1920, a petition for rehearing having been denied, the mandate was filed in the District Court. On March 5, 1920, the District Court entered an order fixing April 23, 1920, as the new date for the execution of the judgment and sentence. On April 16, 1920, President Woodrow Wilson commuted the sentence of imprisonment to life in a penitentiary to be designated by the Attorney General of the United States. On April 18, 1920, the Attorney General of the United States issued an order that the sentence of Stroud to life imprisonment should be "served in solitary confinement in the isolation building within the walls of the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas." On May 10, 1920, the United States District Court for the District of Kansas, directed the commitment of Stroud, as follows:

"Now, therefore, you the Warden of the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, are hereby commanded to receive the said Robert F. Stroud and him safely keep in said penitentiary for the period of his natural life."

The parties entered into a stipulation of facts upon which the hearing was held. A somewhat detailed statement of these facts is necessary to present the issues involved in this hearing. While serving a term of imprisonment in the Federal Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, Robert F. Stroud, on March 26, 1916, assaulted and killed Andrew F. Turner, a guard at the Penitentiary. On or about April 13, 1916, he was indicted for this offense and charged with murder in the first degree. At the May, 1916, term of the United States District Court for the District of Kansas, he was tried before a jury, and on May 22, 1916, the jury returned a verdict of "guilty of murder in the first degree as charged in the indictment" and Stroud was sentenced to be hanged.

¹

Stroud v. United States, 251 U.S. 15.

Upon Writ of Error to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit, Stroud filed a motion for an order permitting him to prosecute his Writ of Error in that court as a poor person, or for a peremptory reversal of the judgment and sentence imposed upon him for error apparent upon the face of the record. Predicated on that motion, the Court, on December 19, 1916, entered an order that the judgment and sentence of the District Court be reversed and the cause remanded to the District Court, with directions to grant a new trial. At the May, 1917, term of the United States District Court for the District of Kansas, Stroud was tried a second time under the indictment, charging him with murder in the first degree, and on May 22, 1917, the jury returned a verdict of "guilty as charged in the indictment, without capital punishment." On May 28, 1917, the District Court ordered that Stroud "be imprisoned in the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, for the period of his natural life", and that he "be remanded to the custody of the Warden of said penitentiary, to be by him imprisoned and safely kept in accordance with the judgment and sentence herein."

In August, 1917, Stroud presented a Writ of Error directed to the Supreme Court of the United States, in which he asked that the judgment of the District Court be reversed and that he be restored to all things lost by said judgment and sentence. In that proceeding on February 4, 1918, the United States defendant in error, by John W. Davis, Solicitor General, filed a written pleading designated "Confession of error" in which the Government confessed reversible error. On February 4, 1918, the Supreme Court entered an order reversing the judgment and remanding the case to the District Court for further proceeding. Pursuant to that mandate, the United States District Court for the District of Kansas, on April 3, 1918, ordered that the judgment be set aside and that a new trial be had.

At the May, 1918 term of court, Stroud was placed on trial for the third time. He filed a timely "Plea in Bar" setting out, among others, as grounds, that to try him again would constitute double jeopardy, and that to try him for his life after a jury had once spared him would put him twice in jeopardy for his life for the same offense and would violate the Fifth and Seventh Amendments to the Constitution of the United States. The plea was overruled and on June 28, 1918, at the conclusion of the trial, the jury returned a verdict in which it found "the defendant, Robert F. Stroud, guilty of murder in the first degree as charged in the indictment", but did not add thereto the words "without capital punishment." Based on this verdict of June 28, 1918, Stroud was sentenced to be hanged by the District Court, which entered the following order:

"Thereupon, it is now here by the court considered, ordered and adjudged that the said Robert F. Stroud be remanded to the custody of the Warden of the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, and by said Warden kept in solitary confinement in said penitentiary until Friday, the 8th day of November, 1918, and on that date, between the hours of 6:00 o'clock A.M. and 9:00 o'clock A.M., the said Robert F. Stroud be by the United States Marshal for the District of Kansas, taken to some suitable place within the walls of said United States Penitentiary and be then and there hanged by the neck until he is dead."

This judgment was appealed to the Supreme Court and on November 24, 1919, the Supreme Court of the United States affirmed the judgment holding that Stroud had not twice been placed in jeopardy of his life in violation of the Constitution. The petition for rehearing was denied and the mandate came down. On March 5, 1920, the District Court entered its order fixing April 23, 1920, as a new date for the execution of the judgment of June 28, 1918, to-wit: That Stroud be hanged. Thereafter, on April 16, 1920, President Woodrow Wilson commuted the sentence to imprisonment for life in a penitentiary to be designated by the Attorney General. On April 18, 1920, the Attorney General of the United States issued an order designating that the

sentence should be "served in solitary confinement in the isolation building within the walls of the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas." Thereafter, on May 10, 1920, the United States District Court for the District of Kansas, made and entered an order which, after reciting the course of the proceedings in the cause with respect to the three trials in 1916, 1917, and 1918, the affirmance by the Supreme Court of the United States of the judgment and sentence of the District Court, and the commutation of the sentence to imprisonment for life by the President of the United States, directed the commitment of Stroud, as follows:

"Now, therefore, you the Warden of the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, are hereby commanded to receive the said Robert F. Stroud and him safely keep in said penitentiary for the period of his natural life."

Stroud was held in solitary confinement in the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, until December 19, 1942, and was then transferred to Alcatraz Penitentiary, California, where he was likewise held in solitary confinement until July 15, 1959, on which date he was transferred to the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, at Springfield, Missouri, where he is now confined.

The court is inclined to agree with movent's contention that that part of the court's judgment and sentence of June 28, 1918, providing that Stroud should be kept in solitary confinement pending the execution of the death sentence, was illegal and void. It, no doubt, was meant to provide for his detention pending the execution of the death sentence. But even so construed, it constituted punishment in excess of that authorized by Section 275 of the Federal Penal Code, 1910--Cr. Code. The maximum penalty provided by that Statute for murder in the first degree, was death. Whether a court has power to add "solitary confinement" to a death penalty, under a statute providing for no more than the imposition of the death penalty, was before the Supreme Court in United States in Medley, Petitioner, 134

U.S. 160. While that case arose under a different posture and involved the construction of a state law, the court clearly held that solitary confinement awaiting the execution of a death sentence was additional to the death sentence, and that its imposition under the statute merely providing for a death sentence, constituted denial of due process, because not authorized by law. No case has been cited and none has been found by the court which repudiates the decision in the Medley case. The court, therefore, concludes that that part of the sentence imposed upon Stroud providing for solitary confinement was void. But this, in the court's opinion, does not entitle movent to release. The imposition of the death penalty was authorized by the Statute. In fact, it was the only judgment the court could impose under the Statute making such sentence maddatory, in the absence of a qualification of its verdict by the jury. When the President commuted the death sentence to life imprisonment, that portion of the court's judgment providing for solitary confinement lost all force and effect. It became a nullity. The Government does not seek to justify the solitary confinement imposed upon Stroud for more than forty years because of this provision in the original sentence. If it did, we would have a serious question. The justification for such solitary confinement is predicated on the letter of the Attorney General of April 18, 1920, directing that the sentence be "served in solitary confinement."

The power of the Attorney General to direct solitary confinement for Stroud when the President commuted the death sentence to Life imprisonment was before the Ninth Circuit in Stroud v. Johnson, 139 F. 2d, 171. The court there upheld the Attorney General's power to direct such imprisonment. While the court has respect for the decisions of the Ninth Circuit, its decision in the Stroud case "that under these circumstances, if the Attorney General deemed solitary confinement necessary in the case of this appellant, who was not

only dangerous to society when at large but was dangerous as a prison inmate, the punishment would not appear to be unreasonable", does not have the approval of this court. We may take judicial note that in the absence of a statute imposing solitary confinement as punishment of a crime, it is imposed only as a punishment and for a relatively short time for infractions of prison rules or misconduct while serving the sentence. The decision whether such punishment shall be imposed for such purposes lies with those in charge of the prison and not with the Attorney General. Until required to do so by a decision of a higher court of this circuit or of the United States Supreme Court, it is the court's view that the order of the Attorney General providing that the sentence should be served in solitary confinement was an unwarranted assumption of power and was wholly void.

But the question of solitary confinement is not in the case. Stroud is not presently in solitary confinement. At the hearing, the court asked the Government if it still asserted the right to place Stroud in solitary confinement as a part of the sentence he was serving, or intended to do so. The Government orally stated that it had no intention of further imposing solitary confinement on movent as a part of the sentence which he is now serving.

Movement's second contention raises a much more serious question. It is contended that by the third trial Stroud was twice put in jeopardy of his life, after it had been spared in the former trial. This second point really involves two questions. In a thorough exhaustive and able brief, it is contended (a) that Stroud did not waive his right to constitutional immunity to a second trial for murder in the first degree by challenging the regularity of his first trial by taking an appeal; and (b) that, in any event, subjecting him to a trial a second time, in which the death penalty was in issue, violated his constitutional

protection against being required "to twice put his life in jeopardy for the same offense."

There is much logic and sound reasoning in what is urged in support of movent's first contention dealing with the question of waiver of certain benefits a defendant has under a verdict and judgment of conviction by taking an appeal. The court does not believe that it would be helpful if it explored this field or set out its own views. All the leading cases by the Supreme Court make it clear that a defendant, having been found guilty of an offense, who secures a reversal of a judgment, may be tried a second time for the same offense. This is recognized in *Trono v. U. S.*, 199 U.S. 521; *Stroud v. U. S.*, 251 U.S. 15; and *Green v. U. S.*, 355 U.S. 184, the principal cases upon which this decision must turn. If there is fallacy in the basic reasoning on which these cases were decided with respect to this question, the correction must be in the Supreme Court. This court is bound by what the Supreme Court has said in these cases. In the *Trono* case, the Supreme Court held that where a defendant, charged with murder in the first degree, on appeal, secured a reversal of a verdict and judgment based thereon finding him guilty of a lesser crime, he could in a second trial be again tried for murder in the first degree. In the *Green* case, while seeking to distinguish the *Trono* case, the Supreme Court specifically held that one who had been guilty of a lesser crime, could not thereafter on a reversal on an appeal by him be again tried for murder in the first degree. The court agrees with Justice Frankfurter's statement in his dissenting opinion that, "Whatever formal disclaimers may be made, neither *Trono* itself nor the reliance placed upon it for more than half a century permits any other conclusion than that the court today overrules that decision." But that does not overrule the decision of the Supreme Court holding that one may be tried a second time for the same offense, when, on appeal, a reversal is secured of the first judgment.

Movant's second contention under this assignment, namely, that, the jury, although having found Stroud guilty of murder in the first degree and having spared his life, putting his life in jeopardy in the second trial would violate his constitutional rights, raises a more serious question. Justice Frankfurter's statement in his dissenting opinion in the Green case, that, "As a practical matter and on any basis of human values, it is scarcely possible to distinguish a case in which the defendant is convicted of a greater offense from one in which he is convicted of an offense that has the same name as that of which he was previously convicted, but carries a significantly different punishment, namely, death, rather than imprisonment." But aside from the fact that this was said in a dissenting opinion, the question is presently foreclosed by the decision of the Supreme Court in Stroud v. United States, 251 U.S. 15. This precise question was presented to the Supreme Court in that case. Not only did the court hold that Stroud could again be tried for murder in the first degree, but it also upheld the increased penalty of death.

The Stroud case is one of many facets. The court has indicated that in its view, Stroud was subjected to punishment not warranted by the verdict of the jury and the judgment of the court. But all of that is out of the case. Whatever relief, if any, his long incarceration under all the facts and circumstances of the case, he is entitled to must, in the court's opinion, come from the Executive branch of the Government or from those having the administration of the penal institution under their contracts.

IT IS THE CONCLUSION OF THE COURT that the prayer of the motion should be denied and that the motion should be dismissed. Such a judgment will be entered.

Dated at Topeka, Kansas, this ___ day of January, 1960.

Judge, Assigned

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, Bureau of Prisons

DATE: Dec. 10, 1959

FROM : Warden Taylor - Leavenworth

SUBJECT: Robert F. Stroud - 12495-H (former 17431-L)

Enclosed is copy of letter dated December 9, 1959, by Wilbur G. Leonard, United States Attorney, Topeka, Kansas, and photostatic copy of newsclipping concerning Stroud's recent appearance in the U. S. District Court of Kansas, at Topeka. We note that copy of the letter was forwarded to you by Mr. Leonard.

For your information, a copy of Mr. Leonard's letter, and of the newsclipping is being sent to Warden R. O. Settle, at Springfield, with copy of this letter.

J. C. Taylor,
Warden

CC: Warden R. O. Settle,
Medical Center for Federal Prisoners,
Springfield, Missouri.

United States Department of Justice

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

DISTRICT OF KANSAS

P. O. Box 1127

TOPEKA, KANSAS

December 9, 1959

PHONE:
CE 3-2321

Mr. Carl F. Zarter
Administrative Assistant
Classification and Parole
United States Penitentiary
Leavenworth, Kansas

Re: United States v. Robert F. Stroud
Cr. No. 4287

Dear Mr. Zarter:

As I have indicated to you in our personal discussions, newspaper accounts of Judge Huxman's comments at Stroud's hearing on November 25, 1959, are somewhat misleading.

As you know, this proceeding was had pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 2255. One of the major contentions was the order of the Attorney General of the United States dated April 18, 1920, directing that Stroud's sentence of life imprisonment should be "served in solitary confinement in the isolation building within the walls of the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas."

The Court directed a question to counsel for the Government as to whether it was now contended that Stroud could be maintained in solitary confinement. I advised the Court the Government contended that Stroud was in no different position than any other prisoner and was subject to the same rules and regulations and restrictions as other convicted murderers serving life sentences. The Court, in substance, stated that that point was not an issue.

We then called the Court's attention to the reported decision of Stroud v. Johnson, 139 F. 2d 171, wherein it was indicated that there was no showing that Stroud was then being held in solitary confinement. The Court was still not satisfied with our representations and demanded to know what the present position of

Page 2

Mr. Carl F. Zarter

December 9, 1959

the Government was relative to the manner in which Stroud must serve his sentence. We advised the Court that we would not consider that the solitary confinement was a part of the sentence and we did not claim a right to keep him in confinement.

Thereupon the Court, in substance, stated it was a good thing that we took this position because had it been otherwise Stroud would walk out of the court room a free man.

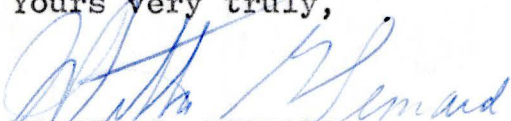
The exact exchange between Court and counsel naturally appears in the record. Since we have not obtained a copy of it at this time, the foregoing is according to our best recollection and based partially upon our notes at the time of the hearing.

It was our distinct impression that all that Judge Huxman intended by his statements was that if the Government was of the opinion that Stroud would be held in solitary confinement because the Attorney General in 1920 said that his sentence should be served in solitary confinement, that the Court would consider such a sentence to be cruel, unusual and inhuman, but the Court went no further than this and has no intention of subjecting Stroud to any special favors or treatment.

Since our information from officials at the Medical Center is that Stroud has not been considered to be in solitary confinement, we attach no significance at all to statements of the Court.

We trust this explanation may clarify the matter to some extent. If we can be of additional assistance, please call on us.

Yours very truly,


WILBUR G. LEONARD
United States Attorney

WGL:ip

cc - Mr. James V. Bennett, Director
Bureau of Prisons
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

December 9, 1959

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Yours very truly,

WILBUR G. LEONARD
United States Attorney

WGL:ip

cc - Mr. James V. Bennett, Director
Bureau of Prisons
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

A STROUD FREEDOM BID

FORTY OF HIS 69 YEARS IN SOLITARY CELL.

Double Jeopardy and Government Error in Penalty Is Charged in Habeas Plea.

By Robert H. Clark.

(The Star's Topeka Correspondent.)

Topeka, Nov. 25.—A tall, gaunt man, who has spent more years in solitary confinement than any other prisoner in United States penal history, sat before a federal judge here today in what may be his last bid for freedom.

Attired in a drab gray prison suit, the prisoner, Robert F. Stroud, 69, known as the "Birdman of Alcatraz," listened intently to the habeas corpus proceeding. The hearing was before Judge Walter A. Huxman of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals.

Canary Hobby in Cell.

Stroud, transferred here for the hearing from the United States Medical center at Springfield, Mo., spent nearly 40 years in solitary confinement in the federal prisons at Leavenworth, Kas., and Alcatraz. He passed much of that period raising canaries in his prison cell, studying their habits and becoming a noted and widely-recognized authority on bird ailments and their cures.

Stroud was sentenced to life imprisonment after three trials for the fatal mesal stabbing of Andrew F. Turner, a Leavenworth prison guard, in 1915.

Prison authorities were so embittered they ruled he should spend the rest of his life in solitary. And he lived that strange existence until shortly before being transferred to Springfield this year.

Aid by Voluntary Group.

His case has received the attention, largely through the efforts of a group of volun-

tary workers in his behalf. The workers formed a group known as the "Committee for the Release of Robert Stroud." Part of the group's work was publication of Stroud's life story.

Judge Huxman said at the start of the hearing today he planned to take the case under advisement and study it carefully before ruling.

The jurist added, however, that banishment to solitary confinement was a violation of the Eighth amendment to the U. S. Constitution and if Stroud again is subjected to that punishment "he will walk out a free man."

Representing Stroud at the hearing was Harry W. Colmery, court-appointed Topeka lawyer. The government's case was presented by Wilbur G. Leonard, United States attorney for Kansas.

Eases Up on "Solitary."

Leonard said the government no longer contended it had the right to impose solitary confinement as part of Stroud's sentence.

Stroud was serving a 12-year sentence at Leavenworth on conviction of a 1909 manslaughter charge in Alaska when the fatal stabbing occurred. He was tried and sentenced to death at the first trial, but a reversal was won. At the second trial Stroud was convicted again, but a life sentence was ordered.

The government appealed that verdict, and at a third trial in 1918 Stroud was sentenced to be hanged. Efforts by Stroud's late mother, including a personal appeal to President Woodrow Wilson, brought a commutation to life. But government officials engaged that the slayer of a guard should not be hanged, decreed solitary.

A Self-Defense Claim.

Stroud admitted the slaying, which occurred in full view of

(Continued on Second Page.)

A STROUD FREEDOM BID

(Continued From First Page.)

hundreds of other inmates, but said he acted in self defense.

In opening his client's argument today, Colmery said no federal official should elaborate on a jury verdict in fixing punishment, and that the government had been without power to impose solitary confinement.

For that reason, the attorney argued the government erred, and that Stroud served nearly 40 years without speaking to any other persons than his prison guards and immediate family.

Colmery also argued that Stroud had been placed in double jeopardy as the result of the successful government appeal and subsequent death sentence after the second trial verdict of life imprisonment.

After the oral arguments Judge Huxman gave each attorney 15 days in which to file briefs supporting his position. He also said he would welcome an appeal to the United States Supreme court by the side losing in his ruling.

"This is one of the most difficult and important questions that ever has been raised in this court," Judge Huxman explained.

He instructed the attorneys

to present opinions in their briefs on two main questions:

(1) Whether a federal jury alone has the right to set a sentence, once it reaches a verdict; (2) Whether one jury verdict can be set aside and a person be tried on the same offense and given a greater penalty.

"There are features in the case that challenge the imagination and even shock the court," the jurist told the attorneys. "But what is done is done."

He added great consideration should be given to a determination of whether a prisoner takes at his own peril the challenging of a verdict and thus subjects himself to a more severe sentence in a subsequent hearing on the same issues.

Stroud peered intently at both the attorneys and the judge through metal-rimmed glasses during today's session.

Long a sufferer from a stomach ailment, he asked and was given a raw hamburger and three apples before the hearing began.

NIXON TO LEAD PARADE.

Pasadena, Calif., Nov. 25. (AP)—Vice-President Nixon will be grand marshal of the 71st New Year's day Rose parade, it was announced today.

Robert C. Stroud
#17431-L
12495-H

RIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1960.

Stroud Appeal Is Argued.

DENVER, Sept. 15.(AP)—Attorneys for Robert F. Stroud, who became known as the birdman of Alcatraz during some of his 51 years in prison, argued for his release today before the Tenth U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

They contended he was placed in double jeopardy by the government when it sought and obtained a third trial.

Prison Guard Slain.

This trial and the two that preceded it involved charges of murder stemming from the slaying of a guard at the Leavenworth, Kas., prison in 1920. Stroud was serving a sentence for manslaughter there at the time.

He appealed the first trial verdict and was awarded a retrial. He now is serving a life sentence.

Harry W. Colmery of Topeka and Douglas Hudson of Fort Scott, Kas., court-ap-

pointed counsel for Stroud, said the third trial was sought by the government and therefore constituted double jeopardy.

Initiated by Stroud.

Wilbur G. Leonard, U. S. attorney for Kansas, said Stroud himself initiated the legal maneuvers which led to the third trial. This, he said, negated the claim of double jeopardy.

The court took the appeal under advisement.

Stroud, now 70, became a recognized authority on bird diseases while a convict.

He began his interest in birds at Leavenworth when a nest of sparrows was blown into an exercise yard where he found them. His research and studies led to his recognition while serving part of his sentence at Alcatraz prison.

Stroud now is at the U. S. prison bureau medical center at Springfield, Mo.

NO.

STROUD, Robert F.

17431-L.

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Box 331

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PRODIGIOUS INTELLECT IN SOLITARY

Impenitent killer Robert Stroud, who is famed for bird treatise, sees new hope for freedom

by PAUL O'NEIL, *LIFE Staff Writer*

IN federal penitentiaries, as in those little cellblocks of circumstance in which we all serve time, most men conclude that conformity is synonymous with common sense. The man who stoops to survive is encouraged by a world which offers rewards to stool pigeons and asks only that a convict stay quietly behind his bars. If defiance in adversity is the final, ennobling duty of the human spirit, there are few noble souls in prison—or few, at any rate, who do not finally surrender, die or lose their minds under the thud of the long gray years.

Here is the story of Robert Stroud—impenitent killer, convict, scholar, scientist, nonconformist—who has survived on his own terms.

Few humans in any age have been held in prison as long as Stroud, who has now spent more than 50 years continuously behind walls, all but a few months of those years in tough, heavily guarded institutions—McNeil Island, Leavenworth and Alcatraz. It is doubtful that anyone since the Man in the Iron Mask has lived out his life in the kind of isolation which Stroud has survived. Forty-three of those 50 gray years have been spent in solitary confinement (or “administrative segregation,” as the Federal Bureau of Prisons prefers to call it) during which he has eaten alone in his cell, has never mingled with the prison population and has been denied, for years on end, the privileges of the prison exercise yard. He has become, as a result, a sort of invisible man. All but a few who remember him as a stripling of 19 in 1909—the year he went to prison—are dead. For the last 18 years he has been allowed only one regular visitor, a brother. Except for two lawyers no other callers have been permitted to see him. His correspondence is limited and, as with all prisoners, his mail is censored.

Stroud has not spent his decades in prison without reason. He has killed two men: a bartender named Charlie Dahmer, whom he shot in Juneau, Alaska in 1909, and a prison guard named Andrew F. Turner, whom he stabbed to death at Leavenworth Penitentiary in 1916. He has lived his life in solitary as specific punishment for killing the guard. When he knifed Turner, Stroud struck at the very basis of the penal system—the harsh discipline by which herds of bored, resentful and sometimes desperate men are controlled in overcrowded penitentiaries. After failing in three attempts to get him hanged, both the Attorney General of

the U.S. and prison officialdom resolved that he should live the rest of his days as an object lesson to other recalcitrant convicts.

Time and rigorous censorship of the Stroud case makes it extremely difficult to weigh his crimes. One can only plow through old trial records, old letters and faded newspaper clippings in an attempt to decide whether they were committed under extreme provocation (as Stroud claims) or were (as the government insists) simply exercises of cold, premeditated vengeance. Time, however, has not altered the prison bureau's attitude toward Stroud. The average life sentence runs but 10 years, and even so controversial a murderer as Nathan Leopold was freed after 34 years. But though Stroud has engaged in surprising feats of self-rehabilitation, it seems doubtful that the government will ever voluntarily set him free.

An iron stoicism

STROUD has never begged for quarter and has never expressed the slightest contrition for his crimes. He has borne a wasting disease and the endless indignities of prison routine with iron stoicism. He has not raised a hand to another man since 1916 and has devoted himself for 40 years to the passionate development and exercise of a remarkable intellect. Since the publication five years ago of Thomas E. Gaddis' study of the Stroud case, *Birdman of Alcatraz*, thousands of people have written from all over the world to applaud both his courage and his accomplishments. The most noted of his achievements is *Stroud's Digest of the Diseases of Birds*, which he wrote after 20 years of study and experiment with canaries in his cell at Leavenworth, and which is the most authoritative and comprehensive work on this subject ever published. But though he became eligible for parole in 1937, and though his case has been reviewed 23 times in the last 23 years, there has never been any suggestion that the Federal Board of Parole has ever seriously considered his release.

Stroud maintains that he “could have been out of here years ago” if he had ever stooped to bootlicking. But he would seem, literally, to prefer death. “I am neither a moron nor a sycophant, the only types they conceive worthy,” he wrote in one letter, “but a man of strong character who in 50 years has not been broken and who cannot be broken. I am

STUDYING HIS CANARIES, hundreds of which he kept in his Leavenworth cell, Stroud pursued the research which won him nationwide renown. →





R. Weaver

still Prometheus and I can endure . . . to the end if necessary." Stroud, the stir-wise old con, has lived with prison regulations for half a lifetime, but Stroud the defiant individualist has engaged, decade after decade, in a remorseless contest of wills with the Director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, James V. Bennett.

Stroud has never ceased trying to use public opinion to wring concessions from his jailers. He has got his name into the newspapers with embarrassing frequency and has managed, at times, to outwit and defeat the whole U.S. prison system. Most of his triumphs have been short lived, but his impulse to dominate rather than be dominated has remained unquenched. Bennett has been forced for 30 long years to deal with Stroud's complaints, to answer letters from irate bird lovers ("Bird brains! Bird brains!" he sometimes exclaims), to endure interrogation from the press and to compose letters to congressmen and senators about "the man who raised the canaries in his cell." One is impelled to wonder whether Stroud has not, with the weapon of his terrible endurance, inflicted some subtle and nagging wound in the heart of his jailer during this endless, one-sided struggle.

Bennett, an assured, pleasant lawyer of 65, is sometimes hailed as the most enlightened penologist in U.S. history. He is, without question, the most successful of the prison reformers—an able administrator who has utilized techniques and ideas which earlier and less practical penal theorists were incapable of putting into practice. He has not only molded the federal prison system into the image of the New Penology, which proposes to classify and rehabilitate rather than punish criminals, but has set a powerful example for the state prisons to follow. He is, by all accounts, a decent and honorable man. But his handling of the Stroud case and his reaction to Stroud himself raise questions indeed, when viewed against this solid background of balance and achievement.

Bennett refuses to allow anyone access to the bureau's records of the case, refuses to discuss it for publication or to allow any employe of the federal system to do so. Above all, he refuses to allow any contact with Stroud, although he will disparage the old prisoner at length once he has exacted the protection of a no-quotation agreement. He does his level best to prevent publication of anything concerning Stroud—and often succeeds. (Simultaneously, although he holds that the bureau's files are "confidential," he offers every cooperation on stories or pictures about "more interesting" convicts.) Bennett maintains, in justification, that he is duty bound to take this attitude toward a troublemaker like Stroud out of simple justice to the majority of 22,000 federal prisoners who have vanished behind walls "without a trace." But he also refuses to discuss his own important part in the Stroud case. It would be impossible to describe it, in fact, if he had not left behind him, over the years, unqualified statements about the old prisoner which a patient reporter can collect and, in good conscience, use.

Bennett's most recent suppression of the Stroud story occurred in 1958 in Los Angeles when he dissuaded executives of 20th Century-Fox from doing a motion picture which was to have been based on Gaddis' book and which might have yielded Stroud the first important money of his life. Bennett was frank to say that he had done everything he could to prevent the New York publishing firm of Random House from bringing out the book. He warned the Fox people "for their own good" that they should not risk the movie since they did not know the truth as he knew it. He insisted, without specifying, that the Gaddis book was "a pack of lies" and denied the company access to any federal prison, although offering to cooperate on some more suitable picture.

When Producer Jack Cummings asked his opinion of Stroud's intellect, Bennett answered, "I find him rather dull. Oh, he's cunning." When questioned about Stroud's accomplishments, he said, "He amused himself with those canaries." When the worried moviemakers felt impelled to check on Stroud's sanity (Bennett has refused to release a report on Stroud made by famed Psychiatrist Karl Menninger after an extended interview with the prisoner one day at Alcatraz), he replied, "The old man is not psychotic but he is getting senile."

But little about the Stroud case—or what is visible of the Stroud case



PRISON DIRECTOR James V. Bennett, shown in his Washington office, has been personally concerned with Stroud's fate for almost 30 years.

—is really quite as black and white as this might make it sound. Unquestionably Stroud has been a difficult and troublesome prisoner. He is also one of the most cantankerous old men alive in the world today. He insists, for instance, that parole would violate his right to free and unconditional pardon and has sworn to refuse it if it is ever offered to him, although he is now 70 and the marks of prison lie heavily on him.

Stroud is a tall (6 feet 3 inches), bald and emaciated being who wears old-fashioned steel spectacles. He suffers from a chronic kidney ailment and a type of arteriosclerosis which causes him pain in his hands and feet. He reads Cicero and Baudelaire in the original Latin and French, but he speaks with an old lag's defensive caution—softly, and with no perceptible movement of the lips. At Alcatraz he formed the habit of grasping his barred door while talking, and rocking himself endlessly back and forth like a bemused zoo chimp. He is a food faddist who believes that meat, fish and vegetables should all be eaten raw and is convinced that the two greatest killers of all time are "the milk cow and the cookstove." But neither his ego, illnesses nor eccentricities have prevented his viewing himself with merciless detachment.

"I do not want you to get the idea that Stroud is in any sense a hero or a genius," he wrote as guidance at the time 20th Century-Fox was planning its picture about him. "He is neither. He is an unfortunate human being who got off in life on the wrong foot, almost from birth; a criminal, a murderer, a man who has done many evil, shameful and terrible things and has suffered terrible punishments. He is a pronounced egotist. The one outstanding thing about him is that he has been a fighter from the day of his birth. He has always

fought against heartbreaking odds and without the advantages of preparation for the battle of life. So . . . though Stroud is as devoid of conventional morals as a chicken is of teeth, his story contains one great moral lesson. Man can die, but he can never be a slave until he himself accepts slavery."

This is not to say, however, that Stroud blames himself for his crimes. He is convinced that his nature was distorted in childhood by a warping and unnatural possessiveness on the part of his mother, Elizabeth, and that the "evil, shameful and terrible" things he did were inevitable "since no God ever made a man to be a coward." As a boy in Seattle, he was withdrawn and quiet and had an obsessive compassion for weaker creatures—his little brother Marc, stray dogs and cats. But he also had an instinct for violence. At the age of 10 when his father knocked him down, "I came up out of the dirt with a rock in each hand. The first one hit him in the chest hard enough to break two ribs. He treated me with respect after that."

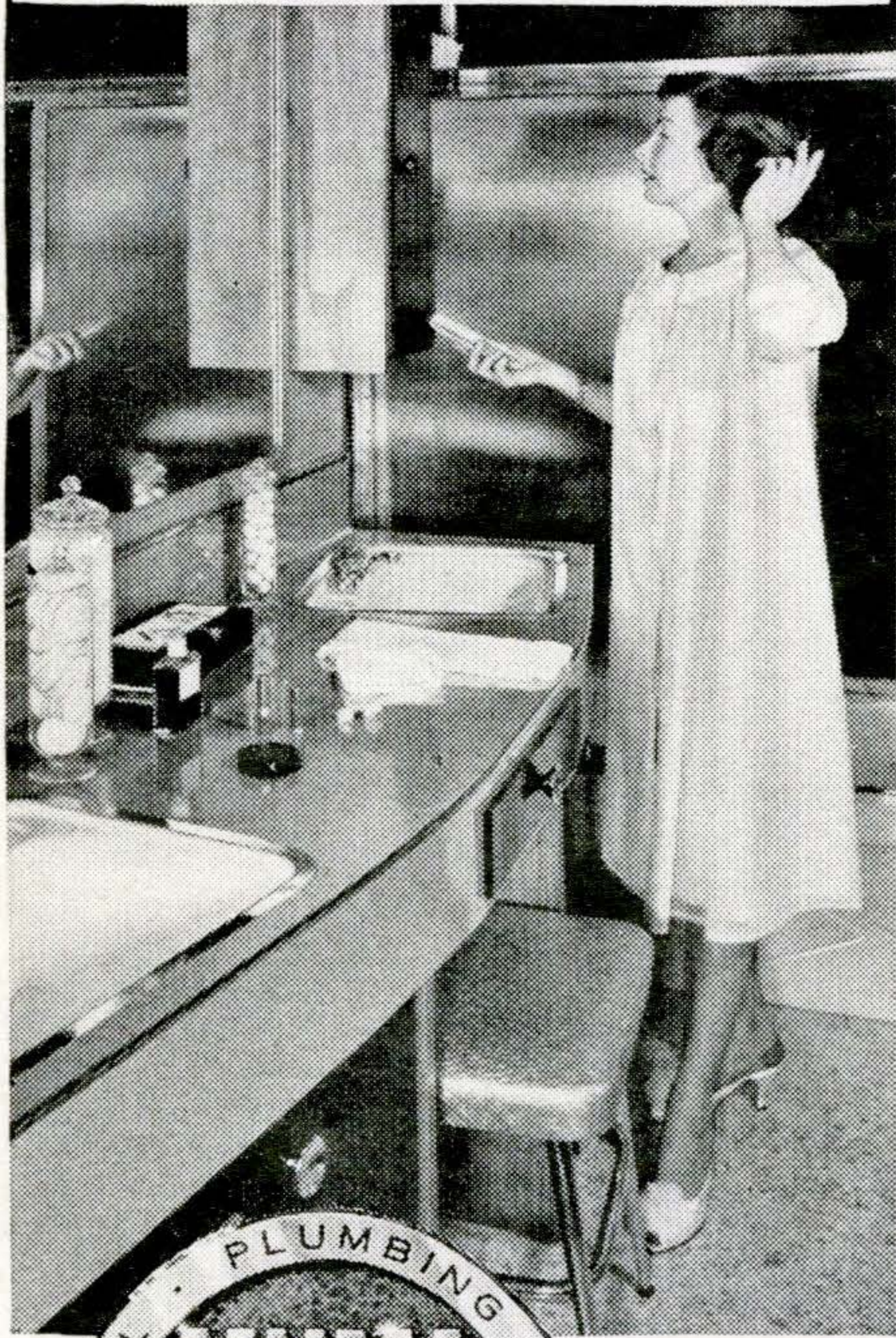
A rival's ultimatum

AT 13 he ran away from home, turned hobo and eventually made his way to Alaska. At 18—tough, gangling, ignorant, repressed—he met Kitty O'Brien, a full-fledged, shopworn saloon hustler of 36. Kitty took him in, nursed him through an attack of pneumonia, and shared her bed and earnings with him. Then, one cold night in 1909, a man named Charlie Dahmer announced that he was replacing Stroud in Kitty's scheme of life. Dahmer, a Russian-born rough-and-tumble fighter of note, also gave her a savage beating to dissuade her from any sentimental reservations.

"Kill him," said Kitty when Stroud came back to their furnished room. Charlie Dahmer's fate—and Stroud's—was sealed in that moment. Stroud stared at Kitty's blackened eyes, reached into a drawer in which she kept a .38-caliber pistol, walked down the street and bought a box of cartridges. Dahmer's shack was empty. Stroud waited inside, and when Dahmer got home, Stroud shot him dead. Then he walked to the U.S. marshal's office and turned himself in. To save Kitty standing trial as his accomplice, he pleaded guilty to manslaughter.

"From my sixth year," Stroud has written, "I have never had any fear of death, probably because most of my life has been so miserable." But if freedom was misery, McNeil Island near Tacoma was worse. Prisoners wore stripes, the silence system (no talking at meals or at work) was

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BROTHER Marcus, now sales executive, lives in Sacramento, Calif.



MOTHER, supported by Stroud from sales of birds, died in 1938.

STROUD CONTINUED

enforced, and inmates were often handcuffed to their cell doors as punishment. Stroud had expected a light sentence but had got the maximum term allowed by statute: 12 years. He was a recalcitrant and bitter prisoner. When a stool pigeon reported him for stealing food, he jammed a kitchen knife into the man, lost his chance of parole and was shipped off to Leavenworth, the "tough joint" on the Kansas prairie.

Leavenworth's knife-packing prisoners lived by a jungle law of their own. Its guards enforced a harsh but uneasy discipline by recourse to "snitches," the "hole," the 25-pound ball and chain, and hardwood clubs which were mandatory equipment on duty. Stroud endured the dismal prison routine, endless meals of "Billygoat stew" and the painful beginnings of Bright's disease without complaint, although he wrote "mother darling" that he thought of "ending it all." But on Saturday, March 25, 1916—seven years after he began his sentence—he came back to his cell and found something which made his "breast chock up with emotion." It was a basket of fruit from his brother Marc, who had come all the way from Alaska to see him and had been turned away because of a ban on weekend visitors.

Marc proposed to call again in a few days. Stroud, nevertheless, burned with resentment, and that night at supper he muttered indignantly to the man beside him. This was a clear violation of the silence system. Guard Andrew F. Turner, a muscular, bespectacled Arkansan, was standing immediately behind him and instantly called, "Give me your number." Stroud froze, but dutifully intoned: "Eight one five four." His visiting privileges, he knew, would be withdrawn if the guard reported him to the warden, and Stroud spent a sleepless night.

As Turner passed in the mess hall at noon the next day, Stroud raised his hand and when the guard nodded, rose and demanded, "Turner, did you shoot me?"—i.e., report me. The conversation was virtually lost in the clatter of dishes and the sound of the prison brass band at the end of the big hall playing a song entitled *In Paradise*. The men faced each other for a few seconds. Then, according to a witness, Stroud "with a sinuous and undulating motion" pulled a knife from the lining of his blue dress coat and thrust it into Turner's chest "two and a half inches from center." Blood gushed from the guard's mouth and nose, and while 1,100 startled convicts stared in fascination, he toppled, dying, to the floor.

'Lack of news'

DEAR FATHER, Stroud wrote thereafter, "I will drop you a few lines . . . Things have been somewhat upset here for me of late— March 26 I got up from the table at the noon meal and had a littel talk with the guard who was standing in the aisle— The guard took sick and died all of a sudden—He died of heart trouble—I guess you would call it a puncture of the heart—Anyhow there was a knife hole in it—They are holding me for murder—My case goes before the grand jury next Wensday and I shall try to get a trial at once. I have never give any reason for doing it so they won't have much to work on only that I killed him and that won't do much good for I will admit that— Well, father, I will have to close for lack of news. Your loving son. R. F. Stroud."

Stroud was encouraged to write to anyone he wished. None of his letters left the prison. Each was extracted from the prison mail, opened, and filed away to be used against him. Before and during his three trials, which extended over three years, the government took many other extraordinary measures to ensure his execution. One judge ruled that the testimony of a convicted criminal was inadmissible. This denied the defense any case at all, but the prosecution utilized the ruling handsomely by handing seven prisoners unconditional pardons for taking the stand against Stroud. In two trials the defense

CONTINUED

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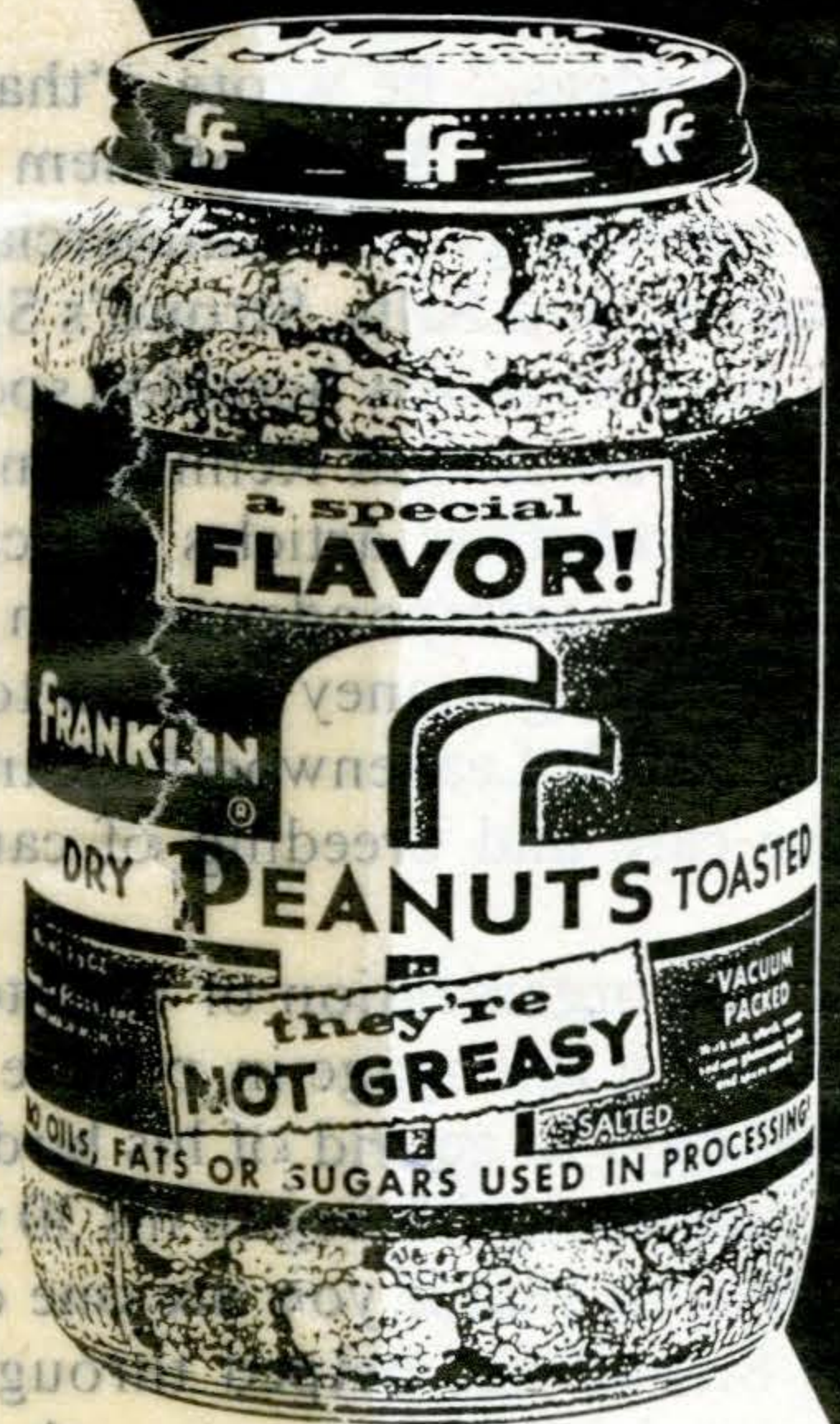
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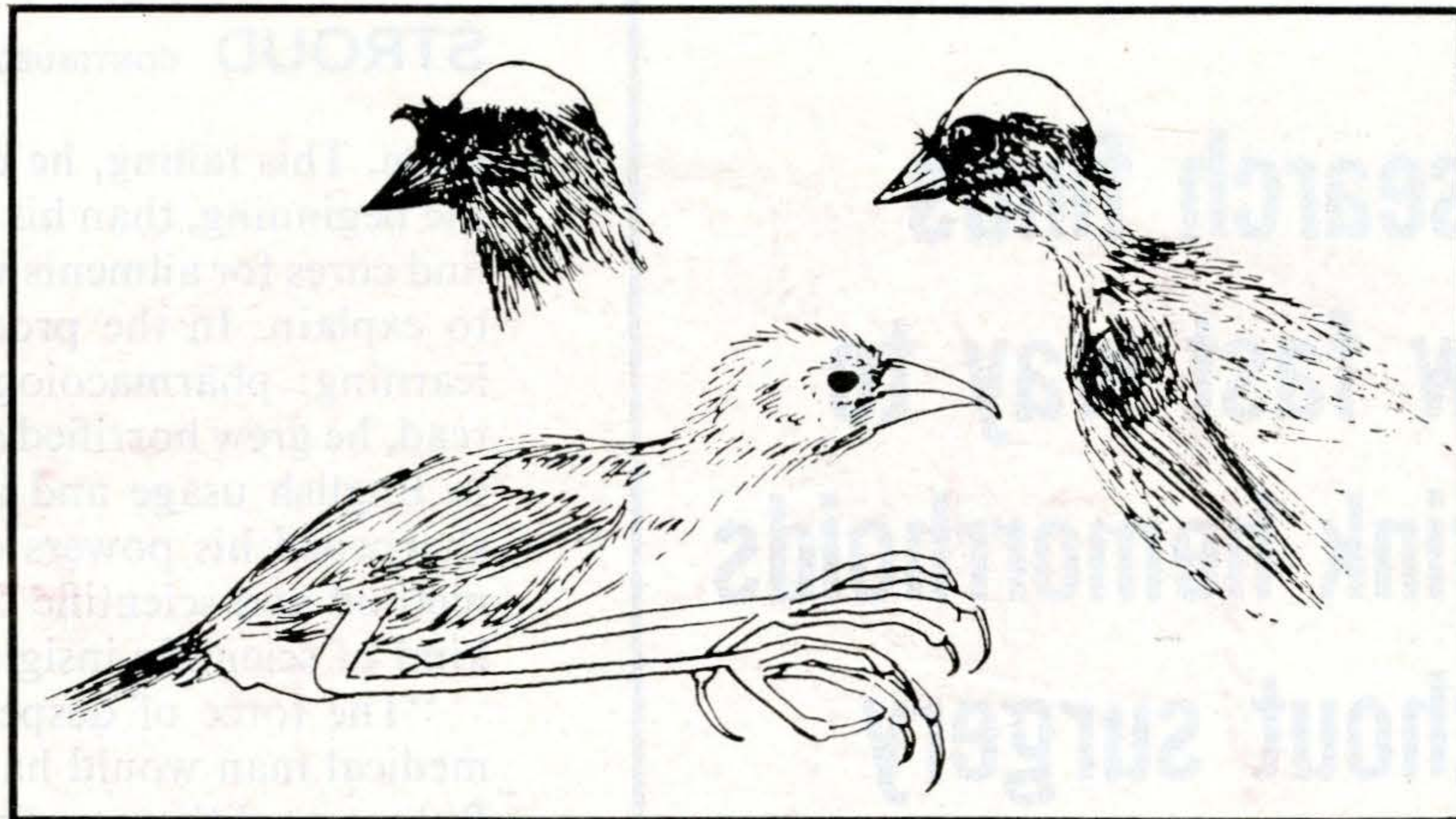
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DRAWINGS BY STROUD, among 240 which he made for his *Digest*, showed canary suffering from baldness (top), molt (right), rickets (bottom).

STROUD CONTINUED

did manage to elicit scraps of testimony that Guard Turner was a tough screw who believed Stroud was "dogeyeing" him and needed "a club wore out on his head." But the defense was barely able to suggest a rumor which, true or false, every convict believed: that Turner had been transferred from Atlanta to Leavenworth because he had clubbed a prisoner to death. (This rumor, it should be added, is vehemently denied by Turner's widow, who still lives, still clips news articles about Stroud, and still believes the man who caused her to raise two sons in poverty has gone too long unchanged.)

Each trial, however, really turned on a more important question: had Turner raised his club to hit Stroud over the head before he was stabbed? The defense insisted he had. But three Kansas juries decided not—perhaps because they were unable to disbelieve John M. Purcell, captain of the guards. Purcell testified that Turner had held his club tucked between his left arm and his body at the moment Stroud knifed him. He went on to tell how "Mr. Turner then turned deathly pale and wavered and raised his right hand a little [to signal Purcell] and then reached around with it to get the club . . . and got it out . . ." and how "Stroud grabbed at the club . . . and looked Mr. Turner right in the eye . . ." and finally how "Mr. Turner tipped forward . . . and pitched down on his face in the aisle."

Stroud appealed after his first trial (the judge had neglected to inform the jury that it could specify a life sentence if it wished), stubbornly appealed after the second (although the jury *had* specified a life sentence), and after the third trial was sentenced to be hanged. But seven days before the execution date Leavenworth resounded to a dull, rhythmic and triumphant sound—convicts pounding in unison on bars and pipes. Woodrow Wilson had commuted Stroud's death sentence to life imprisonment.

A cramped new world

THUS, at 30, Stroud found himself inhabiting a world precisely 12 feet long and six feet wide. His bare, roughly plastered "segregation" cell contained a cot, a toilet, a washbowl and assorted resident cockroaches. A dim 25-watt electric light dangled from a cord in the ceiling. A small, barred window admitted daylight at one end. Stroud seemed relieved to find himself there.

His mother, who had moved to Kansas, had spent her life savings in "my Robbie's" defense and had won him the presidential commutation, did her best to have him removed from solitary and transferred to Atlanta. Stroud refused any part of the scheme—he was coldly certain some stool pigeon would try to kill him. He was also becoming aware, through extension courses in mathematics and astronomy, that he was the possessor of an unusual intellect, and he had begun to believe it might be the key with which he could re-enter the world of men.

Two newly hatched sparrows shortly lent feverish purpose to his monastic existence. He picked them up under a broken branch in the prison yard (to which he was admitted alone for exercise periods), took them to his cell, raised them and taught them tricks. At a signal, they would roll over on his cot and play dead. He started raising canaries and then, with his mother's assistance, sold them on the outside. The rotting idleness of a lifetime—or even a year—in solitary has driven many men to madness, but Stroud found himself working and studying 14, 16, even 20 hours a day. Keeping even a few birds in a cell taxed all his ingenuity. He was forced, at first, to collect bugs and flies simply to feed them. But eventually, with the somewhat indifferent sanction of the authorities, he had 300 canaries in an airy complex of cages hand built from sliced-up cigar boxes. Eventually, too, he had almost a half ton of scientific equipment jammed into his cell.

When birds fell sick he struggled, often unsuccessfully, to cure

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STROUD CONTINUED

them. This failing, he dissected them—with no more instruments, in the beginning, than his fingernails—and attempted to understand and find cures for ailments which his government handbooks did not seem to explain. In the process he soaked up enormous drafts of book-learning: pharmacology, chemistry, medicine, bacteriology. As he read, he grew horrified at his own semi-illiteracy and crammed courses in English usage and syntax. Living with his birds 24 hours a day sharpened his powers of observation, and as he strove for scientific method and scientific detachment, he began discovering in himself a kind of scientific insight.

"The force of desperation produced ideas," he wrote, "that any medical man would have pronounced absurd." Many of them were. But many of them worked. He began marketing them commercially as well as his canaries. Stroud's Effervescent Bird Salts, Stroud's Special Prescription and Stroud's Salts No. 1 became widely heralded specifics for diseases of birds. Stroud accumulated an ancient Remington typewriter, learned to use it, and wrote numberless articles for canary journals. Simultaneously he maintained a correspondence with 2,000 owners and breeders. By 1930 he was making money enough to support his mother, and Robert Stroud, Box 7, Leavenworth, Kan. was America's supreme authority on the care and breeding of canaries and other caged birds.

In 1931, however, as a prelude to the organization of a system of prison industries, convicts were forbidden to engage in private business of any kind. Stroud was given 60 days to get rid of his birds. He put a piece of paper in his typewriter and forthwith began his 30 years' war with the federal government. "I know that if you are one of the thousands of bird breeders Robert Stroud has helped through the years," he wrote, "you will be interested in this letter . . . the man who bends low over his typewriter every night until 3 . . . to help you . . . is himself a bird in a cage, a convict serving a life sentence in solitary confinement. . . ." He went on to explain that a heartless bureaucracy was about to rob him of his canaries.

The cult of the canary has been superseded today by what might be described as palship with parakeets, but it was a vehement freemasonry in the 1920s and early 1930s and most of its votaries seemed incapable of believing ill of a man who loved a bird. One zealot, a dumpy, middle-aged widow named Della May Jones, smuggled Stroud's letter out of the prison and had thousands of copies sent to bird fanciers across the country. The repercussions were astounding.

The bureau retreats

BIRD lovers hurried to newspapers in covets and sat down by aroused brigades to write to Washington. One hundred congressmen descended upon the hapless reformers in the new bureau of prisons. In the face of this uproar the bureau hastily took a new tack: Stroud, it announced, would be allowed to keep his birds if he would agree to turn his profits over to a fund for prisoners and accept a salary from the prison system for extra duties performed. "Socialism!" cried Stroud, and refused. James V. Bennett, at that time 37 and a newly appointed assistant director of the bureau, was then dispatched to Leavenworth to negotiate directly with the prisoner. Stroud flatly refused to cooperate with him. Eventually, to its hideous embarrassment, the prison system was forced into a long list of concessions: Stroud was given two cells with a connecting door, new laboratory equipment, new spectacles and new electrical outlets. To rationalize these privileges with the new rules regarding ordinary inmates Stroud was categorized as a special prisoner of the bureau.

The war, however, had only begun. Stroud's correspondence was soon cut to two letters a week. He was forbidden to contribute to magazines. He responded by writing messages in onion juice (which became legible when pressed with a hot iron) and slipping them past the prison censors in hollowed-out sections of the cages in which he shipped his birds. When the prison grapevine informed him that he was one of the "incorrigibles" who were shortly to be gathered from federal penal institutions and salted away in the new penitentiary at Alcatraz, he began casting around for some method of making himself too noticeable to move. After reading an old law book from the prison library Stroud decided that the Treaty of Paris, in 1803, had granted inhabitants of the Louisiana Purchase (which included Kansas) the right to marry by simply signing a contract. A few days before Leavenworth's hard cases were due for transfer, Della May Jones showed up at the Kansas City *Star* with a document typed out by Stroud and a story which soon blossomed in newspapers from coast to coast. She and Robert, she announced, had become man and wife.

The trick worked, although Stroud paid for his audacity. His jailers, with his mother's encouragement, ruled that he could never see Della May again. Meanwhile they filed the whole embarrassing incident away under unfinished business. In his own mind, Stroud had

simply been defending a God-given right to be a "self-respecting human being." But the executives of the prison bureau saw it as a cunning and vindictive assault on their personal authority and on the precarious balance of penal discipline. Nine more years passed, nevertheless, before Stroud was sent to The Rock. He utilized them in the fierce hope of leaving some imprint of greatness on the world, by writing *Stroud's Digest of the Diseases of Birds*.



LAWYER Stanley Furman became interested in the Stroud case in 1955, has represented prisoner thus far without fee.

A great many of Stroud's remedies are now outmoded by antibiotics. But the *Digest* is more than a text on avian therapeutics: it is also a reflection of its author's strange and indomitable personality and a record of his long, painful and triumphant exploration of the world of the intellect. Stroud tried to write "in language no 10-year-old child could fail to understand," and for all the complex nature of his subject he contrived to inject innumerable patches of homely observation. "Unlike mammals," he noted in his first paragraph, "birds have air cavities in the principal bones . . . and there are cases . . . of birds breathing through a broken wing bone while their heads were entirely submerged in water." Mosquitoes, he wrote, often attack the feet of birds at night. "Old birds will flutter to the floor where they protect their feet by sitting on them. But young birds are afraid to leave the perch and [simply] kick with [one] free foot; it sounds something like two dots—dash—two dots as sounded on a telegraph instrument."

The bulk of the book, however, mirrors the author's self-taught science, fantastic patience and ornithological insights. While writing it, Stroud taught himself to use an old microscope donated to him in 1936 by Wesleyan University, and over a period of two years, using only a razor blade and scraps of glass and metal, he constructed a microtome capable of slicing tissue to 1/12,000 of an inch. He experimented with 65 staining techniques—and then, simply to produce one 13-page chapter on the blood of birds, spent 3,000 hours at the eyepiece and his drawing board. His jailers were not impressed. Bennett, who had by now become director and was therefore ultimately responsible for Stroud, gave reluctant consent to the book's publication. But in 1942 he ordered that Stroud be moved, at last, to Alcatraz, taking nothing but the clothes on his back.

It was at this point, in the minds of Stroud's increasing number of defenders, that he became subject to cruel and unusual punishment. Guard-killer or not, he was now 52 years old, was partially crippled by disease, and had—no matter what suspicions his jailers may have entertained about him—spent 20 years attempting to be of some use to the world. Few partisans in the Stroud case deny that he may well have driven officialdom at Leavenworth to distraction. But even if transfer was necessary, they demand, why Alcatraz, and why the insistence on solitary far into Stroud's old age?

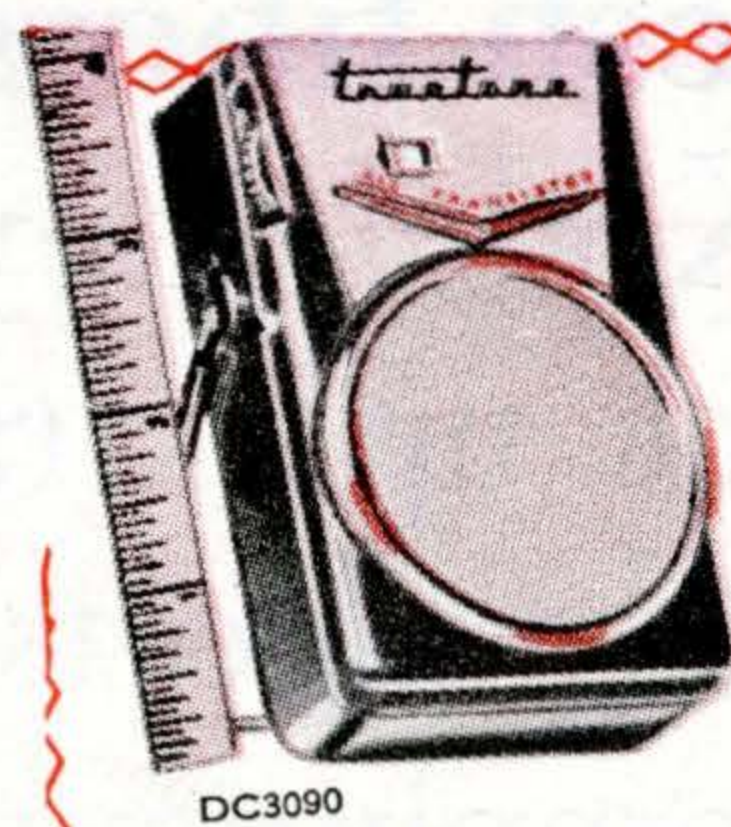
Bennett explains that Stroud, while cultivating a reassuring image of himself in the public mind, actually never ceased being an unruly, even dangerous prisoner at Leavenworth and brought about his own downfall by secreting a knife in his cell. Bennett sometimes displays this weapon to visitors in his office. On one occasion, according to an article by Herbert Corey in *Nation's Business*, he charged that Stroud had manufactured it from a file "for the express purpose of killing me." But even though Stroud has admitted hiding a knife in 1942 (passed to him, he insists, by a stool pigeon bent on providing officials with an excuse for his banishment), the accusation has a curious ring. From 1930 on, Stroud was allowed to possess a veritable arsenal—scalpels, scissors, ice pick, chisels, claw hammers—and it is hard to understand why he would have needed additional armament if he really contemplated mayhem or murder. In attempting to plumb this mystery one must consider one other odd fact—Bennett recently told a reporter (who was discussing another matter) that Stroud was sent to Alcatraz "because he was a nuisance, not because he was a menace," and added, "We do it all the time."



AUTHOR Tom Gaddis, a former probation officer, devoted five years of his life to write his book, *Birdman of Alcatraz*.

Continued from page 150

CONTINUED



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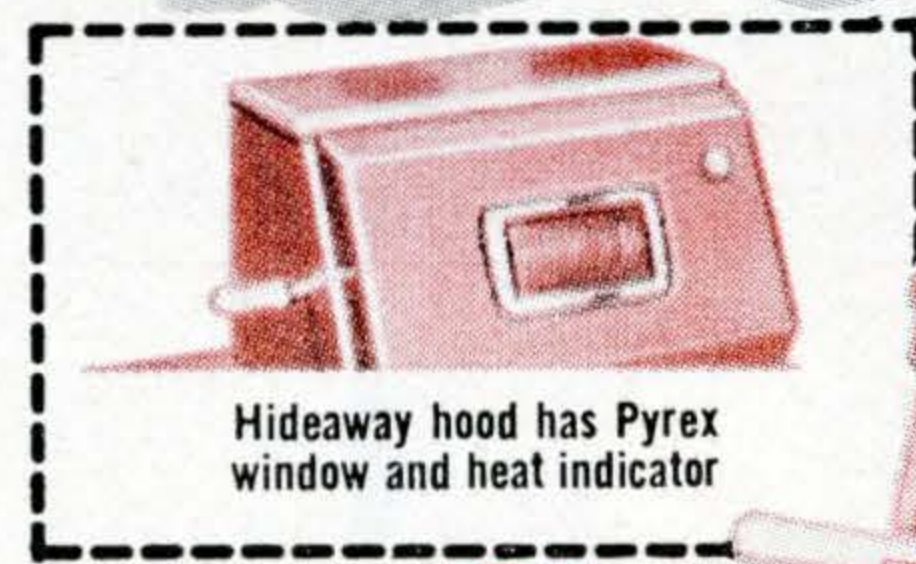


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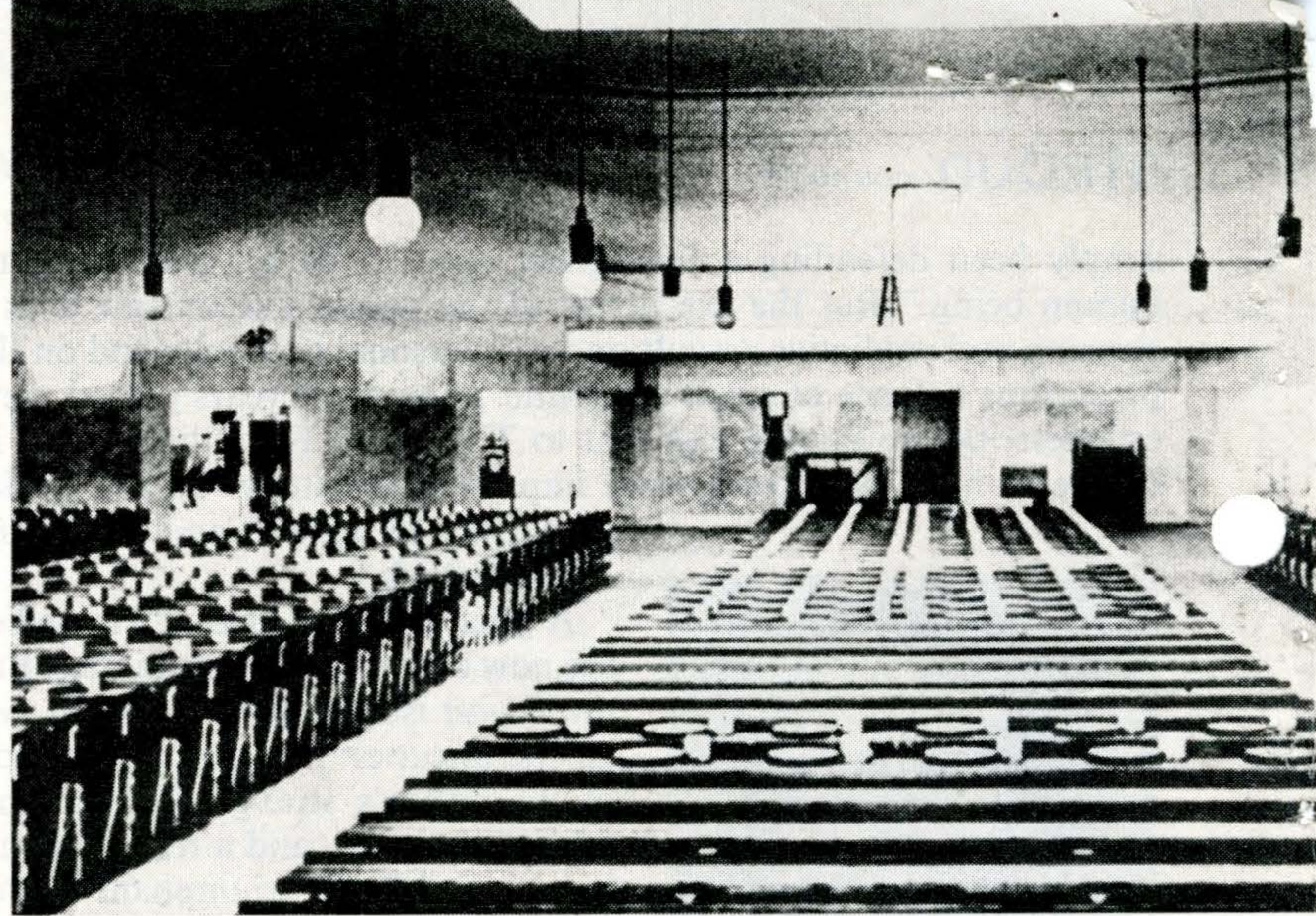
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STROUD CONTINUED

At Alcatraz, despairing of clemency and forgotten by the world, Stroud was hard put to cope with loneliness and the loss of his work and equipment. Most of his time on The Rock was spent alone in a room the prison bureau has described as "a large, well-lighted and ventilated ward in the prison hospital." The room contained no furniture except two beds, had no washbowl, no toilet, and was ventilated only because Stroud managed to break a piece out of its heavy, barred window with his tin cup. He was locked into the room behind bars and a heavy wooden door for eight years, and he left it under guard only long enough to empty his bedpan once a day and take a shower once a week. He had no newspapers and no radio and was allowed to possess only one library book at a time. To stave off madness he began making detailed nightly lists of "things to do tomorrow." He started teaching himself Latin, French, Italian and criminal law, and simultaneously began a two-volume, 200,000-word work on caged men—an analytical study of the federal penal system from 1790 to 1930—to match his work on caged birds.

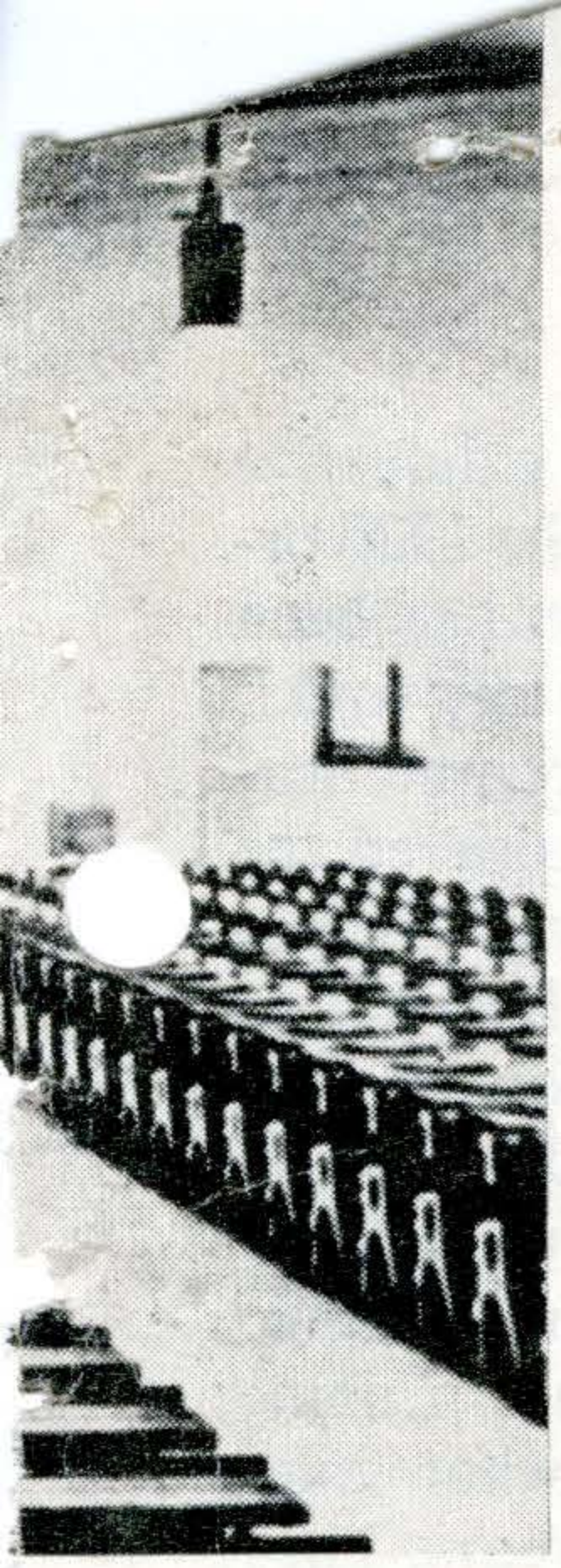
He toiled over the book for years, drawing on his own immense knowledge of old prisons and old wardens, the chilling fables and folk tales of imprisoned men, and unabashed personal theories of penology he had developed over many decades. To prepare the final manuscript for publication, since his arthritic handwriting was all but illegible, he printed all 200,000 words by hand, using an old breadboard as a desk and a length of stretched string as a line guide. He had always considered himself the intellectual superior of his old nemesis, Bennett. Now, with nothing but his own ego to sustain him, he grew certain that he was a better theoretical penologist as well, and was in prison only because Bennett did not "dare" to let him out.

Stroud had definite theories on penology: "My system would not be a soft system . . . but there would always be opportunities and advantages to be gained by developing good habits. . . ." As he was finishing his book, he wrote in a letter: "For dramatic writing when I am at my best, I do not have to take a back seat from anyone who ever lived. . . . The secret is total memory . . . I can quote poetry for 12 hours without repeating myself. [This book] will be so far ahead of everything else on the subject that there will be no comparison. But . . . death may be the price tag. . . ."

Convinced that he had produced a masterpiece but fearful that prison authorities would never allow its publication, Stroud attempted one last, awful act of defiance. He wrote a will on onion skin paper, directing the courts to deliver his book to an old friend. Then, believing an autopsy would be done on his body, he slipped the will into a thin metal tube, swallowed it, gulped down a handful of pills he had been secreting, and lay down on his bed to die. He woke up in a strait jacket. His stomach had been pumped, the will had been recovered—and his manuscript was gone. He never saw it again, and to this day neither Bennett nor anyone else in the prison system has given the slightest hint as to whether or not it still exists.

Just what disappointment, loneliness and the self-consuming effects of solitary did to Stroud in the ensuing months would be hard to say. But then, like a miner buried amid the rubble of a cave-in, he became aware that rescue parties were trying, at last, to aid him from the outside. Both his spirits and his confidence revived.

Author Tom Gaddis, at that time a Los Angeles probation officer, and a Beverly Hills real estate lawyer named Stanley Furman were among the first and most important of these self-appointed defenders. Gaddis heard of Stroud in 1950 while chatting with some reporters. He looked up Stroud's brother, read what he could find about the case and became so emotionally involved in the prisoner's plight that he quit his job and began writing *Birdman of Alcatraz*. Attorney Furman, disturbed by what he considered a distortion of



MURDER SCENE was the dining hall at Leavenworth (*left*) in which Stroud knifed a guard named Andrew Turner. The guards patrolled between long tables where the convicts ate. Stroud's victim is shown at right in formal attire on day he was married in 1908.



American justice, called at Alcatraz in 1955, became Stroud's counsel, and spoke so sharply that his client was granted three astounding concessions: a toilet, a washbowl and the right to open the wooden door behind which he had been sealed for almost a decade.

Gaddis cut the prisoner in on the profits to accrue from his book, although he and his family had endured periods of real poverty during the five years he worked on it. Furman and Gaddis organized a Release Committee which now numbers such influential citizens as Author Arthur Koestler, Motion Picture Producer Walter Wanger and Penologist Dr. Negley Teeters. Furman also set up a defense fund, which has drawn contributions from all over the world, and drew up a petition for executive clemency—which the Justice Department refused to forward to the White House since, it ironically explained, Stroud was eligible for parole. But it was Stroud himself, basking again in the delicious warmth of publicity and once more captain of his soul, who developed the judicial weapon upon which the defense now bases its fondest hopes.

When Stroud's lawyers appealed his death sentence back in 1918, they based their argument upon that provision of the Fifth Amendment which reads "nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb. . . ." This is normally interpreted to mean that no defendant, having been found innocent, may be tried again for the same capital offense. Stroud's defense, however, took a different tack, and maintained that he had been subject to double jeopardy even though guilty. Why? One jury had specified hanging after a previous jury had forbidden capital punishment. The appeal was rejected by the Supreme Court. But in 1957—38 years later—the court considered another case involving this rare interpretation of double jeopardy. And this time—*Green vs. U.S.*—it found for the defendant.

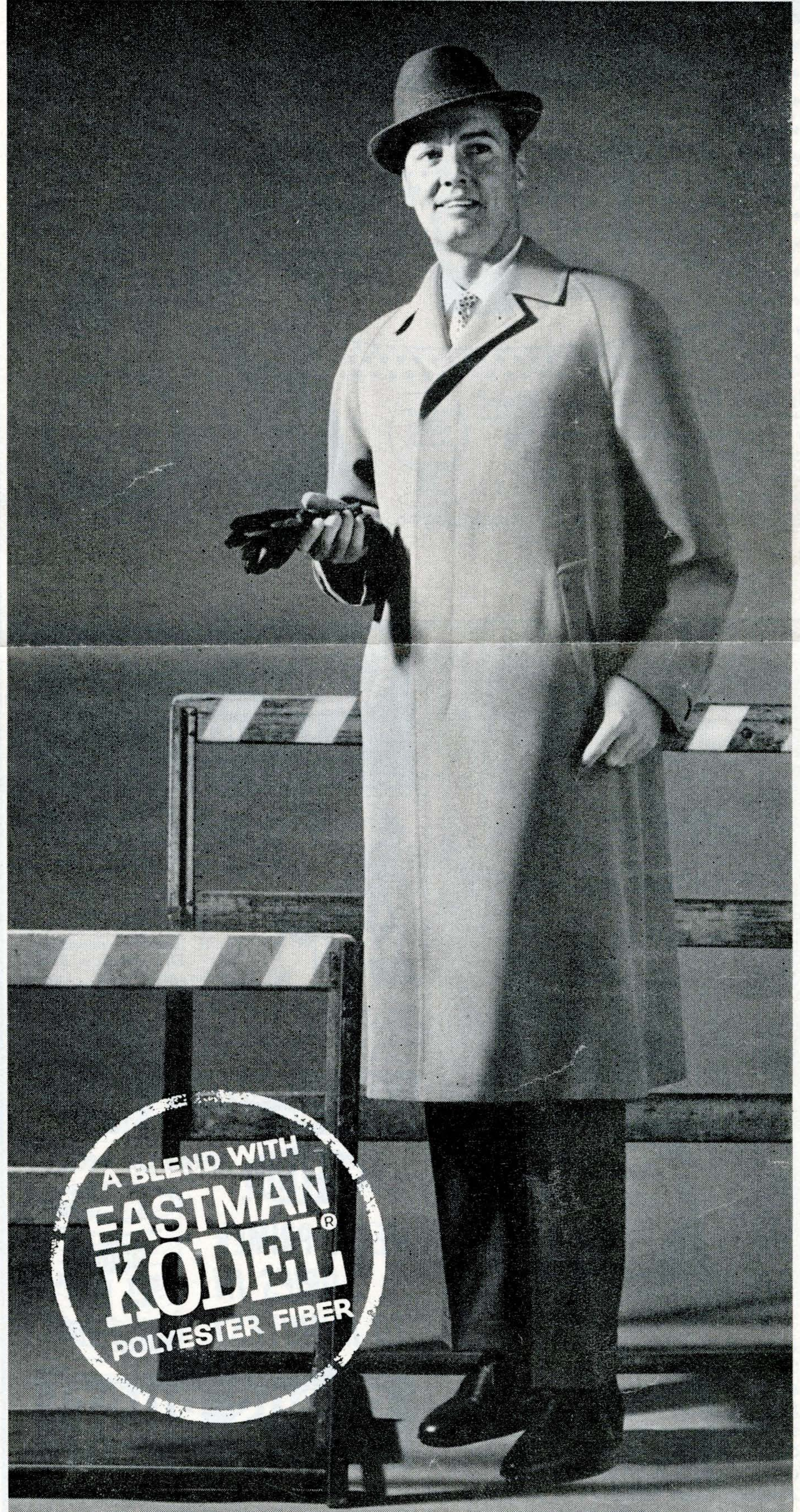
Stroud writes his own petition

STRoud asked me to come to Alcatraz," says Furman, "and as soon as he saw me he said, 'I'm out! The Supreme Court reversed itself in the Green case!' I had to ask him, 'What's the Green case?' I hadn't even heard of it, but he'd gotten all the details, somehow, on the prison grapevine and he had immediately seen its implications. In fact, he told me just about what Mr. Justice Frankfurter said, as I discovered later, in dissenting: that the court could not rule for Green without reopening the Stroud case. Bob wanted to write his own petition for habeas corpus. He's a good guardhouse lawyer and I told him by all means to go ahead. It took him six months, partly because they refused to let him have more than one law book at a time, and partly because he had to learn a lot of new law to develop his thesis. But when it was done I could see no way of improving it. In fact, I was enormously impressed by his logic and his language."

Since Stroud was a prisoner in Alcatraz, it would have been logical enough to have filed the petition in the U.S. District Court in San Francisco. Stroud, however, insisted that it be sent to a federal court in Kansas where he had been tried originally. Both this point of strategy and the reasoning and language of the petition itself would seem to refute Bennett's contention that "the old man is getting senile." Cries Furman, "Like a fox! I would have represented him here in California, but Bob preferred to go before a judge in Kansas as a pauper. 'Judges here don't know me,' he told me, 'but a Kansas judge will remember the Stroud case. He'll feel it is more important than a San Francisco judge. He'll appoint good lawyers for me—in fact, he'll probably appoint his best friends and he'll listen to them.'"

As it turned out, U.S. District Judge Walter A. Huxman of Kansas could hardly have treated Stroud with more consideration. He ruled against the petition [since only the Supreme Court—which will automatically review it later—can reverse itself], but he congratulated the

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prisoner for "much logic and sound reasoning . . . in an exhaustive and able brief." He also noted that "in the court's view" the 1920 order of the Attorney General specifying solitary confinement had been illegal, "an unwarranted assumption of power and . . . wholly void."

By the time he ruled, however, this last point had become academic. Last July, four months before Judge Huxman considered the petition, Stroud was finally taken out of Alcatraz and moved to comfortable living quarters in a wing of the federal prison hospital at Springfield, Mo. In the intervening months he has been allowed more freedom than he has known since the night he was arrested in Juneau a half century ago. One can only guess whether Bennett's decision to remove him from solitary was simply prudent anticipation of public censure or whether it sprang from some deeper sense of concern, some readjustment of values. One can only wonder, in fact, what jailer and prisoner have truly come to think of each other in 30 years. They are not only old antagonists who have come to know each other's every facet of mind—but old acquaintances, too. During Stroud's years at Alcatraz, Bennett seldom visited the prison without calling on "old Bob" and asking after his health. Stroud received him politely. "Never in my life have I hated anyone so much that I was not willing to forgive or forget," he wrote recently, ". . . although I never accept anyone on faith and am convinced that the issue [between us] is bigger than any personal feelings we may have in the matter. . . ."

Whatever prompted his transfer, however, Stroud has reacted with an almost childish wonder and delight to his new life. "I have my own room," he wrote to Furman, "and it is one of the nicest and coolest. It has two big windows. I have my own toilet, bath and lavatory and get hot water in one minute, day or night. It is like a new world. Imagine how it feels to me to be able to sleep without a door being locked on me, to talk to whom I please, and, if I want to be alone, to be able to close my door without being disturbed. I can give you the tone of the place by telling you that a guard just stepped up to my door and said, 'Do you mind, sir, if I look out your window for a moment?' I have some men working on the yard and I know some of them want to watch the ball game on TV." Imagine that after what I have seen.

"I probably walk three miles a day and the yard is a beautiful park of five acres or more. I've met many old friends. The head nurse has read much of me and had been anxious to meet me and my physician, Dr. Hoversten, told one party that I am the most amazing man he ever interviewed. I have been told that my I.Q. is 139. If I had no hope for greater things, I know I could live just as happy and satisfactory a life here as anywhere on earth."

But Stroud still burns to get out because "accomplishment is the only reason for living." What if all his hopes fail?—his petition, his hope for spreading public sympathy, and perhaps even some eventual award of damages by Congress? He replies in Italian with a quotation from the oath once administered to Athenian soldiers: "*Combatterò per esse, solo o con tutti.*" "I have translated this," he wrote Lawyer Furman, "as follows: 'I will fight to the death for them, too, either with all of you at my side, or alone, singlehanded against all of you.'"



LATEST PHOTOGRAPH OF STROUD (center) was made last November as he was taken to federal court in Kansas for habeas corpus hearing.

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