

Sandra C. Alford
P.O. Box 1190
Lake Sherwood, MO 63357
(314) 398-4758

May 29, 1997

Gil Alford
1403 Kingsford
Florissant, MO 63031

Dear Gil

Thanks again for the time you gave me on the phone yesterday when I called to ask again about my husband Jim's dad, Frank Alford. I've requested his SS-5 and also copied all the pertinent information and photos I have (notations added to clarify when needed). I have begun talking to relatives to reconfirm information I've learned about him during the 41 years Jim and I have been married.

Several items popped out to me while I was copying the material. One obvious one is that his name is listed pretty consistently as "Buford (or "Beauford") Franklin Alford." He WAS known as "Frank," and the only "Buford" I saw in the "Ripoff Book" was born in 1912, and so couldn't be the right one. Maybe we're barking up the wrong tree, though. Would YOU have any input on the Buford variance? The other thing I noticed was that Jim's birth certificate gives "Texas" as his dad's place of birth. I had missed that. Of course, he COULD have gone to North Carolina later (after he left)—or perhaps he had relatives there or even lived there earlier on. He WAS 33 when he married and so already had a history. He left Jim's mother shortly after he (Jim) was born (12/5/33) and so was floating around somewhere in 1934 (the year Social Security began). He continued to correspond, however, as shown by the 1936 envelope and photo folder, and one is dated St. Louis. I've heard he asked permission to see both boys after Jim's mother remarried and was living in St. Louis, probably about 1937 or 38. (He was denied.) He had originally worked in South St. Louis as a barber.

The birth date of 1895 does seem firm, however. (See notes on copied material.) I'll be in the process of compiling a profile of him during the next few weeks and will send you that and whatever information I get from the SS-5 request.

I can easily see where a person could get completely wrapped up in this sort of stuff. Especially as a writer who enjoys research work! It's totally involving!

Thanks again,

Sandy Alford

Marriage

Certificate

I Joe L. Schuler Justice of the Peace hereby
Certify that on the 23rd day of December A.D. 1928
Mr. Burford Franklin Alford AGE 33
of St. Louis State of Mo.
and Miss Berrie V. Finley AGE 21
of Success State of Mo.
were by me legally joined in

Holy Matrimony

In the City of St. Louis State of Missouri
according to the laws of said State and under authority of a marriage license
issued the 23rd day of December 1928 by the

RECORDER OF DEEDS OF THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS, STATE OF MISSOURI.

Joe L. Schuler
Justice 4th Dist



Jim's dad - known as "Frank" Alford.

Chester Frank Alford (Yorkshire)

Born May 24th 1931.

James Richard Alford

Born Dec. 5th 1933

877

7/5/28

Beauford Franklin Alford

(Back of photo) Note spelling of "Beauford".
marriage certificate is "Buford."

*Jim's birth certificate - Dec. 5, 1933.
 Father was 38 then. So... 1933
 - 38*

This should be Frank's year of birth → 1895

*Age - 38
 →
 Texas
 is
 birthplace.*

Form BR-414-62M-6-66-89799-C-Mch.
 ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF HEALTH - BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS
DELAYED BIRTH CERTIFICATE
 (Do Not Write in This Space)

1. PLACE OF BIRTH OF CHILD: County Clay
 City or Town Success Ark
 Street No. or Rural Route R#1

2. FULL NAME OF CHILD: James Richard Alford

3. Is Child Male or Female? Male
 4. What is Child's Race or Color? White
 5. Was Mother Married to Father at Child's Birth? Yes
 6. What was date of Child's Birth? 12 (Month) 5 (Day) 1933 (Year)

FATHER
 7. Father's Full Name Frank Franklin Alford
 8. Where was Father living at the time of the birth? Success Ark R#1
 9. What is Father's Race or Color? White
 10. What was Father's age at time of birth? 38 yrs.

MOTHER
 11. Mother's Full Name Van Buren Finley
 12. Where was Mother living at the time of the birth? Success Ark R#1
 13. What is Mother's Race or Color? White
 14. What was Mother's age at time of birth? 26 yrs.

15. In what State or Country was Father born? Texas
 16. In what State or Country was Mother born? Ark

17. Number of Children born to this Mother up to and including this child? 2

AFFIDAVIT
 State of Missouri
 City of ST. LOUIS
 County of _____

I hereby swear under oath in full knowledge of the penalties of the law for false statement that, to my best knowledge and belief, the facts above stated are true and correct in every particular. I am related to this child as Mother
 (Attending physician, midwife, parent, older brother or sister or other person having knowledge of this birth) and my present age is _____ years.

(Signed) Van B. Finley
 Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____ 1936
Carmen Spencer
 (Notary Public or Other Official Empowered to Execute Oaths)

My Commission Expires Dec. 17, 1947

(Do Not Write Below This Line)
 Filed July 6 1946 J. J. Ross M.D. State Registrar

THIS IS TO CERTIFY, That the above is a full, true and correct copy of the original certificate which is on file in this office and of which I am legal custodian.
 IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, Witness my hand and seal of office, at Little Rock, Arkansas.

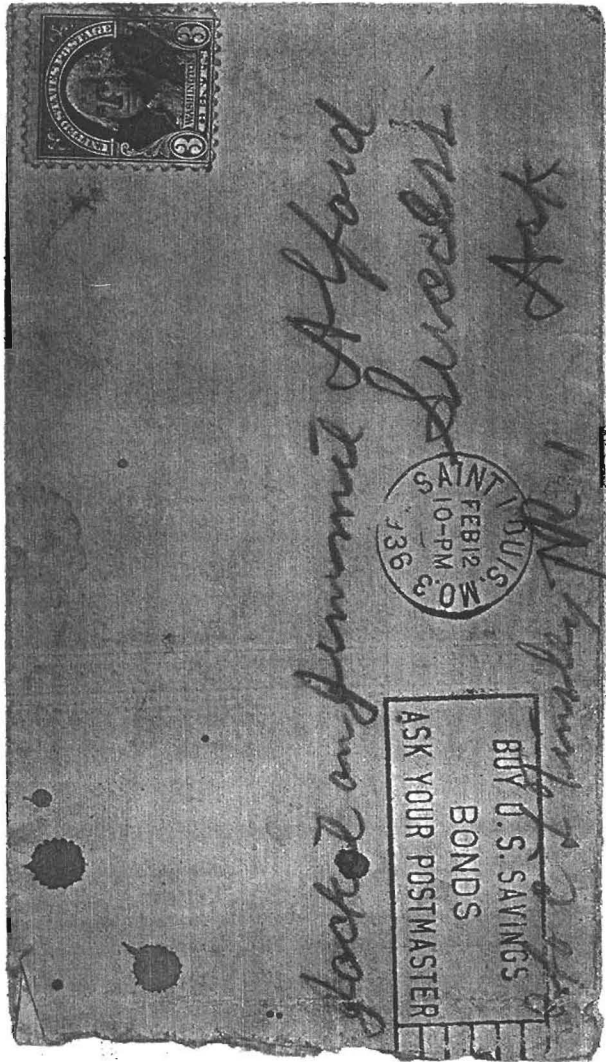
J. J. Ross M.D.
 State Registrar
E. Hyde Senior Clerk

State of St. Louis County City of Florissant I, Beatrice E. Wilhelm a Notary Public in and for said state, do certify that on Jan. 23, 1988, I carefully compared the attached (above) facsimile of Birth Certificate and the facsimile I now hold in my possession. They are complete, full, true and exact facsimiles of the document they purport to reproduce

Beatrice E. Wilhelm 1-23-88
 NOTARY PUBLIC
 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 1-23-1990

ages were 38 (Frank) & 26 (Van Buren).

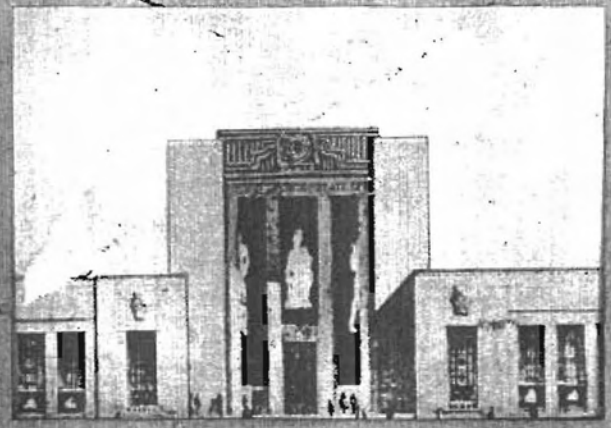
Envelope for Valentines sent to both
sons in Arkansas. Note Feb. 10, 1936 St. Louis
date.



July 25, 1936 "gift," also sent to
Arkansas. Cancellation not clear,
but presumably, from Dallas, TX.

It's a
foldout
photo
deal....

TEXAS CENTENNIAL DALLAS EXPOSITION



SOUVENIR FOLDER
20 VIEWS IN COLOR

PRICE
10
CENTS

From _____



To *Jimmye Alford*
Success Ark
of C. L. Finley, R. 1