

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES IN THE REGIONS...

August 2010

A MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Final Commitment?

On August 9, 1969, news of the murder of actress Sharon Tate and four other occupants of a house rented by film director Roman Polanski became public. Investigation of this gruesome act, the latest but not the last in a string of vicious crimes in the Los Angeles area, eventually led authorities to the "Manson Family." The Family was a group of drifters, young men and women who had fallen under the influence of a sociopath and career criminal named Charles Manson. The grisly nature of the crimes, and Manson's fringe association with the pop culture of the 1960s, propelled the resulting trials to national attention. At the trial several Family members were convicted and given the death sentence. Manson himself was convicted of murder and conspiracy and likewise sentenced to death, a sentence later commuted to life imprisonment.

Manson had most recently been released from prison on Terminal Island, California, in March 1967, where he had been serving a sentence for cashing a forged Treasury check. At that point, at age 32, he had spent over half of his life in prisons, jails, and youth detention centers. His various offenses included burglary, car theft, and violating the Mann Act.

But nearly two decades earlier, his criminal habits had already been established. At the age of 13, after youthful convictions for theft and escape from juvenile centers, he was sent to the Indiana School for Boys. In early 1951, after many

United States District Court
FOR THE
DISTRICT OF UTAH

Commissioner's Docket No. L# _____
Case No. 1788

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
v
Charles Manson,
Wiley Senteney, and
Oran Rust

FINAL COMMITMENT
of
Charles Manson

To: The United States Marshal of the _____ District of _____ Utah _____;
You are hereby commanded to take the custody of the above named defendant and to commit him with a certified copy of this commitment to the custodian of a place of confinement within the _____ District of _____ Utah _____ approved by the Attorney General of the United States where the defendant shall be received and safely kept until discharged in due course of law. The above named defendant was arrested upon the complaint of _____ Guy H. Inman, _____ FBI (Dist. of Indiana) _____ charging that on or about _____ Feb. 13 _____, 1951, _____ in the _____ Southern _____ District of _____ Indiana _____, the defendant did transport a stolen motor vehicle from Terre Haute, Indiana, to Beaver, Utah, knowing it to have been stolen _____
FEB 26 1951
in violation of U.S.C. Title 18, Section 2312 _____ V. P. Anderson, Clerk, _____ and he, (having duly waived preliminary examination before me on _____ 2-26 _____, 19 51) (after examination by me on _____ 19 _____, where it appeared that there is probable cause to believe that the offense so charged has been committed and that he has committed it*), has been directed to furnish bond in the sum of \$2500. _____ dollars (\$ _____) for his appearance in the United States District Court for the _____ District of _____ Utah _____ at Salt Lake City _____ in accordance with all orders and directions of the court relative to his appearance before the court, and he has failed to do so.
Dated: _____ Edward M. Garnett _____ United States Commissioner.
Feb. 26, _____, 19 51

RETURN
Received this commitment and designated prisoner on _____ February 26, _____, 19 51, and on February 26, _____, 19 51, committed him to the Salt Lake County Jail _____, and left with the custodian at the same time a certified copy of this commitment.
Dated: _____ William Treseder _____ United States Marshal.
_____ February 26, _____, 19 51. _____ District of Utah _____ BY _____ Deputy

failed attempts, he again escaped confinement, along with two other boys. They stole a 1950 Studebaker sedan in Terre Haute, and burglarizing gas stations along the way, fled towards California. Their spree ended when they were apprehended near Beaver, Utah, 200 miles south of Salt Lake City.

This document comes from the District Court case file relating to the prosecution of 16-year-old Manson and his two accomplices, Wiley Senteney and Oran Rust (Commissioner's case #1788, District of Utah criminal case file #16052). The file includes separate arrest warrants and indictments for the three defendants for violation of the Dyer Act (interstate transportation of a stolen vehicle), removal orders to the District Court's Southern District of Indiana at Indianapolis, and this document, the final commitment. Upon conviction, Manson was sent to the National Training School for Boys in Washington, DC. However, this was far from the "final commitment" of Charles Manson. His career in crime escalated, culminating in the horrific events in California committed by him and his "Family." This item from a 1951 Utah car theft case is but one piece documenting the long criminal biography of one of America's most notorious felons.

Left: Final Commitment of Charles Manson, February 26, 1951, RG 21, Courtesy of National Archives at Denver.

NARA WestCoast August 2010

A press operator sitting next to a coin press
in San Francisco, circa 1873.
Record Group 104
Courtesy of National Archives at San Francisco



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

San Bruno, CA
**Perserving Your
History**
9 A.M.
Workshop and Tour
Genealogists
650-238-3488

The National
Archives at

Riverside
951-956-2000
riverside.archives@nara.gov

San Francisco
650-238-3501
sanbruno.archives@nara.gov

Denver
303-407-5740 denver.
archives@nara.gov

Seattle
206-336-5115
seattle.archives@nara.gov

Anchorage
907-261-7800
alaska.archives@nara.gov

NARA EastCoast August 2010

Farm families purchasing goods from rolling store near Murray, Kentucky, 1939
Record Group 142
Courtesy of National Archives at Atlanta



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	Turner Falls, MA Beginning Your Genealogy at the National Archives 6 P.M. Lecture Genealogists 413-236-3604	Boston, MA Introduction to Genealogy 2 P.M. Lecture and Tour Genealogists 866-406-2379	Pittsfield, MA Researching African American Ancestry 6 P.M. Workshop Genealogists 413-236-3600	Pittsfield, MA Researching Polish Ancestry 10 A.M. Workshop Genealogists 413-236-3600	Philadelphia, PA First Friday Genealogy Open House Noon Genealogists 215-606-0100 Atlanta, GA Society for American Baseball Research (SABR) 9 A.M. Conference General Public 770-968-2530		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Exhibit: Philadelphia, PA "Stand Up and Be Counted!" Ongoing				Pittsfield, MA Researching Irish Ancestry 10 A.M. Workshop Genealogists 413-236-3600 Washington, DC Society of American Archivists 10:30 A.M. Conference Archival and Allied Professionals 866-840-1752		Pittsfield, MA Using Federal Census Records 11 A.M. General Public Genealogists 413-236-3600	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
Exhibit: Boston, MA "Presidential Signatures at Boston" Ongoing			Pittsfield, MA Exploring the 1940 Census 6 P.M. Workshop Genealogists 413-236-3600 Knoxville, TN Federation of Genealogical Societies 9 A.M. Lecture/Genealogists 770-968-2486	Atlanta, GA Finding Your Family Online Noon Workshop/Genealogists 770-968-2555 New York, NY Family History Game Show 1 P.M. Other/General Public 866-840-1752		Pittsfield, MA Using Military Records at the National Archives 11 A.M. Workshop Genealogists 413-236-3600	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
				Boston, MA Public Meeting on Upcoming Renovation and Impact on Customers 10 A.M. Open to the Public 866-406-2379			
29	30	31					

The National Archives at

Pittsfield
413-236-3600
pittsfield.archives@nara.gov

Boston
866-406-2379 waltham.
archives@nara.gov

New York
866-840-1752 newyork.
archives@nara.gov

Philadelphia
215-606-0100
philadelphia.archives@nara.gov

Atlanta
770-968-2100 atlanta.
archives@nara.gov

NARA Midwest August 2010

Canoeing on the Moose River, MN,
August 1948
Record Group 95
Courtesy of National Archives at Chicago



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Exhibit: Kansas City, MO "Partisan Pieces: Quilts from Political and Patriotic Persuasion" 7/1-10/1/10				Kansas City, MO U.S. Penitentiary at Leavenworth 6 P.M. Lecture – Book Discussion General Public 816-268-8000	Kansas City, MO Introduction to the National Archives 7 A.M. Lecture General Public 816-268-8000	Kansas City, MO Quilting for the Family 10 A.M. Open House and Tour General Public 816-268-8000
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Exhibit: Gladstone, MO "Nothing for Something: Oscar Hartzell and the Sir Francis Drake Estate Con" 7/1-10/1/10				Kansas City, MO Kansas City Chronicles 6 P.M. Lecture – Book Discussion General Public 816-268-8000		Kansas City, MO Trail of Tears 10 A.M. Workshop Genealogists 816-268-8000
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Exhibit: Kansas City, MO "Mugged! Facing Life at Leavenworth" 6/11-8/7/10			Olathe, KS Introduction to the National Archives Noon Lecture General Public 816-268-8000	Exhibit: Excelsior Springs, MO "Nothing for Something: Oscar Hartzell and the Sir Francis Drake Estate Con" 7/17-10/31/10		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Exhibit: Chicago, IL "Becoming American: Immigrants, the Federal Courts in Chicago, and the Expansion of Citizenship, 1872-1991" Ongoing					Kansas City, MO Trail of Tears 10 A.M. Workshop Genealogists 816-268-8000	
29	30	31	Exhibit: Kansas, MO "Abraham Lincoln: Self-Made in America" 8/27-9/24/10 "Abraham Lincoln: Lincoln Lives On" 8/27-10/30/10			

The National Archives at

Chicago
773-948-9001
chicago.archives@nara.gov

Kansas City
816-268-8000
kansascity.archives@nara.gov

St. Louis
314-801-0850
Archival Programs Division

Fort Worth
817-831-5620
ftworth.archives@nara.gov