

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION
COVER SHEET

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH ANN SHORT, a.k.a.
"THE BLACK DAHLIA"

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Call: 7:45 PM, 1/19/47
DATE: 1/20/47

TO : Mr. Ladd

FROM : E. H. Winterrowd

SUBJECT: SHORT MURDER CASE,
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Beahm
- Miss Gandy

At the above time, Special Agent [redacted] of the Washington Field Office called and advised that a [redacted] Washington correspondent of the "Los Angeles Times," had requested telephonically any information that the Bureau had concerning a [redacted]

[redacted] stated he had received a wire from his paper requesting information in the possession of the Bureau, as well as Army or Navy, concerning [redacted] who allegedly was or was to be arrested in connection with the murder of the Short girl whom, it will be recalled, was found in a [redacted] mutilated condition.

The above information was conveyed to Assistant Director Nichols who stated that [redacted] should be advised that the Bureau was in no position to comment on this matter and that it was a matter of local jurisdiction and, accordingly, the Bureau must be most hesitant in inserting itself into such a matter. This answer was conveyed to Special Agent [redacted] who stated that he would contact [redacted] and advise him of the above.

RECORDED

&
INDEXED

211

JAN 25 3 58 PM '47

11-22

RECEIVED

62-82627-1

EHW: [redacted]

58 FEB 13 1947

670

62-82627-2

NOT USED

62-82627-2

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552

Section 552a

(b)(1)

(b)(7)(A)

(d)(5)

(b)(2)

(b)(7)(B)

(j)(2)

(b)(3)

(b)(7)(C)

(k)(1)

(b)(7)(D)

(k)(2)

(b)(7)(E)

(k)(3)

(b)(7)(F)

(k)(4)

(b)(4)

(b)(8)

(k)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(9)

(k)(6)

(b)(6)

(k)(7)

- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to the subject of your request or the subject of your request is listed in the title only.
- Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

Page(s) withheld inasmuch as a final release determination has not been made. You will be advised as to the disposition at a later date.

Pages were not considered for release as they are duplicative of _____

Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

62-82627-37 } Please note that at the bottom right
 - 4 } side of serial 5, it is indicated that serials
 3 and 4 of 62-82627 were
 not in file as of
 1/18/64.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
 X Deleted Page(s) X
 X No Duplication Fee X
 X for this page X
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

January 22, 1947

[Redacted]

b7c

Dear [Redacted]

62-82627-5

The information set forth in your letter dated January 10, 1947, has been noted and your thoughtfulness in writing as you did is indeed appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

b7c

[Redacted]

[Redacted] b7c

CC - Los Angeles with copy of incoming
Attention, SAC: For your information and for whatever
action you deem necessary

b7c

[Redacted] b7c

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Ladd.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Rosen.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Mr. Carson.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Gurnea.....
- Mr. Hendon.....
- Mr. Pennington.....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
- Mr. Nease.....
- Miss Gandy.....

S.N.I.F. 3,4
11-18-64
332

58 FEB 13 1947

JAN 27 4 16 PM '47

January 19, 1947

b7c

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have a suggestion. "Black Dahlia,"
Elizabeth Short, Los Angeles, Calif.

1. Ex-Marine
2. Race - White
3. Age - 28 to 30
4. Hair - Red Handsome
5. Weight - about 160 lbs
6. Irish and English
7. 5' 10" tall
8. Check all camps in Calif. and hospital
9. Within 2 weeks murder be caught

I hope you find these help the police.

G 48

/s/

b7c

1-22-47
[Redacted]
b7c
C
O
P
Y

Jan 19 47 62c

Dear Mr Hoover,

I have a suggestion Los Angeles, Calif

"Black Dahlia" Elizabeth Short.

BLACK DAHLIA ELIZABETH SHORT

- 1. Ex-Marine
- 2. Race White
- 3. Age 28 to 30.
- 4. Hair Red. Handsome
- 5. Weight about 160 LBS.
- 6. Irish & English
- 7. 5' 10" tall.
- 8. Check all camps in Calif

INDEXED BY
WIP DRY

and hospital 82627-5

9. Within 2 weeks Murder

be caught.

I hope you find these help the police.

JFH
[Redacted]

62c

3/11/25
b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 25 1947

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Pennington	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Misc. Gandy	.....

CONF WASHINGTON 1, WASHINGTON FIELD 1, LOS ANGELES 1 AND
[REDACTED] 1 FROM NEW YORK 25 1-55 PM

b7c

UNKNOWN SUBJECT., ELIZABETH⁰ SHORT, VICTIM, MURDER, MISC. INFO CONCERNING
VICTIM; ALSO KNOWN AS BLACK DAHLIA, MURDERED JAN. FIFTEEN, FORTY
SEVEN. RETEL FROM LA TO DIRECTOR AND NY DATED JAN. TWENTYTHIRD
LAST ADVISING [REDACTED] IDENTIFIED PHOTO
FOUND IN VICTIMS EFFECTS AS [REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED] AS A PSYCHONEUROTIC PATIENT,
WHOSE WIFE COMMITTED SUICIDE [REDACTED] AFTER KILLING CHILD.
TRUE NAME OF SUSPECT [REDACTED]

ADDED IN
PROP DESK

[REDACTED] IS [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

SUICIDE [REDACTED] HIS WIFE COMMITTED
[REDACTED] AFTER KILLING TWO YEAR OLD DAUGHTER.
SUSPECT CONFINED AT [REDACTED]
INDEXED 62-82627-6
JAN 29 1947

b7c

PAGE THREE., CONF.

b7C

SUSPECT ADVISED [REDACTED] IS A MENTAL CASE.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] NO FULL DESCRIPTION AVAILABLE IN NY. WASH FIELD ASCERTAIN ADDRESSES [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SECURE DESCRIPTION, PHOTO, BACKGROUND AND LEADS [REDACTED] AS TO WHEREABOUTS FROM AGO RECORDS. ST. LOUIS CONDUCT SAME TYPE INVESTIGATION BY CHECKING DEMOBILIZED PERSONNEL ARMY RECORDS [REDACTED] CONDUCT DISCREET INQUIRY AT LAST KNOWN HOME ADDRESS OF SUSPECT AND FAMILY AT [REDACTED] IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH BACKGROUND AND WHEREABOUTS OF SUSPECT AT COMMISSION OF MURDER, JAN. FIFTEEN, LAST [REDACTED] CHECK

[REDACTED] FOR ADDRESSES - CHECK MAIL TO. SUTEL BUREAU AND LOS ANGELES, ORIGIN AND CONDUCT IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION SCHEIDT [REDACTED]

ST. LOUIS ADVISED. 4

END

WA NY R 1 WA

R RELAY FOR LOS Z A WA

[REDACTED] R1 WA

Transmitted to Los. A. [unclear]
2 copies to Wfo.

12/15/21

b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

TELETYPE 1 LOS ANGELES 1 BUREAU

CONF 9 ANGELES 1 BUREAU 1 FROM [REDACTED] 1 26 7

URGENT

UNKNOWN SUBJECT, ELIZABETH SHORT VICTIM, MURDER, MISCELLANEOUS

43 RE TELETYPE LOS ANGELES TO [REDACTED] AND ST. LOUIS, JANUARY

TWENTY THREE LAST, ALSO CONFERENCE TELETYPE FROM NEW YORK,

JANUARY TWENTY FIVE. [REDACTED] PURCHASED HOUSE AT

[REDACTED] ABOUT SEPTEMBER NINETEEN FORTY FIVE

AND HAS RESIDED AT [REDACTED] SINCE THAT DATE AND HAS MADE

EXTENSIVE ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS TO [REDACTED] HOUSE. MOTHER,

[REDACTED] OWNS [REDACTED] PRESENTLY CLOSED AND

MOTHER GONE [REDACTED] REMARRIED ABOUT EASTER,

NINETEEN FORTY SIX TO GIRL [REDACTED] NAMED QUOTE [REDACTED] MAIDEN

NAME POSSIBLY [REDACTED] FRM CALIFORNIA, BELIEVED TO BE LOS

ANGELES. ACQUAINTANCES THINK [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] MARRIED IN

NEW YORK CITY. [REDACTED] POLICE, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] KNOWS [REDACTED] AND SAW HIM AT [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] JANUARY FOURTEEN LAST. [REDACTED]

AND [REDACTED] THIS STORE PRODUCED

RECORDS AND ADVISED [REDACTED] HAS ACCOUNT AT STORE. [REDACTED]

IN STORE [REDACTED] AND MADE PURCHASE ON JANUARY FOURTEEN, NINETEEN

FORTY SEVEN. HE ADVISED [REDACTED] HE WAS DRIVING TO

CALIFORNIA TO BRING BACK HIS WIFE [REDACTED] WHO FLEW TO [REDACTED]

CALIFORNIA FROM [REDACTED] JANUARY

TEN, LAST TO VISIT HER PARENTS. [REDACTED]

ADVISED [REDACTED] ACCOMPANIED BY [REDACTED] NEIGHBOR OF [REDACTED]

UNKNOWN, LEFT FOR CALIFORNIA ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY FIFTEEN

LAST, DRIVING [REDACTED] NINETEEN FORTY TWO BUICK SEDAN TO BRING

[REDACTED] BACK TO [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HE EXPECTED TO BE GONE APPROXIMATELY ONE MONTH

b7c

b7c

b7c

INDEXED BY
TOP DEPT

b7c

62-7027-7

JAN 29 1947

TELETYPE UNIT

PAGE TWO

[REDACTED] POSITIVE [REDACTED] HAS BEEN IN [REDACTED] CONTINUOUSLY
DURING LAST FEW MONTHS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF FEW DAYS SPENT
IN [REDACTED] ABOUT CHRISTMAS AND OCCASIONAL ONE DAY TRIPS TO
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b7c

STATE POLICE ADVISED [REDACTED] HAS [REDACTED] REGISTRATION
PLATES, [REDACTED] A NINETEEN FORTY
TWO [REDACTED] SEDAN, COLOR BLACK SERIAL
NUMBER [REDACTED] ACQUAINTANCES.
ADVISE [REDACTED] VERY HEAVY DRINKER, SPENDS MONEY FREELY,
[REDACTED] NOT EMPLOYED. [REDACTED]

RECORDS CHECKED

[REDACTED] WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

END SOUCY

R 1 WA

RELAY FOR LOS A AL

Transmitted to Los A.

Rec'd 1/13/47
b7c

577
b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 13 1947
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

[Redacted]

CONF WASH 11 AND NYC 3 FROM LOSA 23 3-17 PM

DIRECTOR SAC NEW YORK URGENT

UNSUB., ELIZABETH SHORT, VICTIM, MURDER, INFO CONCERNING. CONNECTION WITH INVESTIGATION OF BRUTAL MURDER OF ELIZABETH SHORT IN L.A. JAN FIFTEENTH NINETEEN FORTY SEVEN REQUEST ASSISTANCE OF BUREAU IN DETERMINING IDENTITY OF SUSPECT IDENTIFIED ONLY

AS [Redacted] FIRST NAME UNKNOWN. INFORMANT [Redacted] IDENTIFIED [Redacted] IN PICTURE AND STATES SUSPECT WAS [Redacted] IN US ARMY [Redacted]

[Redacted] WIFE [Redacted] KILLED THEIR CHILD AND COMMITTED SUICIDE. AFTER THIS EVEN [Redacted] WENT TO PIECES [Redacted]

[Redacted] AND WAS PLACED IN PSYCHO WARD FOR TREATMENT. HIS PRESENT WHEREABOUT UNKNOWN. IT IS BELIEVED [Redacted] WAS DISCHARGED FROM ARMY UNDER SECTION EIGHT, PSYCHO NEUROSIS.

[Redacted] CHECK [Redacted] NEWSPAPER MORGUE IN ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY SUSPECT AND ASCERTAIN BACKGROUND, WHEREABOUTS, AND DESCRIPTION. [Redacted] - IF SUS-

PECT IDENTIFIED WILL REQUEST ST. LOUIS CHECK ARMY RECORDS RE DISCHARGE AND ANY ADDITIONAL INFO. [Redacted] HOOD

PLS NOTE THAT [Redacted] AND ST. LOUIS WILL BE ADVISED

ACK PLS
58 FEB 13 1947

RECORDED & INDEXED 15 JAN 29 1947
62-826278
FBI

Called Ident.

M.L.

cc. [Redacted]

transmitted

b7c

579

HANDLED BY PROP DEPT

b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

E

b7c



To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

JANUARY 29, 1947

Transmit the following message to:

[REDACTED] POLICE
ATTENTION [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

URGENT

b7c

b7c [REDACTED]

REURLET JANUARY TWENTY FIFTH, ELIZABETH SHORT, MURDER. LATENT FINGERPRINT SEARCHED THROUGH THIS BUREAU'S SINGLE FINGERPRINT FILE WITHOUT EFFECTING AN IDENTIFICATION. CONFIRMING.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR
FBI

[REDACTED] b7c

1-27-47
[Handwritten notes]

[REDACTED] b7c

RECORDED & INDEXED

RECORDED

62-82627-9

b7c

b7c

JAN 29 5 47 PM '47

[REDACTED]

COPIES DESTROYED
382 NOV 18 1964

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 29 1947

WESTERN UNION

7278

Per

[REDACTED]

12, 1947

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

b7c Mr. Rosen CC - 150

URGENT

JANUARY 24, 1947

b7c TO: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

Transmit the following message to: SAC'S LOS ANGELES, [REDACTED] AND NEW YORK
UNSUB, ELIZ SHORT, VICTIM. RE LOS ANGELES WIRE JANUARY TWENTY THREE.
SUTEL BUREAU RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION REQUESTED REFERENCE TELETYPE.
LOS ANGELES REMAIN ALERT TO AND ADVISE BUREAU OF ALL DEVELOPMENTS.
CONSIDER UFAP POSSIBILITIES IF NECESSARY JURISDICTIONAL FACTS ARE
DEVELOPED.

HOOVER

SE 35

RECORDED

EX - 1

62-82627-10

JAN 24 4 10 PM '47

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

JAN 24

TELETYPE

TELETYPE

61 MAR 27 1947

4:40p M

Per

6814

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

FROM : Mr. Edw. A. Tamm

SUBJECT:

DATE: 1-30-47

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Beahm
- Miss Gandy

In connection with our effort to assist the local authorities by securing Social Security information regarding a suspect in connection with the murder of Elizabeth Short at Los Angeles, you inquired as to whether Social Security lets us have any information.

During the war, by special arrangement, Social Security furnished us confidentially with information based on our certification that it was needed in connection with a case growing out of the war and having to do with such matters as Espionage, Sabotage and subversive activities. You will recall that just recently they wrote saying that since the President has issued the proclamation terminating hostilities it would now be necessary to say specifically the case arose during and out of the war. We sent a protest to the Attorney General explaining that we now have cases which have arisen since the cessation of hostilities which are at least as important if not more so than those during the war and requested him to effect arrangements whereby we could receive this very valuable data.

The instant request to Social Security appeared to be an excellent opportunity to get on record asking for assistance in apprehending the perpetrator of a most heinous murder. If they comply, it will be a precedent and if they refuse it will be an excellent instance to cite in our efforts to gain access to their records. The request was delivered by hand but the reply has not been forthcoming as yet. You will be advised immediately.

[Redacted]

RECORDED

yes let me know

b7c

[Redacted]

RECORDED

162-82627-1
 FEB 4 1947
 FBI

EX-6

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

6809
b7c [redacted]

ROUTINE

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION. **JANUARY 31, 1947**

b7c [redacted]
RECORDED

Transmit the following message to: **LOS ANGELES**

**UNKNOWN SUBJECT. ELIZABETH SHORT, VICTIM, MURDER. SOCIAL SECURITY
ADMINISTRATION FORMALLY REFUSES TO COOPERATE BY FURNISHING DATA ON
VICTIM'S EMPLOYMENT RECORD.**

ROOVER

[redacted] b7c

[redacted] b7c

b7c [redacted]
3

COPIES DESTROYED
388
MAY 18 1964

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Holloman _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

JAN 31 6 52 PM '47
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

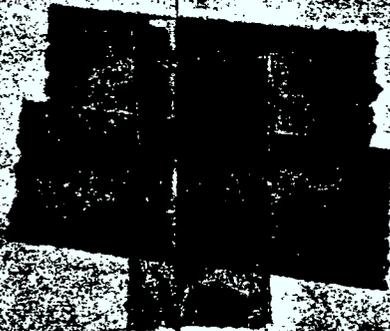
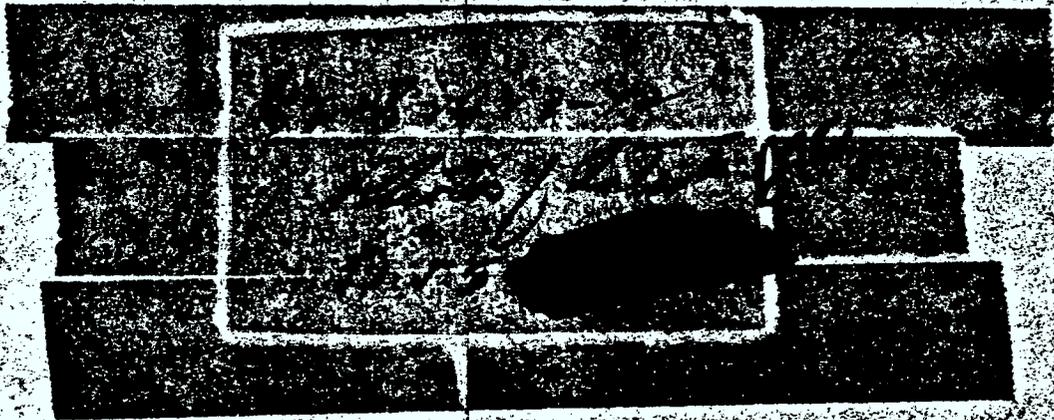
1947

b7c [redacted]

1127A M

b7c [redacted] b7c [redacted]

SENT VIA _____



ENCLOSURE



670

Rec'd from
[Redacted]

FBI LABORATORY
PC-19260 EN 01
[Redacted]

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Los Angeles (13) California
January 31, 1947

Director, FBI

Attention: IDENTIFICATION DIVISION
(SINGLE FINGERPRINT SECTION)

Re: ELIZABETH SHORT
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Dear Sir:

There are enclosed herewith three photographs of fingerprints removed from an anonymous letter addresses to the Los Angeles Police Department concerning the mutilation murder of ELIZABETH SHORT. It is requested that these prints be checked through the Single Fingerprint Section and if an identification is made that this office be notified by teletype immediately. In the event an identification is not made from these prints, it is requested that same be retained in the Single Fingerprint Section for possible future identification.

Very truly yours,

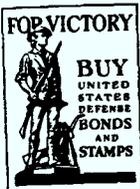
P. B. Hood

P. B. HOOD
SAC

Encl. (3)

62-2928

AMSD



RECORDED

62-82627-12

Specimens Detached in S. F. F. S.

2-1-47

2-15-47

b2y [redacted]

February 15, 1947

SAC, Los Angeles

Director, FBI

ELIZABETH SHORT
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Reference is made to your letter of January 31, 1947, submitting three photographs of latent impressions for examination in connection with the above-entitled matter, your file #62-2928.

You are advised that the four latent fingerprints appearing in the photographs were searched through the single fingerprint file, but no identifications were effected. The photographs are being retained for any future comparisons which might be desired.

[redacted] b7c

62-82627-12

EX

FEB 15

b2y
12 PM '47

- Tolson
- E. A. Tamm
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Carson
- Egan
- Gurnea
- Harbo
- Hendon
- Pennington
- Quinn Tamm
- Nease
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED 5
 ☆ FEB 15 1947 P.M.
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[redacted]

Rosen
674

Cops Doubt Dahlia 'Slayer's' Aged

By United Press

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 29—A shabbily dressed young Army veteran, Daniel S. Voorhees, was booked on suspicion of murdering Elizabeth Short today after he signed a five-word confession admitting the slaying of the 22-year-old Black Dahlia.

Police were not convinced of Voorhees' guilt, and were awaiting further word from another "confessed slayer," who had promised to give himself up at 10 a. m. today, almost two weeks after the girl's mutilated body was found in a lover's lane.

Voorhees' confession read:

"I did kill Beth Short."

He refused to amplify his statement.

Voorhees surrendered by phone and asked to be arrested.

"I can't stand it any longer," the curly haired Voorhees told police. "I have a wife and little girl in Phoenix."

His only connection with the Black

Dahlia was his statement that he dated her in 1941 and had seen her several times since.

"I was out with her two weeks ago," he said. "I took her on the bus."

He refused to tell where he took her. As far as police know, Miss Short first came to California in 1943, two years after Voorhees said he dated her.

Police said they would not try to give Voorhees a lie detector test until he had recovered from his "bewildered and befuddled" state.

Voorhees said he was booked on a rape charge in Phoenix in 1941 but did not serve time. He said he was released to serve in the Air Corps.

Then he contradicted himself and said his Army service began in 1943, not 1941. He was released in 1943, still a private.

The other "slayer" backed down yesterday in a new note asking for terms of surrender.

"I will give up in Dahlia killing get 10 years. Don't try to find me," said the note.

Police also questioned Cleo Short, estranged father of the dead girl, a second time and released him.

A one-time roommate of the dead girl, 16-year-old Lynn Martin, told police more of her own experiences than of Miss Short's. She was to be questioned again today.

The girl, who masqueraded as a 14-year-old model, admitted an acquaintance with free-lance Photographer George Price, 43, and said she had posed in the nude for him for lewd pictures.

Price's name was in the Dahlia's address book. He was questioned but denied knowing Miss Short.

Police said that at a hearing on Martin's testimony 11 men would be charged with contributing to her delinquency.

62-82627-13

670
[Redacted]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

b7c

DATE: January 29, 1947

TO : MR. ROSEN

FROM : C. W. EVANS

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
ELIZABETH SHORT, VICTIM;
MURDER: MISCELLANEOUS
INFORMATION CONCERNING

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Beahm
- Miss Gandy

BETH SHORT

With regard to the newspaper clipping which appeared in the Times-Herald on January 29, 1947, indicating that Daniel S. Voorhees, with alias Dan Voorhees, had surrendered to the Los Angeles Police Department and had admitted the murder of the victim, Elizabeth Short, who is also known as the "Black Dahlia", the newspaper article indicated that Voorhees had previously been arrested in 1942 in Phoenix, Arizona, for rape.

[REDACTED]

b7c

b7c

CWE:

b7c

3

SE 3
RECORDED
497
INDEXED

62-62627-13

58 FEB 25 1947

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Egan _____
 Mr. Gurnea _____
 Mr. Harbo _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Jones _____
 Mr. Leonard _____
 Mr. Pennington _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Gandy _____

2

1/29/47

This Daniel S. Voorhees
 appear to be mental case.
 However, C.W. Evans checking
 index and ident. for any info re
 this suspect

 b7c



SUSPECT CONFESSES

BLACK DAHLIA KILLING

-13

Gives Up, Says 'Can't Stand It Any Longer'

33-year-old Man Denies Writing Notes

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 28 (AP). Police Capt. Jack Donohoe announced late tonight that a 33-year-old man had walked into police headquarters and said he "wanted to confess" to the sadistic killing of Elizabeth Short, 22, whose nude, bisected body was found in a vacant lot here recently.

The man, dressed in tan work pants, green sport shirt, his copper-curly hair bareheaded, was booked on suspicion of murder. He gave his name as Daniel S. Voorhees.

"Can't Stand It Any Longer"

"Just a short time ago," said Donohoe, "a man telephoned police headquarters and said 'I can't stand it any longer—I want to confess to the murder of the Black Dahlia'."

That was the way friends of the former Hyde Park, Mass., girl referred to her, because of her penchant for wearing black clothing to match her raven tresses.

"Shortly after we received the telephone call," said Donohoe, "this man walked into the homicide department and said 'I can't stand it any longer—I want to confess to the Black Dahlia's murder.'"

Has Family in Phoenix

Donohue said that after the man was booked, giving several downtown hotels as his residence, he was turned over for questioning by Dr. Paul De River, police psychologist.

The psychiatrist said, after a preliminary examination, that he had "come to no definite conclusion."

Detective Ed Barrett, who was among the man's questioners, displayed a sheet of paper on which was written, "I did kill Elizabeth Short," which was signed "Daniel S. Voorhees."

Barrett said Voorhees told him he has a wife and nine-year-old daughter in Phoenix, Ariz., but declined to identify them.

Must 'Get it Off My Chest'

Barrett quoted Voorhees as saying:

"I am so sick I can't stand it. I simply had to get it off my chest."

He denied having written any of a number of letters and post cards to police, one of which said the slayer would surrender at 10 a.m. tomorrow.

PHOENIX, Ariz., Jan. 28 (AP). The Phoenix police identification bureau said tonight a man who gave his name as Dan Voorhees had been arrested here five times. The bureau said that Voorhees, arrested in 1942 in connection with a Phoenix assault to commit rape case, gave his age as 25. Records showed no disposition of the case.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Jones _____
Mr. Leonard _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 28 1947

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

b7c
[Redacted]

CONF WASH AND WASH FLD 4 LOSA 1 AFROM NEW YORK 28 1-57 P

DIRECTOR AND SACS URGENT

UNSUB, ELIZABETH SHORT, VIC., MURDER. MISCELLANEOUS INFO CONCERNING.

FOLLOWING TELETYPE RECD FROM ST LOUIS QUOTE SPECIAL SEARCH CONDUCTED FOR SERVICE RECORD PERTAINING TO [Redacted] ASN [Redacted]

[Redacted] WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. SEARCH [Redacted]

ALSO CONDUCTED IN CLINICAL RECORDS ON [Redacted] UNDER REGISTER NUMBER [Redacted]

[Redacted] WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. AGO ADVISES RE-

CORDS PROBABLY LOCATED IN WASHINGTON, DC. RUC UNQUOTE. NO FURTHER

ACTION IN NYC.

SCHEIDT

RECEIVED-802EN

RECORDED

INDEXED

15 FEB 4 1947

62-82627-14
F B I

Two copies to WFO
Transmitted to O.A.

HOLD
68 FEB 17 1947

b7c
[Redacted]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 30 1947

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Pennington	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Mr. Gandy	.....

Loop
received 1/31/47 9:15 PM
[Redacted]
b7c

To Division
1-30-47
[Redacted]
1-30
2 files
b7c

WASH FROM LOSA 16 29 5-11 P

DIRECTOR URGENT

UNSUB, ELIZABETH SHORT, VICTIM, MURDER, MISC INFO CONCERNING.

LAPD REQUESTS ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING *[Redacted]*

[Redacted] MEDICAL CORPS U S ARMY,

FORMERLY ATTACHED TO *[Redacted]*

THIS OFFICER SIGNED MEDICAL DISCHARGE ON SUSPECT *[Redacted]*

AND LAPD INTERESTED IN COMMUNICATING WITH *[Redacted]* PRESENT

CASE. *[Redacted]* DEACTIVATED AND PRESENT

STATUS *[Redacted]* UNKNOWN AS TO WHETHER ON ACTIVE DUTY. SUTEL.

HOOD *Called Ident.*

57 FEB 11 1947

ask by mail
1-31/47
[Redacted]
b7c
one

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

1-31-47

Transmit the following message to:

SAC, LOS ANGELES

URGENT

b7c
13

RECORDED

-15

RETEL JANUARY TWENTY NINE, LAST, ELIZABETH SHORT, VICTIM, MURDER, MISC
INFO CONCERNING. LATEST WAR DEPARTMENT ROSTER SHOWS AS OF NOVEMBER

THIRTY, LAST,

SERIAL NUMBER

AT

HOOVER

b7c
[Redacted]

COPIES DESTROYED

332 NOV 18 1964

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 31 1947

TELETYPE

Belay

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

1 1947
SENT VIA

11:14 PM

Per [Redacted]

b7c

Mr. Tolson
 Mr. E. A. Tamm
 Mr. Clegg
 Mr. Glavin
 Mr. Ladd
 Mr. Nichols
 Mr. Rosen
 Mr. Tracy
 Mr. Carson
 Mr. Egan
 Mr. Gurnea
 Mr. Hendon
 Mr. Pennington
 Mr. Quinn
 Mr. Nease
 Miss Gandy

1-180

85

b7c

b7c

LOS ANGELES AND [REDACTED] FROM WASHINGTON FIELD b7c
 SAGE URGENT

1/28/47

UNSUB. ELIZABETH SHORT, VICTIM, MURDER, MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION
 CONCERNING. RETEL FROM NEW YORK JANUARY TWENTYFIVE, LAST. VA FILE, NO.

b7c

[REDACTED], REFLECTS SUSPECT
 [REDACTED] HONORABLY DISCHARGED FROM ARMY [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] DISABILITY CHECKS
 CURRENTLY MAILED TO HIM, AS OF DECEMBER THIRTYONE, FORTYFIVE, AT [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CHECKS PRIOR TO THIS TIME AND SUBSEQUENT TO
 DISCHARGE MAILED TO HIM AT ADDRESS OF [REDACTED]

BORN [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] POUNDS, WHITE, [REDACTED] BUILD, [REDACTED] MOTHER, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AGO RECORDS REFLECT [REDACTED]
 ARMY [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] FBI

[REDACTED] 67-4026

[REDACTED] RECORDED 62-80621
 [REDACTED] COPIES OF PHOTO

TAKEN IN FORTYTHREE BEING MADE. WILL BE FORWARDED SA AMSD. FEB 4 1947
 BUREAU ADVISED

37 FEB 1 1947
 62-5378
 cc Bureau by messenger

HOTTIS

b7c

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: 1-29-47

TO : THE DIRECTOR

FROM : MR. EDW. A. TAMM *EAT*

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
ELIZABETH SHORT - VICTIM
MURDER AT LOS ANGELES

EAT

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

You will recall that as a matter of cooperation with the local authorities in an effort to solve this very vicious murder, we prepared a letter to Social Security asking for employment and other identifying data concerning a suspect. This letter was signed by you for delivery by a liaison representative this morning in an effort to secure an immediate report.

The headlines on this morning's paper indicated that a suspect at Los Angeles has confessed the killing. Mr. Mumford talked telephonically with SAC Hood who advises that the police are convinced the man is a mental case and that he is not the actual killer. The Liaison Section is accordingly taking the letter you signed on to Social Security this morning in an effort to secure the desired data concerning the suspect.

HANDLED BY

62-82627-7

RECORDED

FEB 12 1947

57 FEB 4 1947

I thought Social Security didn't let us have any information. How about it?

b2c

b2c

memo for Mumford

30-47 for EAT

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : D. M. LADD *[Signature]*

FROM : H. W. SMITH *HWS*

SUBJECT: *[Redacted]*

DATE: February 6, 1947

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Beahm _____
- Miss Gandy _____

[Redacted] of the U. P. called at 12:30 a.m., February 6, 1947, and requested the criminal record, if any, of *[Redacted]* a suspect in the Black Dahlia murder case in California.

After checking with the Identification Division, the writer informed *[Redacted]* that no information could be furnished at this time. The writer suggested that if *[Redacted]* was still interested, he might call later this morning.

ACTION:

Transmit to Records and Communications Division.

HWS: *[Redacted]*

Elizabeth [Redacted]

[Signature]

RECORDED
&
INDEXED
214

62-82627-
19 FEB 11 1947
[Redacted] b7c

61 FEB 20 1947

January 31, 1947

SAC, Los Angeles

Director, FBI

ELIZABETH SHORT, VICTIM, MURDER

Reference is made to your conference wire to the Bureau and New York City on January 23, 1947, regarding the above subject matter.

A search was made in the Identification Division to locate records on one [redacted] who may be identical with the individual mentioned in referenced teletype. Three fingerprint records which contain cards from the Army were located in the criminal files; copies of these records are enclosed, for your information, as possibly one may be identical with the individual in whom you are interested. There were forty-five Army prints under the name of [redacted] in our non-criminal file, consequently it was not possible to determine which of these might be identical with subject [redacted].

Enclosure

MAILED BY
FBI

RECORDED
3
INDEXED

62-82627-
F B I
68 FEB 11 1947

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12

FEB 1 1947 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEB 19 1947

JAN 31 10 04 PM '47

Date: January 28, 1947

To: Executive Director
Social Security Board
Washington, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: ELIZABETH SHORT

This Bureau has received a request from an official of the Los Angeles Police Department for assistance in the investigation of the case of Elizabeth Short, who was a victim of a ruthless murder on January 14, 1947, at Los Angeles. You will recall that this is the case which has received considerable newspaper publicity and at the present time the Los Angeles Police Department investigation is at a standstill. The only existing lead at this time is a matter of checking her past employment through the records of the Social Security Board. It is, therefore, requested that this Bureau be supplied with information from the Social Security records concerning Elizabeth Short. Her Social Security Number is listed as 0-22-18-4750. Of particular interest is information concerning her employment record. Miss Short is described as white, age approximately 22; height, 5 feet 6 inches; hair, light brown, dyed black; eyes, green. Information contained in your records will be of invaluable assistance in the handling of this matter. Your cooperation would be greatly appreciated.

62c
2
1-18
G.I. 8

024 Delivered to
[redacted]
to Deputy Comm. W. L. Mitchell
S2C

RECEIVED
JAN 28
4:22 PM '47
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

62-82629-20

RECORDED

EX-45

- Tolson
- E. A. Tamm
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Harbo
- Hendon
- Quinn

24 1947

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : D. M. Ladd

FROM : E. G. Fitch

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH SHORT

DATE: January 30, 1947

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

The original of the attached letter to the Executive Director, Social Security Board, which requests the Social Security Board to supply the Bureau with information from the Social Security records relative to Elizabeth Short, was delivered to [redacted] to Deputy Commissioner W. L. Mitchell by [redacted] of the Liaison Section. She was requested to advise Mr. Mitchell, who was home ill, of instant request as soon as he returned to work Thursday, January 30, 1947, and also to advise the Bureau as soon as possible, positively or negatively.

It is noted the attached letter is addressed to the Executive Director of the Social Security Board. It was ascertained that the administrative setup at the Social Security Board has recently undergone a change. It is now headed by Commissioner Arthur J. Altmeyer, Room 5238, Social Security Building, Washington, D. C. (Mr. Altmeyer is presently at the United Nations Conference and will probably be there until February 8, 1947).

W. L. Mitchell is the Deputy Commissioner and [redacted] is the Executive Administrative Assistant to the Commissioner, both have offices in the Social Security Building.

ACTION

None.

[redacted] b2

Stop on letter
to Mr. Soc-Sec. Board
placed with [redacted]
1-31-47

62-82627-21

RECORDED

B I

JAN 31 1947

EX-27

b2

[redacted] b2

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATION SECTION

JAN 24 1947

TELEMETER

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Ladd.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Rosen.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Mr. Carson.....
- Mr. Harbo.....
- Mr. Hendon.....
- Mr. Pennington.....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
- Mr. Nease.....
- Mr. Gandy.....

WASH FROM LOSA 4 24 1-36 PM

DIRECTOR URGENT

ELIZABETH SHORT, INFO CONCERNING, POLICE COOPERATION. ELIZABETH SHORT VICTIM OF RUTHLESS MURDER JAN. FOURTEEN LAST AT L.A. POLICE INVESTIGATION AT STANDSTILL. LAPD

HOMICIDE SQUAD, REQUESTED THIS OFFICE ENDEAVOR TO OBTAIN PRIOR EMPLOYMENT RECORD OF SHORT THROUGH OF SOCIAL SECURITY. VICTIM DESCRIBED WHITE, FEMALE, TWENTYTWO, FIVE FT. SIX, ONE EIGHTEEN LBS., HAIR LIGHT BROWN, DIED BLACK, GREEN EYES, BAD TEETH, SOCIAL SECURITY NO. NAUGHT DASH TWO TWO DASH ONE EIGHT DASH SEVEN FIVE NAUGHT. SUTEL AT ONCE.

HOOD
58 FEB 26 1947
ACK FDS

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
FEB 11 1947

By [redacted] 10-82627-27

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
FEB 13, 1947
TELETYPE

b7c
FBI EL PASO

2-13-47

12-20 PM

DIRECTOR FBI AND SAC BOSTON AND LOS ANGELES

URGENT

b7c
[REDACTED] NMVTA. RE EL PASO TELETYPE TO BOSTON TWELFTH INSTANT
ADVISING SUBJECT IN CUSTODY [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CAR STOLEN [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

BOSTON INTERVIEW SUBJECT RELATIVE TO HIS EXACT WHEREABOUTS ON THE WEST
COAST AT TIME OF SLAYING. LOS ANGELES FURNISH BOSTON WITH DATES AND
DETAILS OF SLAYING. THIS OFFICE WILL ENDEAVOR INTERVIEW [REDACTED]
TODAY.

SURAN

ACK IN ORDER PLEASE

WA 2-26 PM OK FBI WA [REDACTED]

BS OK FBI BS [REDACTED]

LA OK FBI LA [REDACTED] DISCO

62 FEB 24 1947

62-82627-23

FBI

80 FEB 15 1947

RECORDED

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Los Angeles (13) California
February 15, 1947

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. 62-2928

Handwritten: 3A-13

Director, FBI

RE: ELIZABETH SHORT
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Attention: FBI LABORATORY

Dear Sir:

On the early morning of January 15, 1947 the mutilated body of ELIZABETH SHORT was found in a vacant lot in a residential section of Los Angeles. She was last seen alive, according to information thus far available to the Police, the night of January 9, 1947 when she was dropped off in the lobby of the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles by a male friend. The body was cut into around the waist with a very sharp instrument and the cut was very cleanly done--none of the internal organs being touched except to sever the intestines. The cut through the backbone was very cleanly done. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] There is some speculation that the murderer had had some training in dissection of bodies.

b7D

Handwritten: b2y, G.I.R.-5

[REDACTED]

b7D

I am enclosing [REDACTED] which were found on the body and as a cooperative measure with the Los Angeles Police Department I am requesting the Technical Laboratory to make an examination of these [REDACTED]. It would be of considerable assistance to have [REDACTED] described as to size, quality and type; particularly, as to whether they are [REDACTED] or some other composition. If the Laboratory has any information as to the types [REDACTED] are used it would be of assistance. It is felt that the murder was committed indoors, where water, drainage facilities and perhaps medical equipment was available. The possibility has even been advanced that some medical student residing in an undertaking establishment, which is done in this area, might have committed the offense. Any possible leads that the Laboratory can suggest would be appreciated. [REDACTED] should be returned when they have served their purpose. If it is necessary to destroy them in the examination, there is no objection to such action. The Bureau is requested to teletype its report on [REDACTED]

b7D

b2y

RECEIVED
2/18/47
AND SPECIMENS RETURNED TO LA
FOR LAB. ACTION AND REPORT
AIR MAIL REGISTERED
FILE

Very truly yours,

R. B. HOOD
SAC

62-82627-24

31 FEB 1947

SEVEN

b7y



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TOLSON

FROM : L. B. NICHOLS

SUBJECT: *b7c*

DATE: Jan. 18, 1947

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Tele. Room	
Miss Gandy	

In connection with the call from [redacted] this morning advising that the fingerprints of an unidentified woman were being forwarded to the Bureau by the Los Angeles Examiner via International News Pictures, I wish to advise that Mr. Quinn Tamm has just informed me that the prints had been identified by a search through the Ident files.

We have two prints. The print actually used in the identification was a criminal print submitted by the Santa Barbara Police Department showing the girl's name as Elizabeth Short; arrested September 23, 1943, on a charge of 700K, Juvenile Court laws; disposition, released to the Probation Department; born 7-29-24; Hyde Park, Massachusetts; residence, 231 C. S. Montecito Street; height 5' 7"; weight 130 lbs; complexion fair; hair black; eyes, hazel green; mole on face.

With the aid of this print we identified a national defense print that was submitted by the Services of Supply from Camp Cooke, California. The girl's name was given as Elizabeth Short. She was an applicant for position of clerk at the Post Exchange. The prints were taken on January 30, 1943. Date and place of birth are the same as indicated above; height 5' 6"; weight 121 lbs.; hair brown; eyes green; build, medium; scar on back; complexion fair.

At approximately 1:30 p.m. a [redacted] local correspondent for the Los Angeles Times, called Quinn Tamm and was referred to Mr. Jones in my absence. [redacted] referred to the unidentified girl and furnished her fingerprint classification and asked if we could identify her. They, of course, did not have the name.

I think we owe a responsibility to the Los Angeles Examiner since they apparently sent in the prints at considerable cost for the Police Department.

Inasmuch as [redacted] said that the Los Angeles Examiner was sending the prints for the Police Department, I called him at 2:50 p.m. and furnished him the details on the identification.

Food advised + will inform [redacted] Police.

ENCL. ATTACHED

15

Mr. Tolson

1-17-47

wait until calls back - identified + send to police. Give name.

If no calls by 7 pm OK then

146

162-82627-25

Called 6:10 PM

9 given idg

b7c

b7c

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

SLAIN

GIRL



IDENTIFIED

62-82627-257

ENCLOSURE

L. A. Jones 1-17-47

Victim From Santa Barbara According to Records of F.B.I.

New Torture Disclosed by Autopsy

Fingerprints tentatively identified the attractive victim of a brutal sex-fiend murder found Wednesday in a vacant lot near Norton Ave. and 39th St. as Elizabeth Short, 22, of Santa Barbara, the Federal Bureau of Investigation informed The Times yesterday.

The identification, gleaned from the vast fingerprint files of the government agency, was made after scores of persons telephoned and visited the homicide detail in City Hall claiming the girl to be a relative or friend.

Cause of Death Given

One youth was questioned at the City Jail as a possible suspect in the sadistic slaying, while in the Coroner's office autopsy physicians announced that Miss Short died of hemorrhage and shock. The young woman's mouth was slit with a knife three inches on each side while she was still alive, the doctors said.

This plus a concussion of the brain induced by blows on the head caused her death, they stated. Other mutilation of the body, which was found cut in half and otherwise desecrated, occurred after death, in their opinion.

The F.B.I. files disclosed the victim's identity after The Times wired classification of her fingerprints to Washington. No definite address was available. Santa Barbara, according to the bureau, was Miss Short's last known residence. She may have lived elsewhere just prior to her slaying.

L. R. Jones 1-17-37

Fiend Slaying Victim's Life Story Under Check

Santa Barbara Arrest Learned From F.B.I.

Girl Once Arrested

Santa Barbara police revealed that Miss Short was arrested there in the latter part of September, 1943, when she was seen drinking with a number of soldiers in the El Paseo Restaurant. A minor, she claimed one of the soldiers was her husband. Police disproved this.

Further investigation at that time disclosed that the girl was living with one Vera Green in a West Cabrillo Beach court at 321-C W. Montecito St.

Policewoman Mary Unkefer and other officers who visited the place reported that they found two soldiers there, one of them in the bedroom. Miss Green stated that he was her husband, but subsequently it was learned that her soldier husband was overseas.

The Santa Barbara authorities placed Miss Short on a train by

order of juvenile officials, to be returned to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cleo Short of Medford, Mass. Since then she has not been seen in the Mission City.

At the time she was photographed in the Santa Barbara police station, Miss Short had small, brown, melelike freckles on her left arm and two faint, small, brown moles on her right cheek. This tallies in some degree with the results of an examination of the murder victim.



FIEND'S VICTIM—Elizabeth Short of Santa Barbara, identified as the fiend's victim whose mutilated body was found in a vacant lot near Norton Ave. and 39th St. here.

Movements Traced

Capt. Jack A. Donohoe, given the identification by The Times, launched an immediate investigation to trace the movements of the girl before she fell prey to the perverted sadism of a person who apparently tortured her before she died.

Drs. Frederick D. Newbar and Victor Cefalu, deputy autopsy surgeons, reported finding three deep abrasions on the forehead just over the right eye. They indicated Miss Short had been severely slugged by a blunt instrument, which may have caused concussion. Her skull was not fractured.

When the young woman's body was found some small pieces of flesh were missing. These were found by the autopsy surgeons.

Tied for Torture

Marks around the girl's legs, wrists, neck and right thigh showed she had been tied with rope or wire prior to death. Det. Lts. Harry Hansen and F. A. Brown said they believed she had been bound and tortured before her murderer carried her body to the Norton Ave. "lovers lane" for disposal.

So shocked by the details of the butcher-murder were city officials that a \$10,000 reward was planned for the capture of the slayer. City Councilman Lloyd G. Davis said he will ask the posting of the reward at the earliest opportunity.

Resemblance Doubted

Policewoman Myrl McBride, who said the victim looked like a girl she talked with on Main St. last Tuesday night, last night was more dubious about the resemblance after seeing Elizabeth Short's photograph.

The policewoman said the girl came to her in a bus station,

saying "Someone wants to kill me," then told of a former serviceman-suitors meeting her in a bar and repeating a threat on her life should he find her with another man. Policewoman McBride said she later saw the girl re-enter the bar and emerge with two men and another woman. She had told the policewoman she was to meet her parents at the bus station later, Miss McBride said.

The entire homicide detail joined in the widening search for the killer as telephones in the squad room jangled incessantly with the tips of citizens who read of the murder.

Depot Visitor Questioned

Picked up by officers early yesterday at the bus depot at Sixth and Los Angeles Sts., Cecil French, 23, of Bakersfield, was booked on suspicion of a morals offense and questioned concerning possible implication in Miss Short's murder.

French, said the officers, was seen molesting women in the vicinity of the depot. His automobile, parked near by, was missing a back seat. French told Hansen and Brown that he had removed the seat to carry some machinery. He was not considered a "hot" suspect.

Cars Seen Near Scene

Another witness, Bob Myer, also reported seeing a Ford sedan pause near where the body was found, and continue. He placed the time at 6:30 a.m.

Other witnesses, however, said they walked past the lot as late as 8:30 a.m. Wednesday without seeing the body found only 12 feet from the sidewalk.

Sex Fiend Slaying Victim Identified by Fingerprint Records of F.B.I.

'Times' Learns Girl Wrote Mother She Worked in San Diego Hospital

Fingerprints identified the attractive victim of a brutal sex-fiend murder found Wednesday in a vacant lot near Norton Ave. and 39th St. as Elizabeth Short, 22, last known address Santa Barbara, the Federal Bureau of Investigation informed The Times yesterday.

The F.B.I. identification was made in Washington, being gleaned from the vast fingerprint files of the government agency. It was made as scores of persons telephoned and visited the homicide detail in City Hall, claiming the girl to be a relative or friend.

Reported in San Diego

In a telephone call to Boston The Times learned last night that Elizabeth Short wrote her mother, Mrs. Phoebe Short of Medford, Mass., suburb of Boston, that she had worked in a San Diego hospital.

From San Diego it was reported that the girl had been living in Pacific Beach, with another girl, whom San Diego detectives were seeking to question last night about Elizabeth Short's acquaintances. Mrs. Short also reported that her daughter wrote of having worked at Camp Cooke as a waitress.

Youth Questioned

One youth was questioned at the City Jail as a possible suspect in the sadistic slaying, while in the coroner's office autopsy physicians announced that Miss Short died of hemorrhage and shock. The young woman's mouth was slit with a knife three inches on each side while she was still alive, the doctors said.

This plus a concussion of the brain induced by blows on the head caused her death, they stated. Other mutilation of the body, which was found cut in half and otherwise desecrated, occurred after death, in their opinion.

Hollywood Visits Told

From two police sources last night came word that Elizabeth Short had lived in Hollywood in October.

Two young men and two young women visited the homicide squad office to report they recognized the victim as "Betty" Short, with whom they occasionally had visited a Hollywood night club about three months ago. The girl, whom they described as very classy, told the young people that she was engaged to an Army flyer from Texas, named "George," and that she "could marry him any time and probably would," according to their story to police.

Police also reported that Harold F. Costa, 31, and Donald Lyles, 22, of 1161 N. Orange Drive, last night identified the victim as Elizabeth (Beth) Short who lived for two months at the same hotel at which they resided and "went around" with two girl friends they named as Margie Graham and Lynn Martin.

The F.B.I. files disclosed the victim's identity after The Times wired classification of her fingerprints to Washington. No definite address was available, Santa Barbara, according to the bureau, was Miss Short's last known residence. She may have lived elsewhere just prior to her slaying.

Girl Arrested

Santa Barbara police revealed that Miss Short was arrested there in the latter part of September, 1943, when she was seen drinking with a number of soldiers in the El Paseo Restaurant. Then a minor, she claimed one of the soldiers was her husband. Police disproved this.

Further investigation at that time disclosed that the girl was living with one Vera Green in a West Cabrillo Beach court at 321-C W. Montecito St.

Policewoman Mary Unkefer and other officers who visited the place reported that they found two soldiers there, one of them in the bedroom. Miss Green stated that he was her husband, but subsequently it was learned that her soldier-husband was overseas.

The Santa Barbara authorities placed Miss Short on a train by order of juvenile officials, to be returned to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cleo Short of Medford, Mass. Since then she has not been seen in the Mission City.

At the time she was photographed in the Santa Barbara police station, Miss Short had small, brown, molelike freckles on her left arm and two faint, small, brown moles on her right cheek. This tallies in some degree with the results of an examination of the murder victim.

Movements Traced

Capt. Jack A. Donohoe, given the identification by The Times, launched an immediate investigation to trace the movements of the girl before she fell prey to the perverted sadism of a person who apparently tortured her before she died.

Drs. Frederick D. Newbar and Victor Cefalu apply autopsy

DATED 1-17-47

Once Ar

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Ladd.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Rosen.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Mr. Carson.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Gurnea.....
- Mr. Harbo.....
- Mr. Hendon.....
- Mr. Pennington.....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
- Mr. Nease.....
- Miss Gandy.....

ENCLOSURE

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surgeons reported finding three deep abrasions on the forehead just over the right eye. They indicated Miss Short had been severely slugged by a blunt instrument, which may have caused concussion. Her skull was not fractured.

When the young woman's body was found some small pieces of flesh were missing. These were found by the autopsy surgeons.

Tied for Torture

Marks around the girl's legs, wrists, neck and right thigh showed she had been tied with rope or wire prior to death. Det. Lts. Harry Hansen and F. A. Brown said they believed she had been bound and tortured before her murderer carried her body to the Norton Ave. "lovers' lane" for disposal.

So shocked by the details of the butcher-murder were city officials that a \$10,000 reward was planned for the capture of the slayer. City Councilman Lloyd G. Davis said he will ask the posting of the reward at the earliest opportunity.

Resemblance Doubted

Policewoman Myrl McBride, who said the victim looked like a girl she talked with on Main St. last Tuesday night, last night was more dubious about the resemblance after seeing Elizabeth Short's photograph.

The policewoman said the girl came to her in a bus station, saying "Someone wants to kill me," then told of a former serviceman-suitors' meeting her in a bar and repeating a threat on her life should he find her with another man. Policewoman McBride said she later saw the girl re-enter the bar and emerge with two men and another woman. She had told the policewoman she was to meet her parents at the bus station later, Miss McBride said.

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French, said the officers, was seen molesting women in the vicinity of the depot. His automobile, parked near by, was missing a back seat. French told Hansen and Brown that he had removed the seat to carry some machinery. He was not considered a "hot" suspect.

One caller said he had seen a car drive slowly along Norton Ave. at 5:30 a.m. Wednesday, pause to turn into an alley, then continue slowly away. The caller did not give his name.

Cars Seen Near Scene

Another witness, Bob Myer, also reported seeing a Ford sedan pause near where the body was found, and continue. He placed the time at 6:30 a.m.

Other witnesses, however, said they walked past the lot as late as 8:30 a.m. Wednesday without seeing the body, found only 12 feet from the sidewalk.

An automobile registered to Willford A. Dougherty, 4212 E. Slauson Ave., abandoned in a service station at 950 W. Manchester Ave., was thought to be a lead yesterday. Strands of grass hung from the mud-splattered door. Flecks of blood dotted the upholstery. Three newspapers, all dealing with the crime, lay on the seat.

Det. Lt. Stewart Jones dismissed Dougherty as a suspect, however, when it was learned that he had left the car in the service station early yesterday morning on his way home from a party.

Soundphoto Assists Probe of Mystery

*Victim Named as Elizabeth Short;
Crews Hunted at Santa Barbara*

Through fingerprints rushed to the FBI in Washington by the Los Angeles Examiner, the girl victim of a mutilation murder whose body was found here Wednesday was identified yesterday.

She is Elizabeth Short, 22 years old, at one time employed as a civilian clerk at Camp Cooke, 20 miles north of Lompoc.

FBI records listed the home address as Santa Barbara and that she was born July 29, 1924, in Hyde Park, Mass.

The records also showed she had been arrested as a juvenile delinquent at Santa Barbara September 23, 1943, and released.

Her description in the FBI file tallied with that of the slain girl and her fingerprints clinched the identification.

Soundphotos Aid Identification

No trace of the girl after she left Camp Cooke was found in the records.

The identification was brought about by the cooperative effort of the Examiner, International News Sound photos and the FBI.

The Examiner obtained fingerprints of the slain girl and sent them by soundphoto to this newspaper's bureau in Washington, D. C. Ray Richards, manager of the bureau and a former Examiner reporter, took the prints to the FBI offices.

The FBI quickly checked through its massive fingerprint records and established that the prints were those of the Short girl.

Reporters Trace Victim's Movements

She was described in the FBI files as 5 feet 6 inches tall, 121 pounds in weight, with brown hair and green eyes, medium build and fair complexion.

Examiner reporters were immediately sent to Santa Barbara and Camp Cooke to trace back on the girl's movements and to trace her to this city.

The identification by the Examiner came as the first big break in the investigation of the crime which shook the city.

The girl's body, severed at the waist, was found Wednesday morning in a vacant lot on Norton avenue between 39th street and Coliseum avenue. She had been dead about 10 hours at the time she was found. The slayer had killed her else-

where and then placed the body in plain view. It was only a few feet from the sidewalk.

Efforts to solve the crime had been blocked all Wednesday night by lack of identification of the body and police were practically at a standstill in the case until the Examiner learned the victim's identity.

One suspect—Cecil French of Bakerfield—was in custody.

CAR CLEW—

Arrested after he had been accused of molesting women at the bus depot, he revealed he owned a car which later proved it might be a connecting link to the Short slaying.

The back seat was removed. On other upholstery there was

stains which police chemists were analyzing.

A car had been seen at the Norton avenue site about the time Miss Short's mutilated body was deposited there. This car and French's police said, were similar in description.

SISTER LOCATED—

After contact had been made with Mrs. Short in Massachusetts, the investigation swung to Berkeley. There a sister of the slain girl, Mrs. A. C. West, lives at 2614 Warring street.

It was possible, investigators believed, Mrs. West would know something about Elizabeth's movements.

Late last night, the clerk of the North Orange drive hotel told how Miss Short, who had lived there with two other girls, often "ran behind in her rent."

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"A ~~man~~ short, dark and about 35—would come to the desk and pay her r" the clerk said.

"This man owned a fairly old model black Ford sedan. When the three girls left, they drove off in this sedan."

Reporters learned at Santa Barbara that at the time Miss Short was taken into custody three years ago, she was betried by the arresting policewoman, Mary H. Unefer.

"She had the blackest hair I ever saw," Miss Unefer recalled yesterday.

At the time of her death, the girl's hair was hennaed, but the original dark strands were beginning to regrow.

LIVING IN COURT—

"She was living in a court with a Vera Green," Miss Unefer also said. "There were four soldiers from Camp Cooke in their cottage when they were arrested. Miss Green said one

of them was her husband, but we later learned her husband was a soldier overseas."

The cottage was at 321-C West Montecito street, in Santa Barbara. This was the address given by the FBI.

"While she was awaiting action on the probation investigation, I took her into my home," the policewoman continued. "She was with me several days. I noticed she was a very nice girl and was most neat about her person and clothes."

"The juvenile court released her on probation finally and I took her to a bus on which she started to Massachusetts. The Santa Barbara Neighborhood House gave her \$10 for expense money."

REACHED HOME—

Miss Unefer said she was "positive" Miss Short reached her home in Medford because several letters came to her from the girl there.

This was another fact confirmed by the mother.

The policewoman revealed that the Short girl had a rose tattooed on her left leg.

"She loved to sit so that it would show," Miss Unefer recalled.

The slayer mutilated this identifying blemish.

The girl apparently went to work at Camp Cooke—in the commissary—on her return to California. The camp is about four miles north of Lompoc.

Meantime Dr. Newbarr officially reported the cause of death as "hemorrhage and shock due to laceration of the face and concussion of the brain."



MATCHED—This fingerprint, transmitted via aou to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, was several which identified slaying victim here as Elizabeth
—International News so



VICTIM IDENTIFIED—This is Elizabeth 22, whose mutilated body was found on a Los Angeles va Wednesday morning. She was identified through fing rushed to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washin this newspaper.

L.A. Examiner 1/21/41



FBI AIDED—Quinn Tamm (seated), inspector in charge of FBI identification in Washington, D. C., examines a set of fingerprints held by Jerome Butler, of Hearst newspapers Wash-

ington staff. The prints were sent via International News Soundphoto and the Los Angeles Examiner to identify the Los Angeles slaying victim as Elizabeth Short.

International News soundphoto

POLICE AIDED BY SOUNDPHOTO

By Ray Richards

Los Angeles Examiner Washington Bureau
WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—Identification of 22-year-old Elizabeth Short as the Los Angeles victim of one of the most brutal murders in crime annals was a cross-country feat of enterprise and scientific coordination today.

Participating were the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Los Angeles Examiner, the Washington Bureau of the Hearst newspapers, International News photos and Detective Sergeants Harry Hansen and E. A. Brown of Los Angeles.

Successful, almost instantaneous transmission by wire across the continent of the delicate whorls, loops and "tents" of the dead girl's fingerprints is believed to have expanded the boundaries of crime detection.

PRaise GIVEN

Praising the Examiner's enterprise and the clarity of the INP Soundphotos, the FBI said it considered the identification "an outstanding accomplishment."

The Examiner dispatched the prints to Washington by the INP which sends images by sound impulse through leased telephone wires in the most up-to-the-minute development of picture transmission.

Facilities for a check of the Soundphotoed images among the 104,000,000 separate fingerprints in the vast FBI files in Washington had been arranged by the Hearst Washington Bureau with FBI officials.

Within an hour after the bureau had delivered the prints to the FBI, the identification had been made.

IMPERFECT

Given perfect fingerprints, it would have taken the FBI only a few minutes to locate those of the girl among the 104,000,000, so perfectly organized is the agency's file system.

But the dead fingers had not provided good prints.

The FBI undertook the task of "building up" the blank spots and other defects in the prints by a system which represents the final advance in identification methods.

With defective prints, as in the case of the Los Angeles murder victim, much of the search had to be conducted by hand, among filing cabinets crowding a former National Guard armory four times the expanse of a regulation football field.

1-17-47

L. A. Examiner

HUNT DEFINITE SUSPECT IN L. A. HORROR MURDER



... OF A CRAZY GIBBON
Elizabeth S... 22 was tortured and butchered

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

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ENCLOSURE

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