(Escaped Federal Prisoner)

SUBJECT Arthur Barker (Death Of)

FILE NUMBER 76-4125

SECTION NUMBER 1

SERIALS 1-26

TOTAL PAGES 176

PAGES RELEASED 155

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EXEMPTION(S) USED B3 B7c B7d

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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Egan
Mr. Fo[illegible]orth
Mr. G[illegible]
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. M[illegible]
Mr. N[illegible]
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

EAT:DM

Time - 8:00 A. M. January 13, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Pieper called me at this time to advise that the five prisoners who are missing from Alcatraz have been located on the beach on the island. While they were successful in getting outside the confines proper of the penitentiary, they did not escape from the Island. Mr. Pieper stated that he was informed that two of the men were dead, two wounded and one was apparently all right and that as soon as he can get additional information he would call me.

At 9:15 A. M. Mr. Pieper called to state that the five escapees were all in custody and that the prisoners had all been replaced in the cell block. The persons who were escaping are Arthur Barker, Dale Stamphill, Rufus McCain, Henry Young and William Martin (negro). Arthur Barker and Dale Stamphill have been wounded but the others are apparently all right. Mr. Pieper states that as soon as he can get complete and detailed information, he will notify us, and in answer to his question as to whether he should initiate an investigation of the facts surrounding the escape, I told him he should do so if full and complete information is furnished to us, but that if the prison authorities intend to compete with us in the matter of investigation, that we should not conduct any investigation whatsoever.

Respectfully,

EAT

E. A. TAMM

RECORDED & INDEXED

76-4175-1
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 17 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TOLSON NICHOLS FOG. SUP.

Lee Insley Condl
Alcatraz Penitentiary

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4

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

PEF:RMB

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

January 13, 1939

Time: 10:00 A. M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

Re: Alcatraz Escape

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. McIntire
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

Mr. Benett, Director of Bureau of Prisons, called this morning, and in your absence I talked to him.

He advised of the attempt which five prisoners made to escape from Alcatraz this morning. He further stated that the warden had notified the San Francisco Office and requested their cooperation in the investigation. Mr. Benett informed that the newspaper-men were "swamping" him, and that he would send a copy of the news release which gave the details. He also stated that he might have to go to San Francisco himself on the matter.

The news release containing the details is attached.

Respectfully,

P. E. Foxworth
P. E. FOXWORTH
RECORDED
&
INDEXED

I ENCL. T

I didn't receive this until 12.10 P.M. Things like this should be promptly forwarded to me.

H.

76-4175-2
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 13 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TOLSON TAMM FUG. SEP. TRACY MISS GANDY PERS. FILES

3

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216 SEP 9 1966

5

January 13, 1939

NEWS RELEASE

Five prisoners were defeated in their attempt to escape Alcatraz Prison this morning.

Arthur R. Barker serving life for kidnaping
Dale Stamphill under life sentence for kidnaping
Rufus Roy McCain serving sentence of 99 years for national bank robbery and kidnaping
Henry Young under sentence of 20 years for robbery of national bank
William Martin under sentence of 25 years for armed robbery of post office.

were involved.

The escape was discovered about 4:00 a.m. when it was found they had sawed out of the cell block . They were later discovered on the shore by guards, and in resisting recapture, three were injured. Two of them had gotten into the water. The Coast Guard and the San Francisco Police detailed boats to aid in the recapture. These boats were supplemented by the prison launch.

In some manner, we do not yet understand, the prisoners apparently managed to obtain a saw and with it got out of their cells and through the exterior window of the cell block. In the dense fog enveloping the island they managed to elude the officer guarding the outside of the cell block and got as far as the shore before they were apprehended. There was no evidence that they had any help from the outside and no boats were found in the vicinity of the island.

Dale Stamphill was shot in the leg and probably not seriously wounded. Arthur (Doc) Barker received a wound in the leg and also one in the head which may be serious. Martin's injury was apparently not dangerous.

The entire episode is being investigated by the Department.

76-4175-2

6

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

EAT:JW

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

January 13, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: ESCAPE ATTEMPT AT
ALCATRAZ

Director James V. Bennett, of the Bureau of Prisons, called this afternoon to advise for your information that he is leaving later today for San Francisco in order to take personal charge of the situation at Alcatraz. I advised Mr. Bennett that you had issued instructions directly to the Special Agent in Charge at San Francisco to render all the assistance possible in connection with this matter.

Respectfully,

EDWARD A. TAMM

I advised SAC at San Francisco.
H.

RECORDED
&
~~INDEXED~~

76-4175-3
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 17 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TOLSON
TAMM
FUG. SERV.
FILE

JEH:SBR

January 13, 1939

Time: 11:55 AM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

Re: Attempted Escape at Alcatraz

I telephoned SAC Pieper at San Francisco and told him that the Department wants us to make a very thorough investigation of this matter. SAC Pieper stated that he had already sent Agents J. H. Rice and A. E. Farland over there and that he was going over himself in a short while. I advised SAC Pieper that he was not to say anything except that he had instructions to investigate this matter and that if any trouble arose with Warden Johnson to get in touch with me immediately. I further advised SAC Pieper that he was to report to me directly and he stated that he would call me as soon as he got anything comprehensive.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Grant
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. McIntire
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Troy
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
JAN 13 1939
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

FUG. SEP

76-4175-4
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 16 1939
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

8

Los Angeles, California
January 17, 1939.

Special Agent in Charge
San Francisco, California

RE: ALCATRAZ ATTEMPTED ESCAPE
January 13, 1939

Dear Sir:

There is transmitted herewith the original of Bureau letter dated January 16, 1939, and enclosures therewith, which the Bureau requested be forwarded your office immediately upon their receipt here.

Very truly yours,

VAL C. ZIMMER,
Special Agent in Charge.

VIF:fl
encl.
cc: Bureau
AMASD

DIVISION ONE
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1939 JAN 23 AM 8:10
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
INVESTIGATION U.S.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF

76-4175-4
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 24 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FUG. SUP.

9

San Francisco, California,
January 23, 1939

Special Agent in Charge,
Los Angeles, California

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Sir:

RE: ARTHUR R. BARKER alias DOC (deceased);
DALE STAMPHILL, RUFUS McCAIN, HENRY
YOUNG, WILLIAM MARTIN, ESCAPED
FEDERAL PRISONERS

This office is now conducting an investigation relative to the attempted escape of the above named individuals from Alcatraz Penitentiary on the early morning of January 13, 1939, by sawing their way out of the cells and one of the wall windows, where they got as far as the beach when they were apprehended.

Confidential information furnished to the Director of the Bureau of Prisons, Mr. BENNETT, is to the effect that one [redacted] employed at Alcatraz as a guard was "kiting" letters, et cetera, out of the prison for BARKER and his associates. [redacted] left Alcatraz on annual leave which took effect December 23, 1938 and terminated January 16, 1939, when he returned to duty. He stated he spent his leave at his home in [redacted] and it is requested that you ascertain discreetly whether or not this is a fact. He is reported to be well known in [redacted]

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Another angle is that one [redacted], known to the Los Angeles Police Department, their number [redacted] might possibly be connected with this escape as an outside contact. This information was also furnished to Mr. BENNETT and our information is that [redacted] is now conducting a book and beer joint in Los Angeles. It is requested that you make discreet inquiry as to whether or not he is or has been in Los Angeles during the past year and if he has left the city for how long a period.

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INDEXED

76-475

For your information Mr. BENNET did not divulge the name of his informant; however he requested that this information be obtained and same was authorized by the Director. It is requested that this investigation be expedited.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 27 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FUG. SUP.

Very truly yours,

N. J. L. PIEPER,
Special Agent in Charge

AEF:MLA
76-347
cc Bureau

10

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

January 13, 1939

M E M O R A N D U M

In connection with the attempted escape of Arthur "Doc" Barker, Dave Stamphill, Henry Young, Rufus Roy McCain and William Martin, alias Martin Tyree, the following information is being set forth as to the particular violation of Federal law pursuant to which each was placed in the custody of the Attorney General of the United States, according to the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Arthur "Doc" Barker was sentenced in the United States District Court at St. Paul, Minnesota, on May 17, 1935, for his participation in the kidnaping of Edward George Bremer at St. Paul, Minnesota, on January 17, 1934.

Dave Stamphill was found guilty on October 26, 1937, for the violation of the Federal Kidnaping Statute, in the United States District Court at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and on the same day was sentenced to serve the rest of his natural life in a United States Penitentiary with the recommendation that he be incarcerated in the United States Penitentiary, Alcatraz Island, California. This individual escaped from the Oklahoma State Reformatory, Granite, Oklahoma, on February 17, 1935, with other inmates, after killing a guard of that reformatory in making their escape, and subsequently on February 27, 1935, with two other inmates robbed the First National Bank at Seiling, Oklahoma, with the use of firearms, and in order to avoid apprehension kidnaped Doctor Fred Lewis Myers and transported him in his automobile in interstate commerce from Leedy, Oklahoma, to Glazier, Texas.

Henry Young on December 29, 1934, entered a plea of guilty to an indictment returned against him on December 19, 1934, charging him with the robbery of the First National Bank at Lind, Washington, and on December 29, 1934, he was sentenced to a term of twenty years in the custody of the Attorney General on each of two counts to run concurrently, the sentencing Judge recommending the United States Penitentiary, Alcatraz Island, California, as the place of incarceration for this sentence. This individual was paroled from

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76-4175-4X
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 25 1939
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The Washington State Penitentiary on October 12, 1934, and was out on parole at the time of the commission of this bank robbery.

On May 30, 1935, at Muskogee, Oklahoma, an indictment was returned charging Rufus Roy McCain with the robbery of the Idabel National Bank, Idabel, Oklahoma, on May 15, 1934, in three counts, and with the violation of the National Motor Vehicle Theft Act in two counts. On June 11, 1935, McCain was sentenced on the bank robbery indictment to twenty years on the first count, twenty-five years on the second count, and ninety-nine years on the third and last count, and fined him $100.00 on each of these counts, and on the National Motor Vehicle Theft Act indictment, he was sentenced to five years on each of two counts, all sentences to run concurrently and to be served in a Federal Penitentiary designated by the Attorney General.

As to William Martin, alias Martin Tyree, who was received at the United States Penitentiary, Alcatraz Island, California, on March 16, 1937, for Post Office assault and armed robbery to serve twenty-five years, the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation fail to definitely indicate that this Bureau conducted any investigation resulting in this sentence being imposed as to him.

JEE:EP

Time - 2:40 PM

January 14, 1939

RECORDED & INDEXED

76-4175-5

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JAN 18 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TA

Mr. Pieper called at this time to report developments in the investigation of the escape from Alcatraz. He stated that he was speaking with [redacted] this morning, [redacted] informed Pieper that this is a very bad spot and that some weeks ago he made a report on the situation, stating that he could not see the guard on the gun gallery and that the men on the gun gallery could not see him, and that these particular cells were not visible to the man who is supposed to see them from the gun gallery. [redacted] does not recall whether this report was made in a regular form report or in memorandum form.

As for the administrative angle of the prison, Mr. Pieper stated that at the top is the Warden who stands by himself and will not listen to anyone. Then there is Deputy Warden Miller who has his own clique. Miller seems to be a tough, hard-boiled prison official who can't get along with the men. Miller appears to tell the Warden just about what he wants to tell him, and any other information he covers up, he merely answers the questions which the Warden puts to him. The men employed in the prison appear to have been making reports on the things which seem wrong to them and every time they make a report to Miller he takes it as a personal criticism instead of something constructive, with the result that the men have gotten to the point where they no longer make any reports. Mr. Pieper stated, of course, that the morale at the prison is pretty bad.

[redacted] advised Pieper that the situation in the Isolation Section almost makes that section a country club. The D Cell Block is the place where the prisoners want to be. They have the best ventilation there, they have reading material and they are the best cells. [redacted] also told Mr. Pieper that the administrative officers at the prison appear to bargain with the prisoners, allowing them to be in whatever cell they desire or next to someone they want to be near, just as long as the prisoners behave. [redacted] stated there is absolutely no discipline; that when the guard in the cell block tries to discipline a prisoner he reports to the Deputy Warden who doesn't back the guard up, with the result that the prisoners, when the guard returns to the cell block, just laugh at him.

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Mr. Pieper stated that some of the other guards are coming to the San Francisco office and will probably give more of this type of information, and I told Mr. Pieper to incorporate this information in some sort of a supplement to the regular report.

Mr. Pieper stated that he understands they thoroughly searched the kitchen last night but found nothing of value there, but they did find a meter box saw in the print shop and also a putty knife with a saw blade on one end of it. These two articles were concealed in the print shop. I asked Pieper concerning the searching of the mattresses in the various cells and he stated that they were supposed to have started searching these last night.

Mr. Pieper stated that from the picture of the situation at Alcatraz which he gets he does not believe anyone there is actually corrupt, but it is a question of persons in administrative positions failing to properly handle their jobs, with the resultant break down in the morale. As a matter of fact, [redacted] told Mr. Pieper that it reflected in his efficiency rating that he had attempted to instill some discipline and attempted to remedy situations which appeared wrong, since in the efficiency rating they stated he was hard headed and that he was not the type who should be among the prisoners.

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b7d

Mr. Pieper mentioned the fact that Mr. Schilder arrived at Alcatraz this morning. I told Pieper that Schilder was no friend of the Bureau and that the Agents should be instructed to give him nothing.

Mr. Pieper also stated that in accordance with my instructions last evening, he called the Warden and informed him as to all the facts in our possession relative to another possible attempted break and also relative to possible attempts to get the Warden.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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JEE:ECB

January 14, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

76-4175-6

RECORDED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 18 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

I thought you would be interested in the preliminary report which I have telephonically received from the Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Office in San Francisco upon the attempted escape yesterday of five prisoners from Alcatraz.

1. Time element.- I shall first set forth the time elements appearing in this escape in order that you may be familiar with this aspect. There are three prison count checks during the night at Alcatraz. The first is at midnight, the second is at 3:00 a.m. and the third is at 6:00 a.m. The 3:00 a.m. count on the morning of January 13th was made and everybody was found accounted for. At approximately 3:35 a.m., January 13th, one man was missed from D cell block, which is the isolation ward, where the five men who attempted to escape were located. As soon as it was found that one man was missing, the prison guard immediately notified the prison administration as per instructions, not waiting to see if any more prisoners were missing. At 3:42 a.m. an actual count of the tier was made and it was then found that five men were missing, namely, Young, McCain, Barker, Martin and Stamphill. These men all had individual cells adjoining each other. At 4:01 a.m. the general alarm whistle blew and the San Francisco Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation was notified, as were the other law enforcement agencies in San Francisco. At 4:10 a.m. Barker and Stamphill were sighted on the shore at Alcatraz and by 4:30 a.m. all of the remaining prisoners who attempted to escape were sighted. At 5:18 a.m. Barker entered the hospital at Alcatraz and at 5:21 a.m. Stamphill was entered in the hospital at Alcatraz. At 5:36 all five of the prisoners had been returned to the prison and at 6:00 o'clock check the count showed all prisoners accounted for.

2. As to the condition of the cells from which the prisoners escaped.- Cells 529 through 531 each had two flat bar metal pieces which permitted an aperture of about 10 to 16 inches. Cell 532 had two of the bars on the door cut, which permitted an aperture of 8 to 9 inches. The door bars are square and an examination showed that they had been sawed and filed smooth. The cuts were covered from time to time by paint mixed with floor wax, putty not being used as generally the practice when such attempts are made. Each prisoner escaped through his own cell door and then crossed the corridor of

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hoover
Mr. Jones
Mr. Martin
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Schilder
Mr. Walter
Mr. Wilson
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Jones
Mr. Martin
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Schilder
Mr. Walter
Mr. Wilson
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hoover
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin

the cell block to the window on the outside wall, where a bar had been broken loose and an outside window with steel framing had been cut out. The escape to the outside was made through this window.

3. As to the tools used.- William Martin, one of the convicts who attempted to escape and who was saved from drowning by Deputy Warden Miller, has made a statement to the effect that each of the five prisoners who attempted to escape had worked on the bars in his cell and the window when they had a chance, both at night and during the day. It has been ascertained that Barker planned the escape and that the escape was set for consummation for at least a month; that everything was ready and that the prisoners were only waiting for the right foggy night. All of the five prisoners had saw blades and after they had finished the sawing of the bars about a month ago, the blades were thrown into the lavatories on the Island so that any search of the cells or their persons would not disclose the blades. The heavy bar which is on the inside of the outside wall windows, and through which the prisoners escaped, is made of steel, which is supposed to resist any type of cutting. The prisoners could not cut the bar, but they pried it loose with an instrument they made, which is known as a screw-jack, which is about one-half inch in diameter and four inches long, with a bolt on the screw and a groove on the bolt. The use of this caused a tension which snapped the bar several times. The bar was then put back in place, and has been in the condition indicated for at least a month. The saws and the screw-jack used by the prisoners were smuggled into the isolation ward many weeks ago by Stanphill when he, Stanphill, was working in the cell house. After Stanphill smuggled this material into the isolation ward he, Stanphill, then committed a violation of the rules by having a knife in his regular cell, and as a result of this violation Stanphill was then placed in the isolation ward into which he had already smuggled the tools to be used in effecting the escape. The saw blades which each of the prisoners had, went through prison inspection in that they were glued into musical instruments believed to be mouth harps. The saw blades were made in the blacksmith shop. It has also been ascertained that copper will not show up on the mechanical devices for detection of metals, with the result that information has been received that there are a number of knives in the possession of prisoners in the cell house made of copper, which is obtainable in the machine shop at Alcatraz. Information received from the prisoners indicates that the mechanical devices used at Alcatraz to detect smuggled metal are practically useless since they are not sensitive enough to detect the saw blades and knives which are secreted in the mattresses by the prisoners.

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4. As to the method of departure planned from the Island after the escape from within the prison walls.- The five prisoners had planned to get away on a raft. The Agents of the Bureau at San Francisco have recovered a rather crude raft which was being made by the five men at the edge of the water after their escape from within the walls. The lumber for this raft was easily obtainable, not only from the driftwood which is washed up upon the shores at Alcatraz, but also from lumber being used by civilian workmen in making certain improvements and repairs incident to the sewerage and water supply on Alcatraz at the present time. This raft was tied together with sheets torn in strips and some of the planks were as thick as three inches. The actual location of the prisoners after they had escaped from within the walls was when they were endeavoring to obtain additional wood for the raft from the dock on the Island at Alcatraz. The men, when apprehended, were nude or just in shorts, their clothing being tied in bundles and tied onto the raft.

5. As to the details of the apprehension.- Barker and Stamphill were sighted first when they were on the shore of the Island at Alcatraz at a point approximately midway on the Golden Gate side. The Coast Guard launch and the Alcatraz launch were throwing lights on that side, and when the two prisoners were sighted they were ordered to halt, and when they did not stop they were fired upon with a .45 automatic and a Thompson Submachine guns. McCain and Young were apprehended without injury about one-third of the way from the south tip of the Island, on the side toward San Francisco. They were apprehended at the side of the raft. Martin was pulled out of the water at a point very near to the point of the Island which is nearest to San Francisco.

6. As to the condition of the prisoners.- Barker died last evening. Barker's left femur was broken by a bullet which entered the thigh about the middle of the outer surface and emerged a little lower on the inner surface of the thigh. Another bullet entered the neck in the back below the right ear, and appears to have emerged from the inner angle of the right eye. Stamphill has one wound on the outer part of the upper thigh; another a little lower down on the internal surface of the thigh; and a third lower down on the outer and inner surfaces of the right leg above the ankle.

When Barker was apprehended, he exclaimed to one of the guards: "I am crazy as hell - I should never have tried it."

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From information received it would appear that a similar break has been planned by the prisoners who are detailed to the kitchen. It is stated that these prisoners have plans similar to those used by the five who have already attempted to escape, and that the kitchen crew has planned to work on a more elaborate scale and escape, seizing some of the women and children who are members of the families of the guards and employees living on Alcatraz. It is also understood that the same method of physical departure from the Island by this group will be used, namely, the making of a raft in view of the plentiful supply of lumber that is allowed to lie about on the Island. Martin, one of the prisoners who attempted to escape, has stated that everybody on the Island "has it in" for the Warden, and that the men are bound to get him.

I have issued instructions to the Agent in Charge at the San Francisco Office of the FBI to forward by air mail photographs taken of the various physical aspects of this case in order that you may have these available for your examination.

Statements are also being taken from the guards on duty, as well as from the prisoners, though from the latter it is not believed that much information will be secured in view of the general practice of prisoners on the Island refusing to talk to any Government representative. Arrangements have been made today to check the lavatories for the discarded tools and instruments. Our Agents have already recovered eight hand-written notes from the toilets of Young and Stamphill, which upon preliminary examination show that these deal with a discussion of the details of the proposed escape. These notes are being dried and will be given thorough examination by our Laboratory for their contents.

I also instructed the Agent in Charge of our San Francisco Office last night to immediately advise Warden Johnson of the information which we have received to the effect that there are numerous knives in the possession of prisoners in the cells at Alcatraz, and also of the attitude of these prisoners toward him personally, as well as the details concerning the proposed break to be consummated by the kitchen crew, in order that the Warden might take such appropriate steps as he would deem necessary to avoid another attempted escape.

From a cursory examination of this preliminary report there of course stand out a few facts to which probably special attention should be given.

1. The desirability of initiating an inspection of the windows, bars, and cells on Alcatraz at frequent intervals. In this case it is to be noted that these bars had been sawed and the bar at the window loosened and were in this condition for over a month, but were not at any time ascertained by any of the prison guards. It would appear that there is therefore no actual inspection or examination made of these facilities at the prison, and it might be well to consider the desirability of a check of this kind being made at frequent intervals. It is recognized that this might incur some extra labor and effort, but that would seem to be inconsequential as compared with a wholesale break of dangerous felons from this institution.

2. Some steps should be taken to improve the mechanical devices, which are now used to locate metal objects, for if the reports are true from the prisoners on the Island, it would appear that many of them have various types of weapons secreted in their mattresses which are not found through the inspection now made. The same would of course apply to the so-called electric eye through which the prisoners pass from the work shops to the prison cells. It would appear that this instrument is not at the present time as sensitive as it should be for the purposes for which it has been devised. Likewise, it would seem that a very careful check should be made of prisoners working in various parts of the institution, such as in this case when Stamphill smuggled the saw and other articles into the isolation ward when he was working in that ward.

3. It would seem some steps should be taken to curtail the free accessibility to lumber which is now so easily available to the prisoners on the Island. It is to be noted that this lumber is available from

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two sources; first, that which is washed up from the shore; and second, that which is allowed to lie about by the laborers now working on the Island. It, of course, would be no doubt advanced by the Warden that the prisoners would not in the regular course of events be able to gain access to this lumber because it has always been assumed that prisoners could not escape from within the walls, but this attempted escape and the one some months ago definitely proves that prisoners can get from within the walls, and that being a fact, the facilities for making a raft or for being able to float safely away from Alcatraz upon some board or plank should certainly not be available.

4. Some change should be made in the supervision and guarding of the isolation ward. In this case it is to be noted that these five prisoners, in five separate cells, at various times of the day and night sawed the bars from their cell doors and then crossed a hallway at least sixteen feet from the cells to a window from which they loosened a bar and then cut through the framework of the window. The work that accomplished these results had extended over a period of many weeks, and yet no one noted these activities. It would thus appear that the supervision and guarding of the isolation ward are not as thorough or as vigorous as they should be, for if they had been properly supervised and guarded this could not have been accomplished.

5. It would appear that some immediate steps should be taken to check the situation in regard to the proposed break by the kitchen crew. This crew has been reported to have saws and knives in its possession, and these individuals propose to make a break of a more elaborate character than that which occurred yesterday morning, seizing women and children as hostages. While this might sound somewhat fantastic, it is a fact that similar rumors have occurred from time to time that such a plan was in consideration, and in view of the information obtained from Martin, one of the prisoners who attempted to escape yesterday morning, it would now appear that the plan has rather definite developments.

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As soon as I receive further details and a complete report upon the attempted escape of yesterday morning at Alcatraz, I will promptly submit them to you.

Respectfully

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Director's Yellow

JEH:HCB

January 14, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR. JOSEPH B. KEENAN

I am transmitting herewith, for your information, a copy of a memorandum which I have just addressed to the Attorney General, giving a preliminary report of the attempted escape of five prisoners at Alcatraz yesterday morning.

Very truly yours

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Inclosure

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Dalley
Mr. Grant
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Gavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. Maintire
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

RECORDED

76-4175-7
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 17 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
JAN 14 1939
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

22

JEN:TCB

January 14, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

I thought you would be interested in the following preliminary report which I have telephonically received from the Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Office at San Francisco upon the attempted escape yesterday of five prisoners from Alcatraz.

1. Time element.- I shall first set forth the time elements appearing in this escape in order that you may be familiar with this aspect. There are three prison count checks during the night at Alcatraz. The first is at midnight, the second is at 3:00 a.m. and the third is at 6:00 a.m. The 3:00 a.m. count on the morning of January 13th was made and everybody was found accounted for. At approximately 3:35 a.m., January 13th, one man was missed from D cell block, which is the isolation ward, where the five men who attempted to escape were located. As soon as it was found that one man was missing, the prison guard immediately notified the prison administration as per instructions, not waiting to see if any more prisoners were missing. At 3:42 a.m. an actual count of the tier was made and it was then found that five men were missing, namely, Young, McCain, Barker, Martin and Stamphill. These men all had individual cells adjoining each other. At 4:01 a.m. the general alarm whistle blew and the San Francisco Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation was notified, as were the other law enforcement agencies in San Francisco. At 4:10 a.m. Barker and Stamphill were sighted on the shore at Alcatraz and by 4:30 a.m. all of the remaining prisoners who attempted to escape were sighted. At 5:18 a.m. Barker entered the hospital at Alcatraz and at 5:21 a.m. Stamphill was entered in the hospital at Alcatraz. At 5:36 all five of the prisoners had been returned to the prison and at 6:00 o'clock check the count showed all prisoners accounted for.

2. As to the condition of the cells from which the prisoners escaped.- Cells 52[illegible] through 531 each had two flat bar metal pieces cut, which permitted an aperture of about 10 to 18 inches. Cell 532 had two of the bars on the door cut, which permitted an aperture of 8 to 13 inches. The door bars are square and an examination showed that they had been sawed and filed smooth. The cuts were covered from time to time by paint mixed with floor wax, putty not being used as is generally the practice when such attempts are made. Each prisoner escaped through his own cell door and then crossed the corridor of

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the cell block to the window on the outside wall, where a bar had been broken loose and an outside window with steel framing had been cut out. The escape to the outside was made through this window.

3. As to the tools used.- William Martin, one of the convicts who attempted to escape and who was saved from drowning by Deputy Warden Miller, has made a statement to the effect that each of the five prisoners who attempted to escape had worked on the bars in his cell and the window when they had a chance, both at night and during the day. It has been ascertained that Barker planned the escape and that the escape was set for consummation for at least a month; that everything was ready and that the prisoners were only waiting for the right foggy night. All of the five prisoners had saw blades and after they had finished the sawing of the bars about a month ago, the blades were thrown into the lavatories on the Island so that any search of the cells or their persons would not disclose the blades. The heavy bar which is on the inside of the outside wall windows, and through which the prisoners escaped, is made of steel, which is supposed to resist any type of cutting. The prisoners could not cut the bar, but they pried it loose with an instrument they made, which is known as a screw-jack, which is about one-half inch in diameter and four inches long, with a bolt on the screw and a groove on the bolt. The use of this caused a tension which snapped the bar several times. The bar was then put back in place, and has been in the condition indicated for at least a month. The saws and the screw-jack used by the prisoners were smuggled into the isolation ward many weeks ago by Stanphill when he, Stanphill, was working in the cell house. After Stanphill smuggled this material into the isolation ward he, Stanphill, then committed a violation of the rules by having a knife in his regular cell, and as a result of this violation Stanphill was then placed in the isolation ward into which he had already smuggled the tools to be used in effecting the escape. The saw blades which each of the prisoners had, went through prison inspection in that they were glued into musical instruments believed to be mouth harps. The saw blades were made in the blacksmith shop. It has also been ascertained that copper will not show up on the mechanical devices for detection of metals, with the result that information has been received that there are a number of knives in the possession of prisoners in the cell house made of copper, which is obtainable in the machine shop at Alcatraz. Information received from the prisoners indicates that the mechanical devices used at Alcatraz to detect smuggled metal are practically useless since they are not sensitive enough to detect the saw blades and knives which are secreted in the mattresses by the prisoners.

4. As to the method of departure planned from the Island after the escape from within the prison walls.- The five prisoners had planned to get away on a raft. The Agents of the Bureau at San Francisco have recovered a rather crude raft which was being made by the five men at the edge of the water after their escape from within the walls. The lumber for this raft was easily obtainable, not only from the driftwood which is washed up upon the shores at Alcatraz, but also from lumber being used by civilian workmen in making certain improvements and repairs incident to the sewerage and water supply on Alcatraz at the present time. This raft was tied together with sheets torn in strips and some of the planks were as thick as three inches. The actual location of the prisoners after they had escaped from within the walls was when they were endeavoring to obtain additional wood for the raft from the dock on the Island at Alcatraz. The men, when apprehended, were nude or just in shorts, their clothing being tied in bundles and tied onto the raft.

5. As to the details of the apprehension.- Barker and Stamphill were sighted first when they were on the shore of the Island at Alcatraz at a point approximately midway on the Golden Gate side. The Coast Guard launch and the Alcatraz launch were throwing lights on that side, and when the two prisoners were sighted they were ordered to halt, and when they did not stop they were fired upon with [illegible] .45 automatic and a Thompson Submachine guns. McCain and Young were apprehended without injury about one-third of the way from the south tip of the Island, on the side toward San Francisco. They were apprehended at the side of the raft. Martin was pulled out of the water at a point very near to the point of the Island which is nearest to San Francisco.

6. As to the condition of the prisoners.- Barker died last evening. Barker's left femur was broken by a bullet which entered the thigh about the middle of the outer surface and emerged a little lower on the inner surface of the thigh. Another bullet entered the neck in the back below the right ear, and appears to have emerged from the inner angle of the right eye. Stamphill has one wound on the outer part of the upper thigh; another a little lower down on the internal surface of the thigh; and a third lower down on the outer and inner surfaces of the right leg above the ankle.

When Barker was apprehended, he exclaimed to one of the guards: "I am crazy as hell - I should never have tried it."

From information received it would appear that a similar break has been planned by the prisoners who are detailed to the kitchen. It is stated that these prisoners have plans similar to those used by the five who have already attempted to escape, and that the kitchen crew has planned to work on a more elaborate scale and escape, seizing some of the women and children who are members of the families of the guards and employees living on Alcatraz. It is also understood that the same method of physical departure from the Island by this group will be used, namely, the making of a raft in view of the plentiful supply of lumber that is allowed to lie about on the Island. Martin, one of the prisoners who attempted to escape, has stated that everybody on the Island "has it in" for the Warden, and that the men are bound to get him.

I have issued instructions to the Agent in Charge at the San Francisco Office of the FBI to forward by air mail photographs taken of the various physical aspects of this case in order that you may have these available for your examination.

Statements are also being taken from the guards on duty, as well as from the prisoners, though from the latter it is not believed that much information will be secured in view of the general practice of prisoners on the Island refusing to talk to any Government representative. Arrangements have been made today to check the lavatories for the discarded tools and instruments. Our Agents have already recovered eight hand-written notes from the toilets of Young and Stanphill, which upon preliminary examination show that these deal with a discussion of the details of the proposed escape. These notes are being dried and will be given thorough examination by our Laboratory for their contents.

I also instructed the Agent in Charge of our San Francisco Office last night to immediately advise Warden Johnson of the information which we have received to the effect that there are numerous knives in the possession of prisoners in the cells at Alcatraz, and also of the attitude of these prisoners toward him personally, as well as the details concerning the proposed break to be consummated by the kitchen crew, in order that the Warden might take such appropriate steps as he would deem necessary to avoid another attempted escape.

From a cursory examination of this preliminary report there of course stand out a few facts to which probably special attention should be given.

1. The desirability of initiating an inspection of the windows, bars, and cells on Alcatraz at frequent intervals. In this case it is to be noted that these bars had been sawed and the bar at the window loosened and were in this condition for over a month, but were not at any time ascertained by any of the prison guards. It would appear that there is therefore no actual inspection or examination made of these facilities at the prison, and it might be well to consider the desirability of a check of this kind being made at frequent intervals. It is recognized that this might incur some extra labor and effort, but that would seem to be inconsequential as compared with a wholesale break of dangerous felons from this institution.

2. Some steps should be taken to improve the mechanical devices, which are now used to locate metal objects, for if the reports are true from the prisoners on the Island, it would appear that many of them have various types of weapons secreted in their mattresses which are not found through the inspection now made. The same would of course apply to the so-called electric eye through which the prisoners pass from the work shops to the prison cells. It would appear that this instrument is not at the present time as sensitive as it should be for the purposes for which it has been devised. Likewise, it would seem that a very careful check should be made of prisoners working in various parts of the institution, such as in this case when Stamphill smuggled the saws and other articles into the isolation ward when he was working in that ward.

3. It would seem some steps should be taken to curtail the free accessibility to lumber which is now so easily available to the prisoners on the Island. It is to be noted that this lumber is available from

two sources; first, that which is washed up from the shore; and second, that which is allowed to lie about by the laborers now working on the Island. It, of course, would be no doubt advanced by the Warden that the prisoners would not in the regular course of events be able to gain access to this lumber because it has always been assumed that prisoners could not escape from within the walls, but this attempted escape and the one some months ago definitely proves that prisoners can get from within the walls, and that being a fact, the facilities for making a raft or for being able to float safely away from Alcatraz upon some board or plank should certainly not be available.

4. Some change should be made in the supervision and guarding of the isolation ward. In this case it is to be noted that these five prisoners, in five separate cells, at various times of the day and night sawed the bars from their cell doors and then crossed a hallway at least sixteen feet from the cells to a window from which they loosened a bar and then out through the framework of the window. The work that accomplished these results had extended over a period of many weeks, and yet no one noted these activities. It would thus appear that the supervision and guarding of the isolation ward are not as thorough or as vigorous as they should be, for if they had been properly supervised and guarded this could not have been accomplished.

5. It would appear that some immediate steps should be taken to check the situation in regard to the proposed break by the kitchen crew. This crew has been reported to have saws and knives in its possession, and these individuals propose to make a break of a more elaborate character than that which occurred yesterday morning, seizing women and children as hostages. While this might sound somewhat fantastic, it is a fact that similar rumors have occurred from time to time that such a plan was in consideration, and in view of the information obtained from Martin, one of the prisoners who attempted to escape yesterday morning, it would now appear that the plan has rather definite developments.

As soon as I receive further details and a complete report upon the attempted escape of yesterday morning at Alcatraz, I will promptly submit them to you.

Respectfully

John Edgar Hoover
Director

JEH:HCB

January 14, 1939

RECORDED & INDEXED

76-4175-8

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 17 1939
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Supplementing my first memorandum of the 14th instant setting forth the first telephonic report received upon the attempted escape from Alcatraz, I have received the following information this afternoon from my Agent in Charge at San Francisco.

During the course of the investigation it has been developed that [redacted] has informed our Agents that this particular block is a very bad spot and that some weeks ago he made a report on the situation, setting out the fact that he could not see the guard on the gun gallery and that the man on the gun gallery could not see him, and that these particular cells were not visible to the man who is supposed to see them from the gun gallery. If this be true, this may explain to some extent the reason why the prisoners who attempted to make the escape were able to carry on the sawing of the bars in the window successfully without being noted by the guards.

There is another aspect to the situation at Alcatraz which has been incidentally ascertained during the course of our investigation. We have not gone into this particular aspect because it would seem to be an administrative one rather than one which should be investigated by this Bureau unless it is your special desire that we go into it. It appears that the Deputy Warden, Mr. Miller, at Alcatraz, is a rather hard-boiled prison official who has difficulty in getting along with his subordinates. From information received, it would appear that Mr. Miller merely tells the Warden about what he wants to tell him, and limits his information usually to merely answering questions put to him by the Warden rather than in an open degree of frankness which should exist between a Warden and a Deputy Warden. It is understood that the guards employed in the prison have from time to time made reports on things and conditions which have seemed wrong to them, and when such a report was made to Mr. Miller he has often taken it as a personal criticism instead of something constructive, with the result that some of the men in subordinate positions on the Island now no longer make such reports as they consider it to be inexpedient to do so. This has naturally resulted in a rather bad morale.

JAN 14 1939
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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[redacted] has also indicated that the situation in the isolation section of the prison is far from desirable. The D cell block used for the isolation purposes is viewed as a place by many of the prisoners where they would like to be incarcerated. They have the best ventilation in these cells; they have reading material; and they are the best cells on the Island. It has also been stated that the administrative officers at Alcatraz appear to bargain with the prisoners, allowing them to be in whatever cell they desire, or next to someone they want to be next to, just as long as the prisoners behave. [redacted] has indicated that the discipline is very low and that when a guard in the cell block tries to discipline a prisoner by reporting the prisoner to the Warden, the guard is not backed up, with the result that the guard, upon returning to the cell, is frequently laughed at by the prisoners.

In regard to the reported situation of the prison kitchen crew, it is understood that the prison officials last night made a thorough search of the kitchen, but found nothing of value there. They did, however, find a meter box saw in the print shop, and also a putty knife which had been sharpened to a saw blade in the same shop. Both of these articles had been concealed in the print shop.

I requested my Agent in Charge to express his personal opinion to me as to what he thought of the general situation at Alcatraz today, and he stated that from what he had been able to gather, he does not believe that anyone connected with the prison administration at Alcatraz has been corrupt, but that it seems to be a question of persons in administrative positions on the Island failing to handle properly their jobs, with the resultant breakdown in the morale.

I shall, of course, promptly advise you of such further information as I receive concerning this matter.

Respectfully

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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JEH:HCB

January 14, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR. JOSEPH B. KEENAN

Supplementing my previous memorandum to you today, I am attaching hereto an additional memorandum addressed to the Attorney General, setting forth additional facts in connection with the attempted escape of five prisoners at Alcatraz yesterday.

Very truly yours

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Inclosure

1 ENCL W

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Groat
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. McIntire
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Troy
Mr. Tandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
JAN 14 1939
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

76-4175-9
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 18 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

32

JLE:HCB

January 14, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Supplementing my first memorandum of the 12th instant setting forth the first telephonic report received upon the attempted escape from Alcatraz, I have received the following information this afternoon from my Agent in Charge at San Francisco.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 18 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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I shall, of course, promptly advise you of such further information as I receive concerning this matter.

Respectfully

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JAN 15 1939
POSTAL

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Dawsey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Gurnin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. McIntire
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy
FUG. SUP.

M

W1 23 GOVT COLLECT VIA MRT

F SANFRANCISCO CALIF 14 1045P

DIRECTOR

FBI JUSTICE WASHN DC

O

ALCATRAZ ATTEMPTED ESCAPE PHOTOGRAPHS FORWARDED AIR EXPRESS LEAVING SANFRANCISCO NINE THIRTY TONIGHT ARRIVE WASHINGTON SEVEN FORTY FIVE PM TOMORROW WEATHER CONDITIONS PERMITTING

PIEPER..

Let me have these immediately upon arrival.

H.

76-4175-10

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 18 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TOLSON
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FUG. SUP.

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35

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Barbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. McIntire
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
San Francisco, California
January 14, 1939

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Personal Attention
Airmail Special Delivery

Re: Alcatraz Attempted Escape
January 13, 1939

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing herewith an album prepared of photographs taken by us in order that you might have a good idea of the physical setup and the points of importance in the attempted escape from Alcatraz Island of convicts Arthur (Doc) Barker, No. 268; Dale Stamphill, No. 435; Rufus McCain, No. 267, Henry Young, No. 244, and William Martin, No. 370, in the early morning of January 13, 1939. We endeavor to portray photographically for you the important points showing where they effected their escape from the cells and the cell house; how they probably got down to the water where they were apprehended, and closeups of the raft, clothing bundles, and portions of the cells and window which had been cut and removed.

I am also enclosing herewith a map of that portion of Alcatraz Island which is pertinent in this inquiry which is marked showing certain points which will also assist in clarifying the picture. There is enclosed, too, a drawing showing a portion of the cell house, pointing out particularly that section of D cell block where it will be noted that the cells of the escaped prisoners are marked as well as the window of escape. It was thought that this would help you to visualize the problem of observation by guards of the particular portion of this block where these men were celled.

These photographs that are being forwarded are the only prints that were made, and I am enclosing herewith the negatives of all photographs taken by us and it is requested that two com-

a military prison

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I have taken album; map of Alcatraz & drawing of cell block to a.g.

76-4175-11

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 17 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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ENCLOSURE BEHIND FILE
ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

plete sets be printed and returned to us, one for transmittal to the prison authorities at Alcatraz. All of the photographs were not used in the album, but it is requested that we be furnished two complete sets.

Very truly yours,

N.J.L. PIEPER
Special Agent in Charge

NJLP:MR
Encls. 4

Do so at once. Making 4 sets instead of 2 & sending all by air mail & S.F. instructing them to make up 2 sets for us with charts as in set sent us & returning them to us by air mail.

RECORDED EAT:DM

76-4175-11

January 16, 1939

AIR MAIL
SPECIAL DELIVERY

Special Agent in Charge
Los Angeles, California

RE: ALCATRAZ ATTEMPTED ESCAPE
January 13, 1939

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the request contained in your letter of January 14, 1939, I am transmitting herewith four complete sets of the photographs taken at Alcatraz Penitentiary of various points of interest in connection with the attempted escape of Arthur Barker, et al. It is desired that you immediately make up two sets of these photographs with charts similar to those transmitted to me with your letter of January 14, 1939, returning these two complete sets with the accompanying charts to the Bureau by air mail.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. R. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. McIntire
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

Enclosures

Copies photographs retained in Bureau file

MAILED
JAN 16 1939

filed in back of file

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15 SEP 1985

ENCLOSURE

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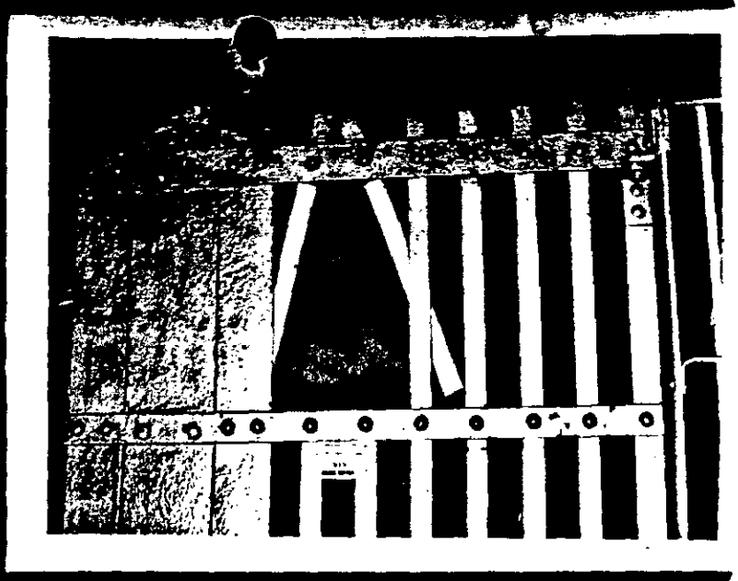

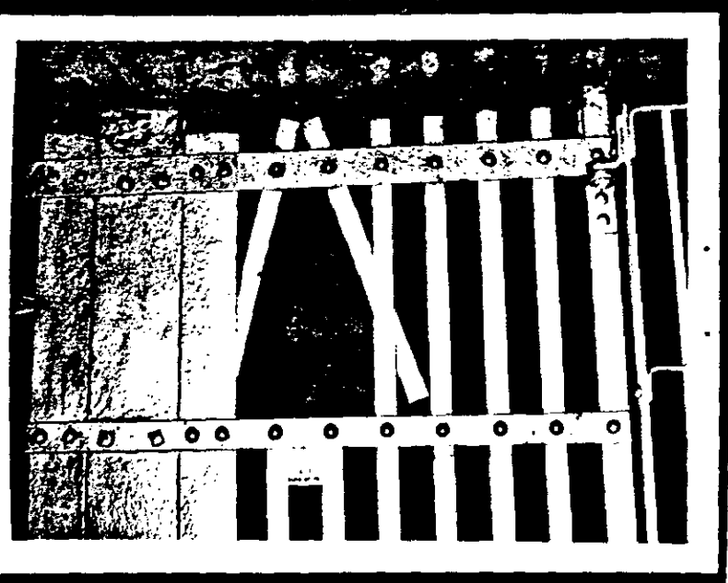

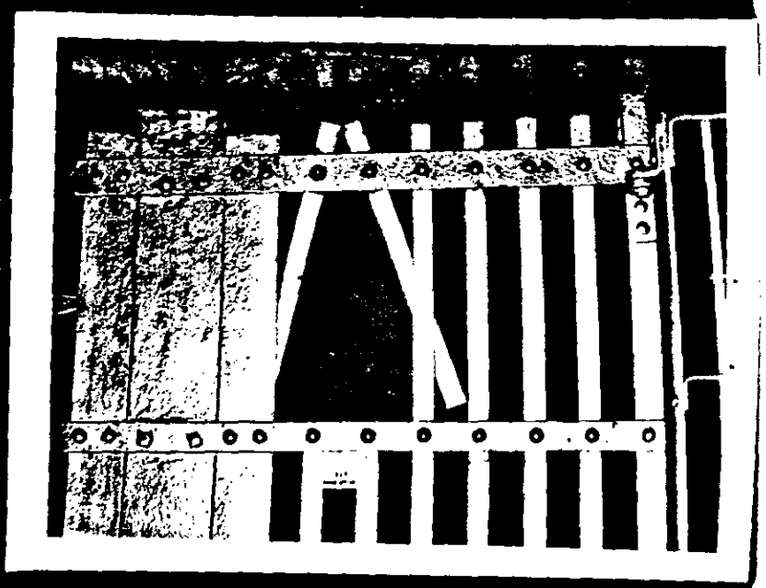

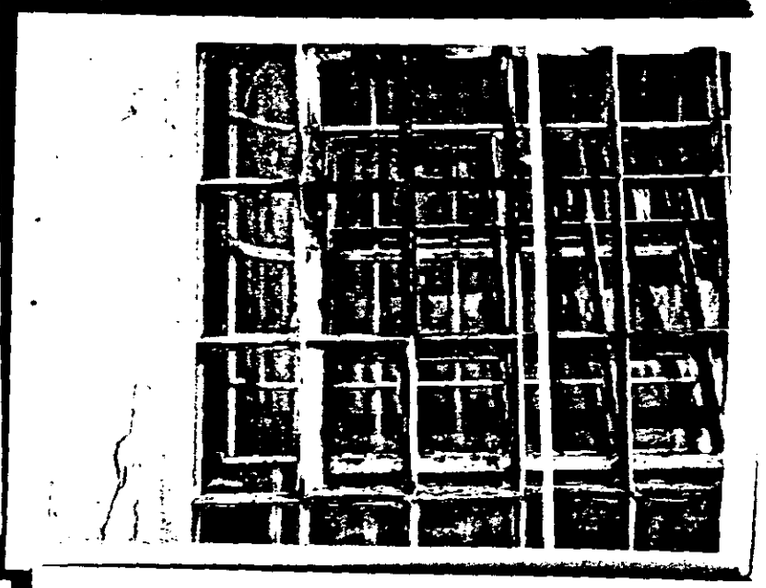

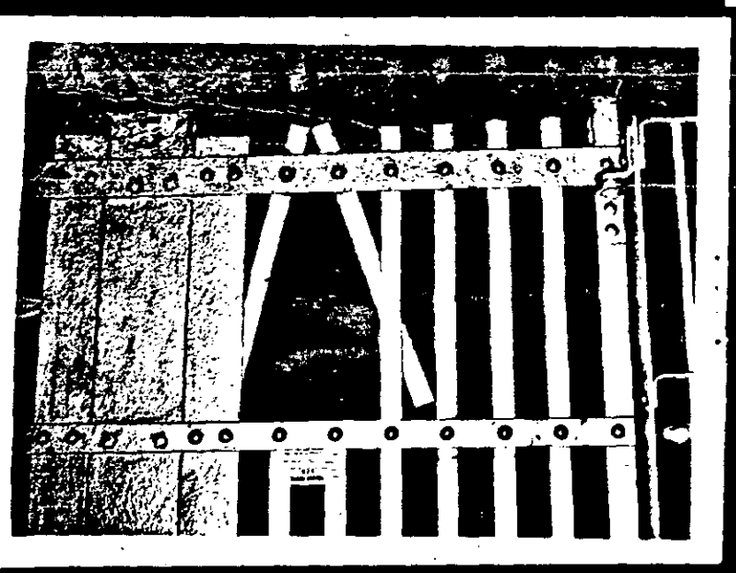

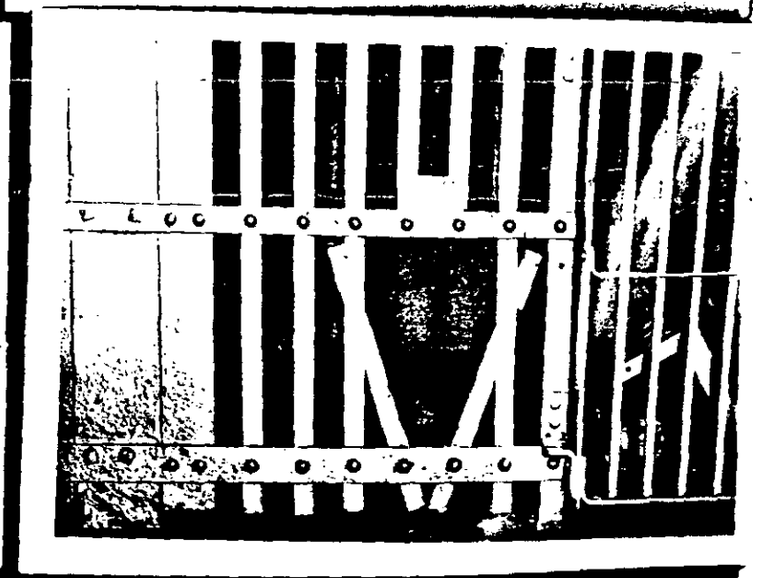

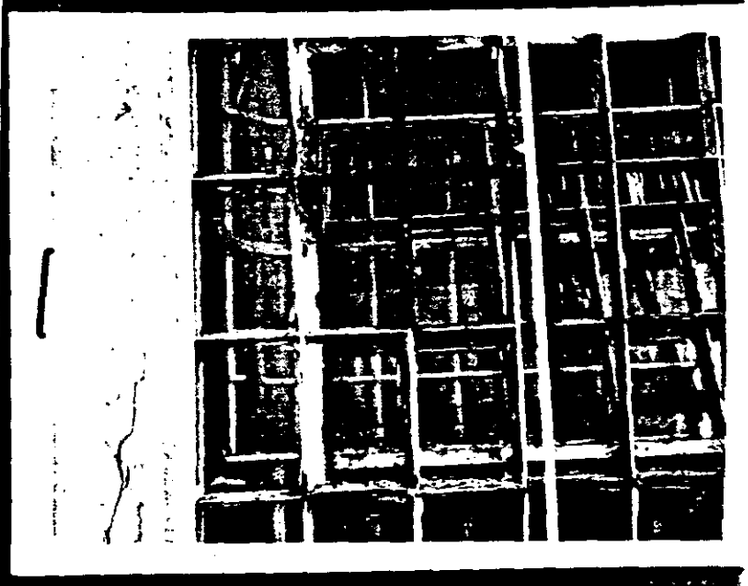

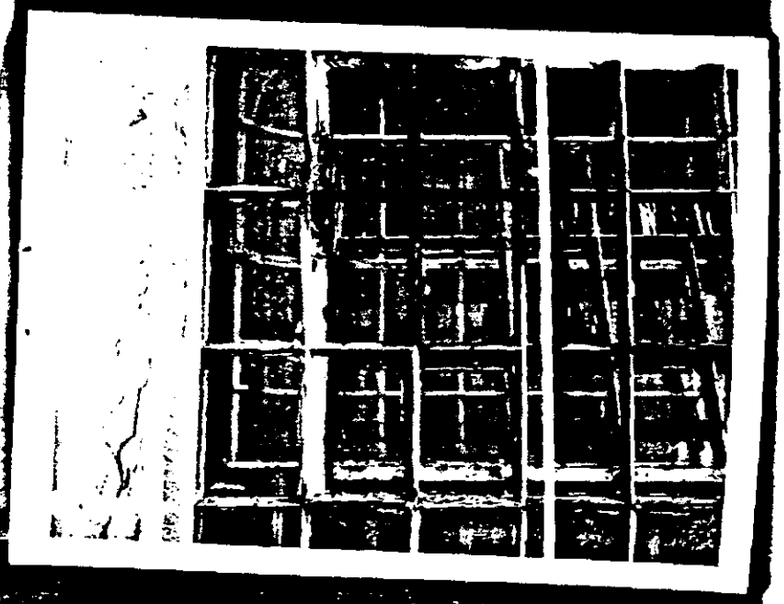

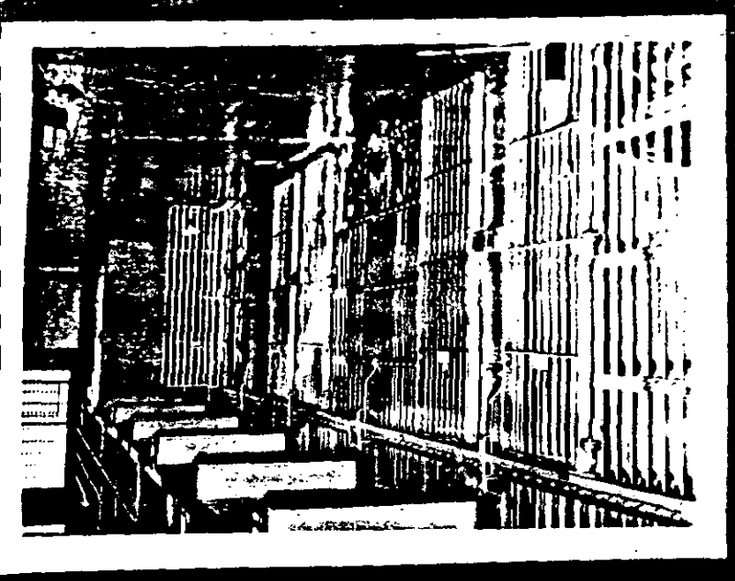

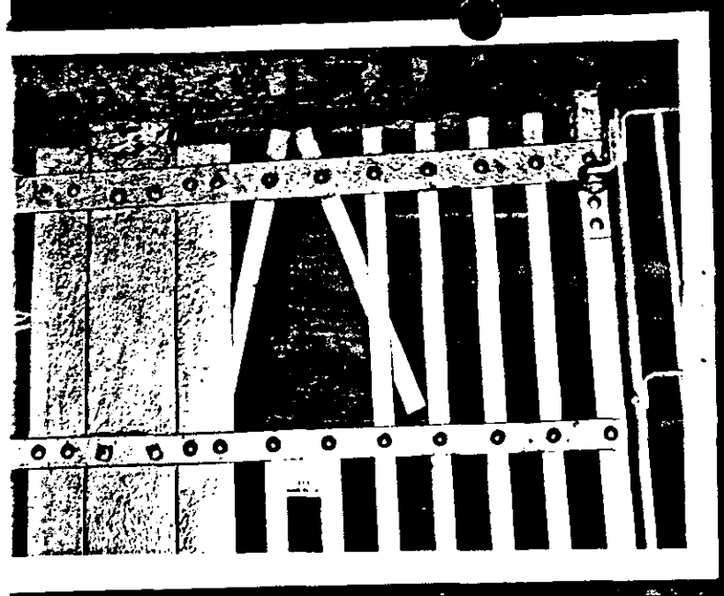

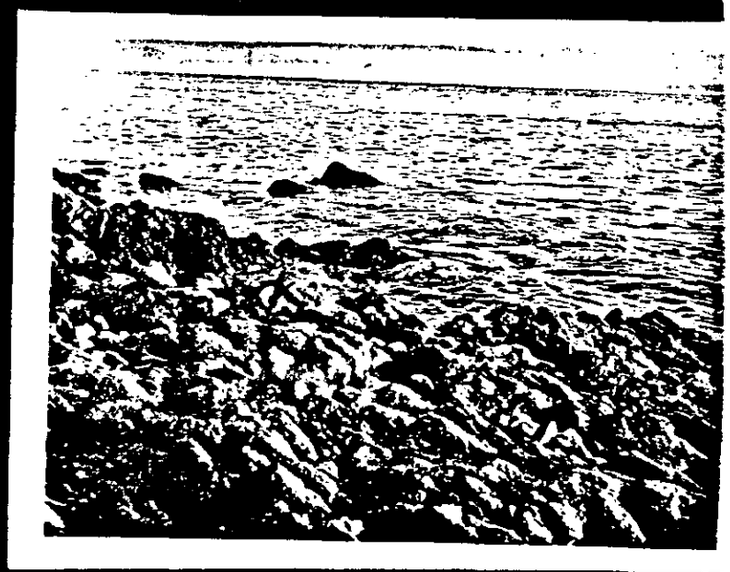

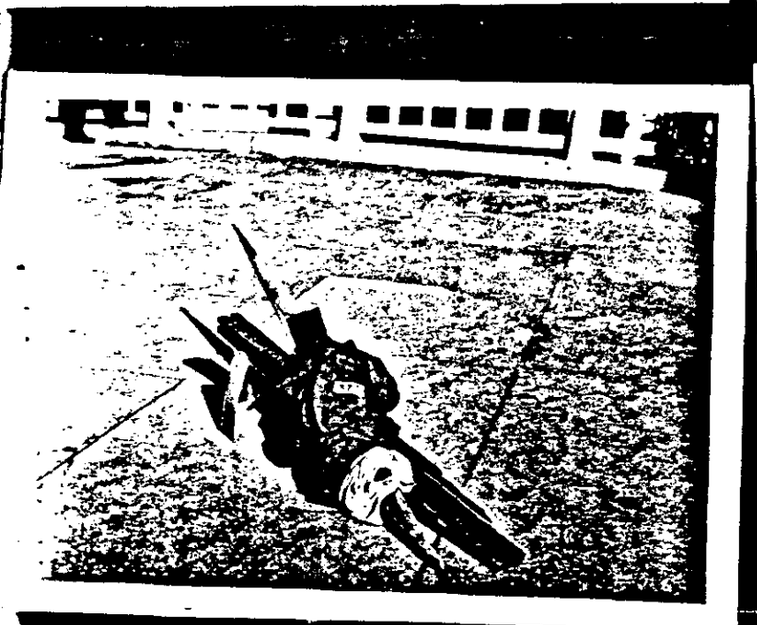

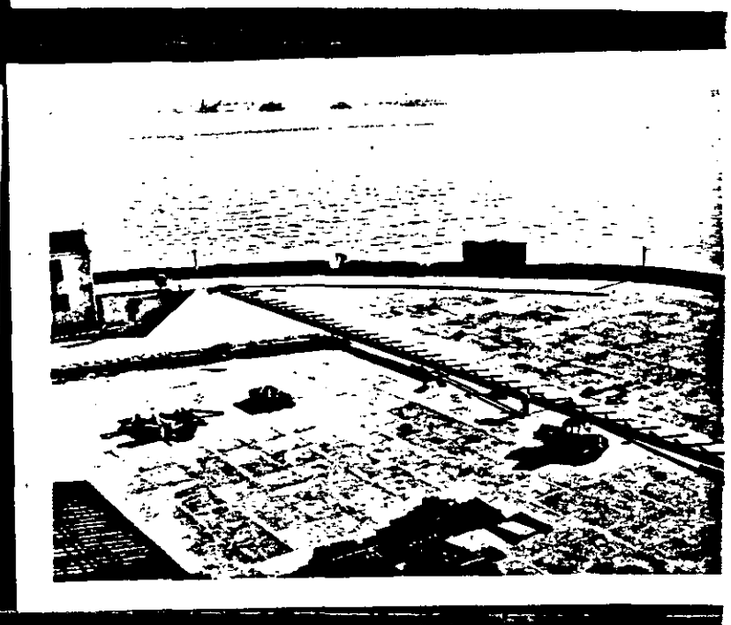

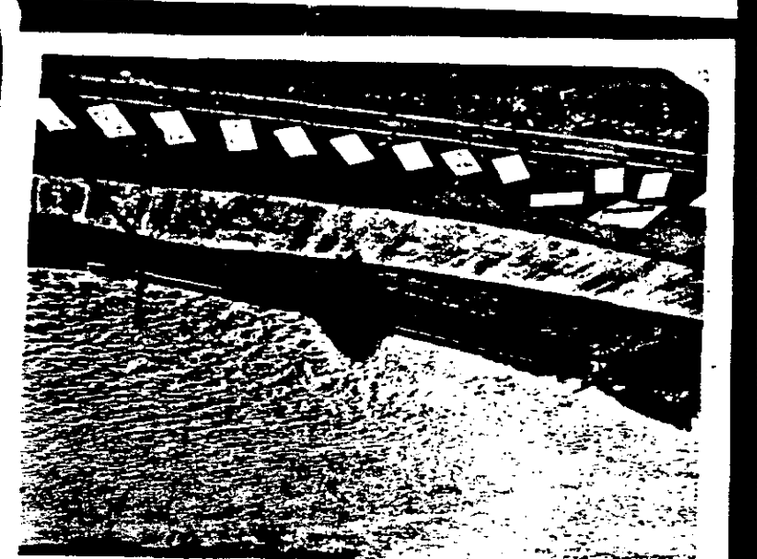

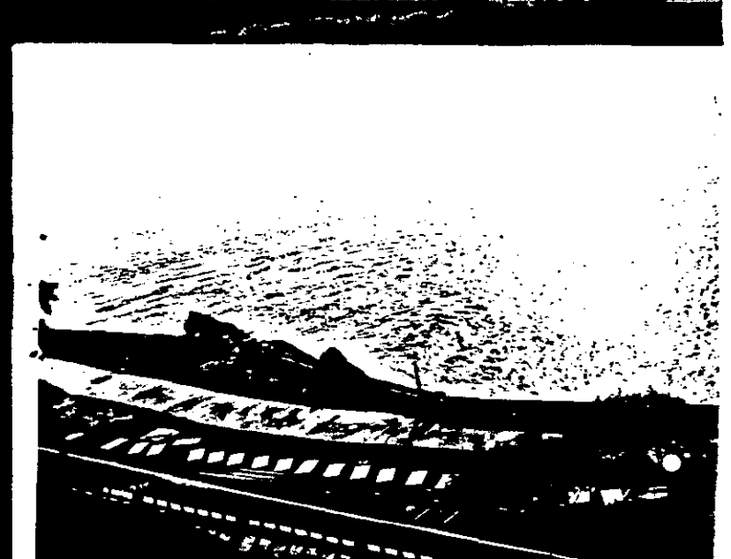

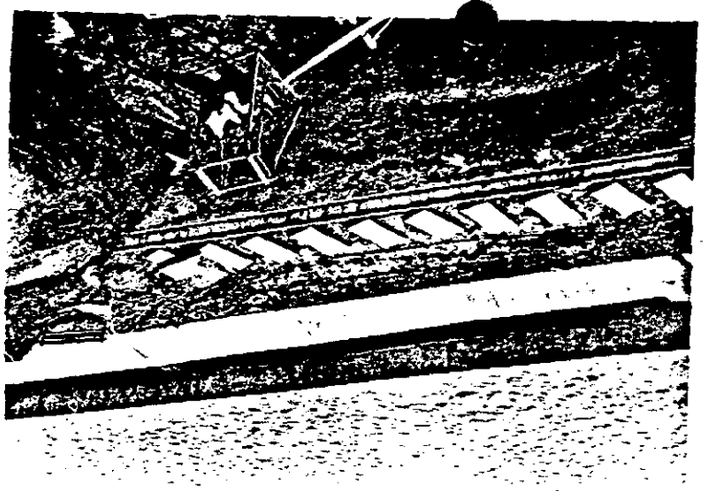

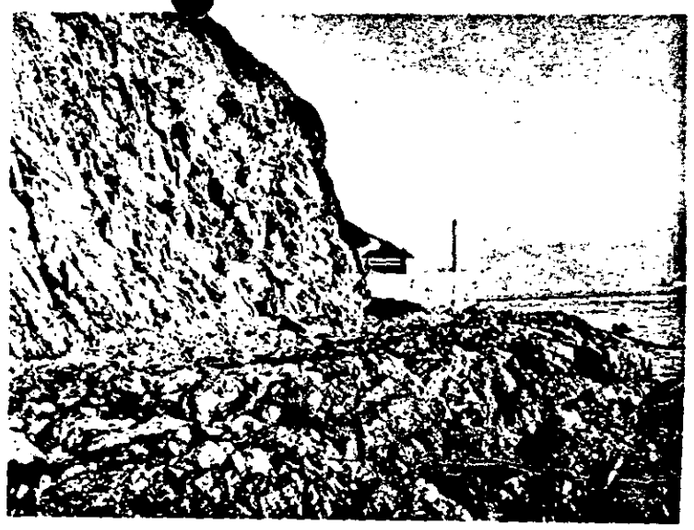

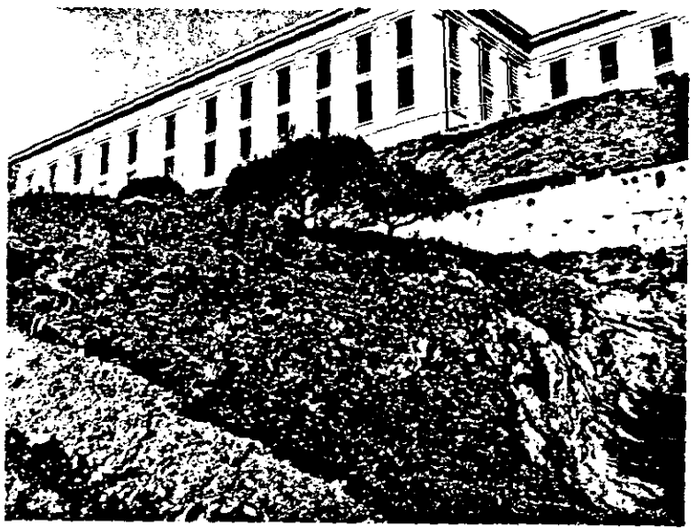

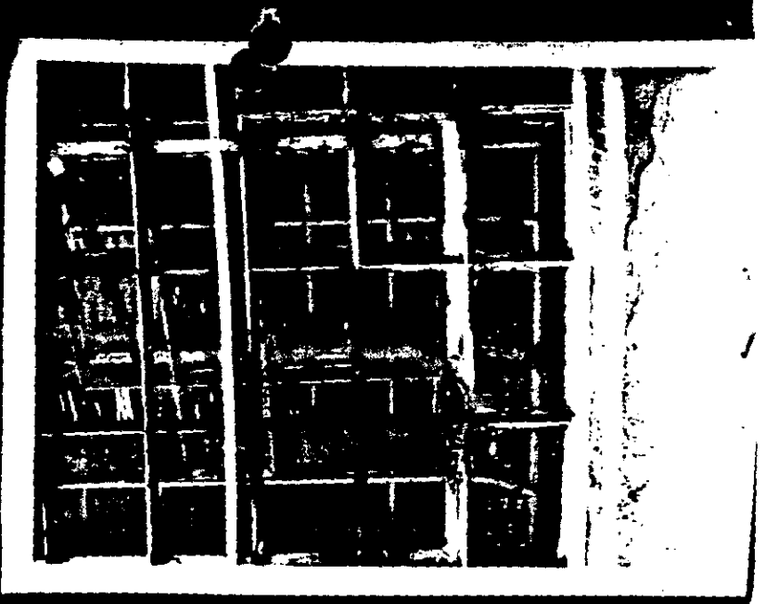

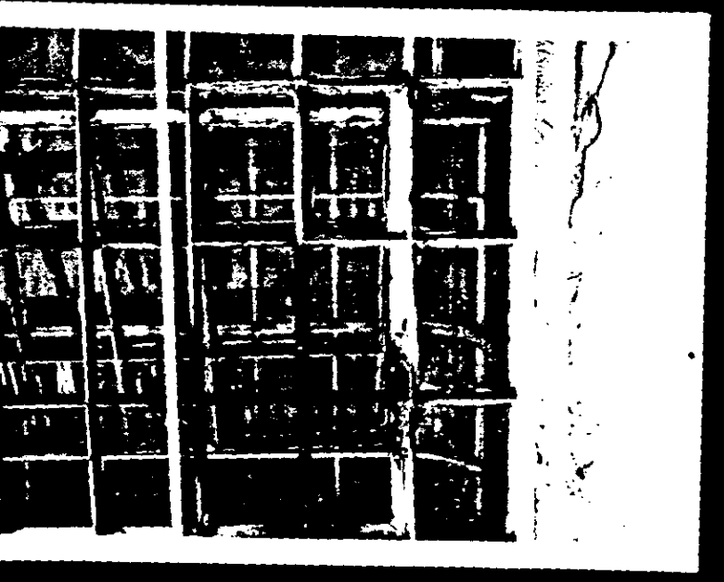

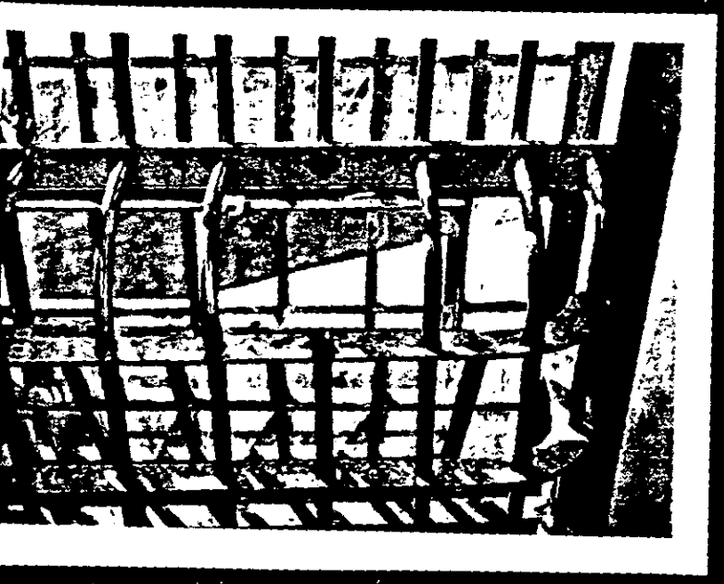

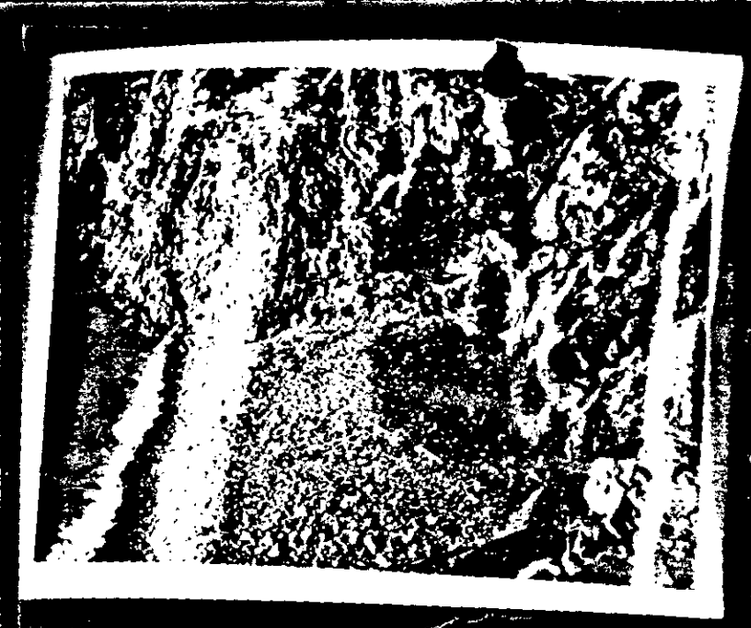

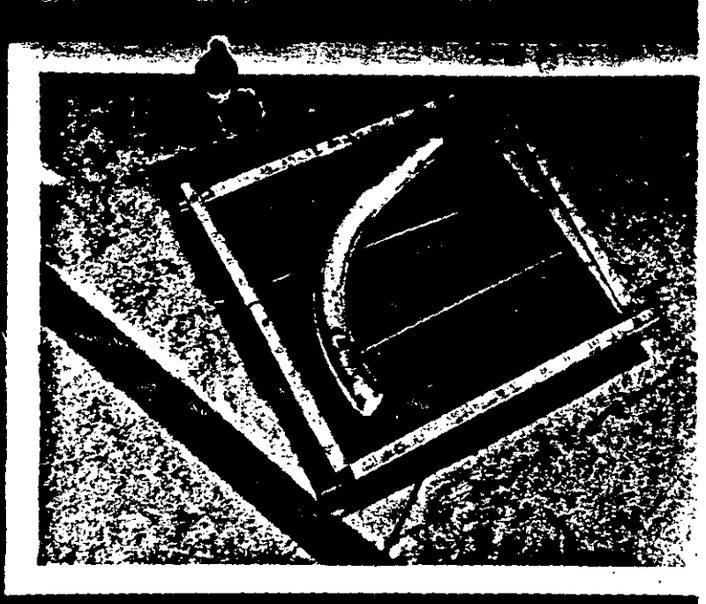

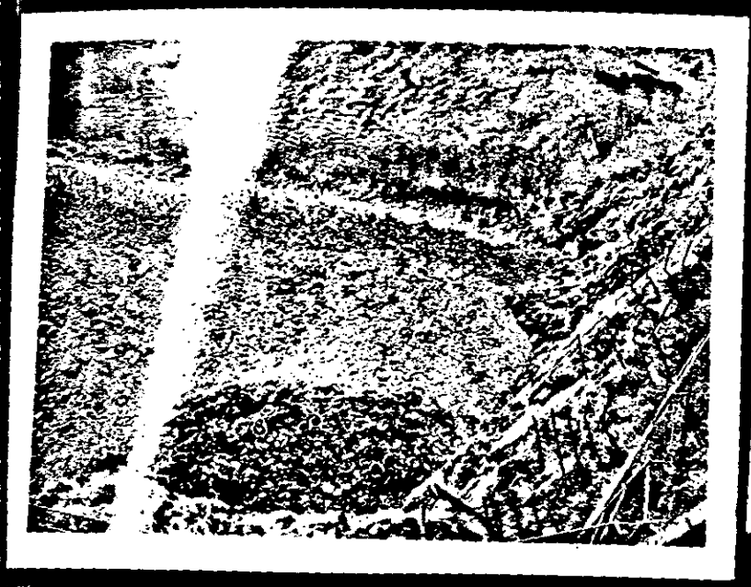

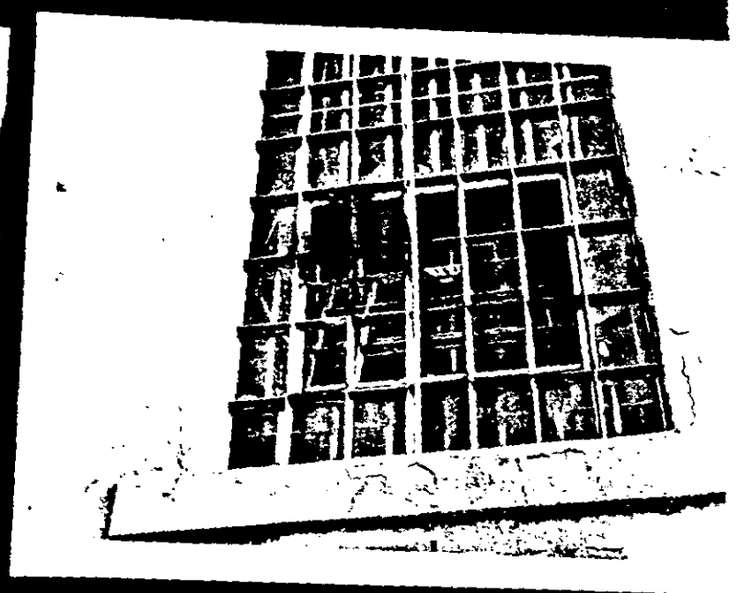

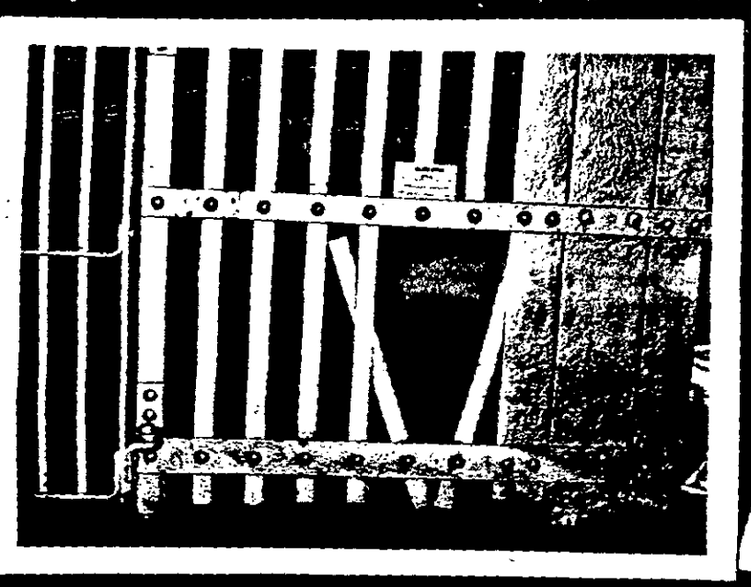

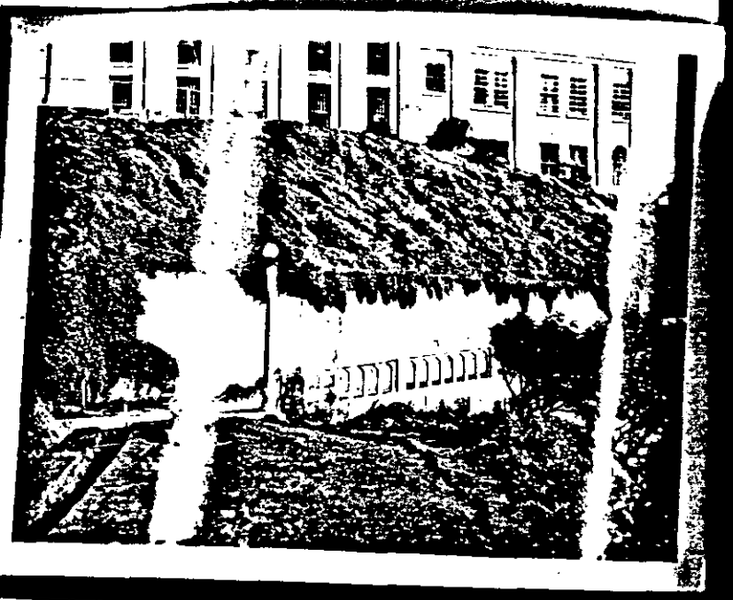

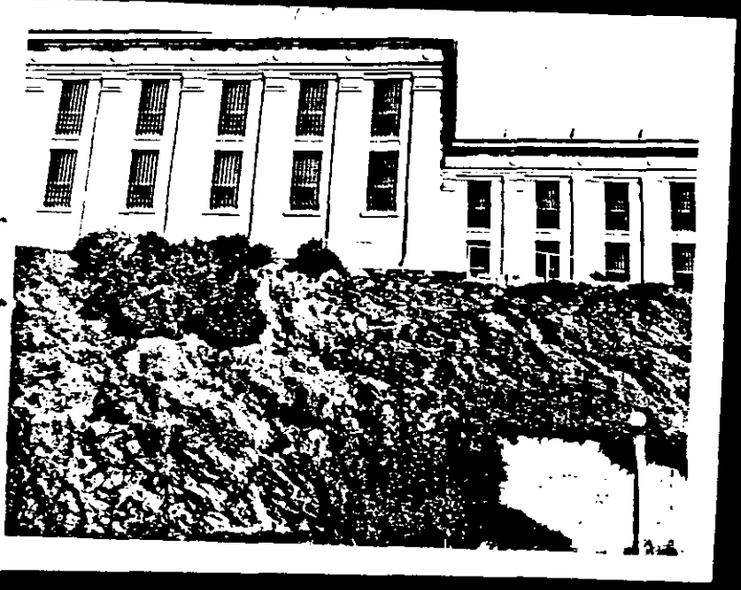

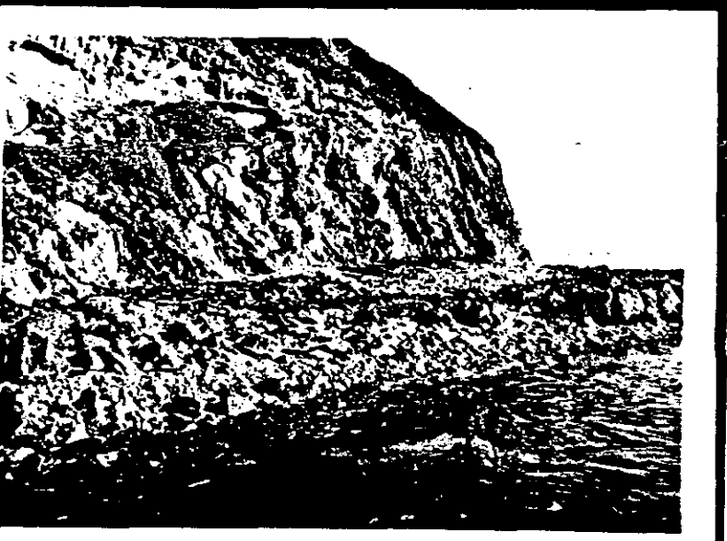

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. McIntire
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
San Francisco, California
January 16, 1939

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. John Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: CONDITIONS AT ALCATRAZ.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In view of the fact that copies of the report of the attempted escape of ARTHUR (DOC) BARKER, #268; DALE STAMPHILL, #435; RUFUS McCAIN, #267; HENRY YOUNG, #244; and WILLIAM MARTIN, #370, from Alcatraz on January 13, 1939, will be sent to the U. S. Attorney here, it has been deemed advisable to limit the contents of that report to the essentials necessary in such types of cases. However, in view of the matters that came to our attention during the investigation which reflect possible reasons for the escape and weaknesses which, if not corrected, might be the cause of future escapes, it was thought that the data in this letter would be of importance for your personal consideration.

We have not interrogated persons in charge of details in order to obtain confirmation of these conditions, because this would appear to be an administrative investigation. This will not be done, unless specific instructions are given. I want to point out also that we have not been able to verify all these accusations, that some of the complainants probably have an individual axe to grind, but I thought that the subject matter is of enough importance to be considered by you. I also want to call to your attention the fact that these matters were developed by us in talking to the men, who voluntarily expressed themselves on these matters and stated to us that their loyalties were with the Director of the Bureau of Prisons, that they felt that the Bureau of Prisons program was as it should be, but that they just had to tell somebody of these situations, because they felt that there was a breakdown in the system at Alcatraz to such an extent that it would probably effect the entire system of the Bureau of Prisons. These men seemed sincere, and [redacted] expressed the belief that they probably would lose their jobs if their confidence were broken.

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MORALE AT ALCATRAZ ISLAND

It has been my personal observation that [redacted]

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Copies sent to A. G. & Keenan
N.
Commend Pieper & Agts at S. F. for the excellent manner in which they handled inquiry & prepared reports. N.

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E. J. MILLER, is in the presence of the Warden, he is not given an opportunity to express his views but answers only the questions that are put to him by Warden JOHNSTON. I was in conversation with Deputy Warden MILLER concerning this recent break, at which time he was giving me a great many details, and a few minutes thereafter we both went in to see the Warden, and it was obvious to me that he was just giving information to the Warden in answer to those questions put to him and that he hesitated in volunteering any general statements regarding the matter. It is rumor that has been picked up by the Agents going to Alcatraz that the Deputy Warden must get the Warden's authority to do everything and is not permitted to exercise any initiative of his own. We have noted that there is an attitude on the part of some of the men subordinate to the Deputy Warden which indicates their lack of confidence and respect for him in view of the fact that they have come and told us that they do not think he is the proper man for the job, that he shows preferences, that he has an uncontrollable temper and that he uses poor discretion in the duties of his office. We have learned, in discussing the escape, [redacted] that the men, because of the attitude of the Deputy Warden and the Warden in apparently ignoring their recommendations for corrections, have assumed an attitude of indifference. This attitude of indifference is explained by them in that it is almost necessary that they assume this attitude because any suggestions that are made for corrections are taken by the Deputy Warden as a personal grievance and a personal reflection upon his work and not as constructive criticism for the benefit of the institution.

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In talking to individual officers, while interrogating them with regard to this official investigation, they give the impression and hint at the lack of harmony and the low ebb of morale, but also express their fear of discussing these conditions because they fear their jobs. With regard to this fear element, [redacted] advised me that it is his responsibility to keep quiet and order in the cell block while he is on duty and that he has known of instances where contraband has been smuggled in the main cell block or that irregularities were noticed and he was not notified by the Deputy Warden or anyone else. He stated to me that he thought that they were probably afraid to tell him because they seemed "scared to death that somebody's going to go tell the newspapers what's going on over there", so that they will even hold out on the man in charge of the cell block, even to the point of refusing him the right to see the records of certain criminals incarcerated therein, although it was pointed out that he wanted to do that in order to learn something of their background so that he could better handle them. There was also brought to our

attention during these interviews the fact that there is bitterness, that there are cliques, and the [redacted] main informants here, [redacted] rather bitterly accuse the Warden and the Deputy Warden of being responsible for the trouble, claiming that it is due to lack of proper administration. b7c b7d

THE TREATMENT OF PRISONERS

[redacted] advised me that it was generally understood on the Island that the prisoners could "bargain" with the Deputy Warden on just anything that they wanted to, and he explained what bargaining meant in that he would make a deal with them to grant them certain wishes in return for their not causing any disturbances. He gives as an example the fact that prisoners have whatever cells they desire. He explains that this is done in several ways, either by requesting a particular cell, which he says is given them, or when they are put in certain cells which are not next to the man they want to be next to, if there is a vacancy, they continue to stop up the lavatories until they get to the right cell and then it stops. He gives an example of certain prisoners being together who wished to be together, this being an incident which I could not check, because at the time this information was brought to my attention, MR. BENNETT was on the Island and it was deemed inadvisable for me to go any further at the present time. It will be an easy matter to check, however. This is the specific example, existing at present, where inmates who might have a reason to cell near one another are permitted to do so. [redacted] called attention to the RETTICH gang, and he stated that I would be surprised to know that RETTICH, DUGAN and GEARY all cell in three adjoining cells. MILLER ("COUNT LUSTIG") is in the fourth cell, CLEY is just beneath, and HARRIGAN is within hailing distance. b7c b7d

[redacted] also advised me that the discipline is such that prisoners can become very abusive to the guards, and upon complaint to the Deputy Warden, nothing is done about it; that he has had instances of this occur and when he would go back into the cell block, the prisoners would swear at him and tell him he had better not try to cause them any trouble because they would have the Deputy Warden put him on the outside and get him out of the way. [redacted] also stated that he was on duty in the work shops after CLINE was killed and that it was his observation that the work could be done in approximately one and a half hours each day, although it took them all day to do it. He stated that he realizes that he is in disfavor with the prisoners because he insisted that they work all of the time. He attributes this laxity to the Deputy Warden's attitude, saying that he, himself, has had to fill out work sheets for men, showing that they had done

work in the mat shop, when they actually had been sitting around doing nothing, in order that they could get good industrial time on it. He said that men were actually brought down to the work shops out of the cells when there was nothing to do, which, in his opinion, was a dangerous practice because it gave them a chance to loaf around, make escape tools and to stand around and "case" the whole work area. He added that at one time he had to get "DOC" BARKER down off of a table where he was standing, looking over the whole area. He observed also that the working conditions are such that a man by putting up the right kind of a story to the Deputy Warden can get himself in any place or line of work that he so desires and that it is common gossip among the prisoners that "you just have to give the right story to the Deputy".

In direct contrast to this, it has been brought to our attention by [redacted] that when guards want to get rid of a man and had, in their mind, a good reason why he should be removed from a certain detail or taken from a certain area, that that was not done as a matter of course at the guard's recommendation, which he felt left them at a great disadvantage. He gives as an example that a week before Officer CLINE was killed in the mat shop, information was obtained to the effect that there was something wrong, and CLINE made the complaint, as did he [redacted] to Senior Officer GEORGE BOATMAN, who was in charge of the cell house, who had the cells of FRANKLIN and LUCAS searched, wherein was found contraband of two packages of raisins, which was felt by them to be indicative of the fact that they were planning to go and that these were emergency rations. He also stated that on or about the 18th of December 1936, in his mind several days after the escape of COLE and ROE, Deputy Warden MILLER came down and told [redacted] that he was going to put another man on the tower [redacted] because he had definite information that three more men were going out and that their method was to be by coming out of a window, climbing over the wire and getting to the guard in that watch tower. He stated that MILLER'S method of handling this, rather than moving those men, was to put another guard on the top, whereas the subordinate officers felt that the proper way to have handled that situation was to remove those men from that area.

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In connection with the COLE-ROE escape, it was mentioned by [redacted] that at that time the guard on duty in the model tower (name not yet verified by us) had his hand in a cast, having had it injured in beating some prisoner, and that it would have been impossible for him to shoot. We, of course, at the writing of this letter have not been able to verify this, but [redacted] insists that it is common talk and knowledge among the guards that this was the case.

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[redacted] have also stated that cell block "D", or the isolation cell block, is very much the type of country club penitentiary setup that one reads about. They claim that instead of the men being punished when placed in this cell block, that that cell block is the best ventilated, has an excellent view of the Bay area and city, that the men have no work to do, have all the reading material they desire, and, in fact, being placed in isolation is very desirable.

[redacted] stated that a guard at times cannot tell a prisoner what he has to do in ordering him to work, stating that he has known instances where prisoners have refused to take orders, saying that the Deputy Warden tells them what they have to do and that nothing is done about the situation when the matter is called to the Deputy Warden's attention.

WEAKNESSES IN D BLOCK ISOLATION

"D" block isolation is that section of Alcatraz cell block which is used for those men who are placed in segregation, more or less permanently and who do not have to work. There are approximately 22 men in isolation on two tiers. Whereas B and C blocks of cells are made of tool-proof steel, in which the ordinary run of prisoners are kept, D block, where the worst prisoners are kept, is of the ordinary steel bars which can be easily cut and which are hangovers from the time when the prison was used as a military disciplinary barracks. [redacted] advised me that he understood that the outside window bars were of the latest tool-proof steel and that he felt fairly secure in feeling that they could never get out of a window on that side. However, it might be mentioned at this time that the condition of the wall must be in pretty bad shape, because while Agent FARLAND and I were having Deputy Warden MILLER point out to us on the map certain points of importance in the case, MR. STEERE, who was repairing after the break, reported to him that it would be impossible to place a grill over the damaged area of the window, due to the fact that the minute they would begin hammering, the wall would crumble.

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I wish also to call to your attention the fact that the prisoners who escaped were in the worst possible cells to be observed by the man on the west gun gallery, who was the only person who could cover D block when the regular guard on foot was not making the rounds.

Junior Guard C. Y. HURST, who was on duty at the time of the escape,

stated that the only protection that an officer on duty in the cell house had was that furnished by the officer on duty in the gun gallery and that the officer on duty in the gun gallery could not see the cells which were occupied by the inmates who escaped.

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[redacted], stated that it was impossible to see the man on the gun gallery when going along the cells from which the men escaped. He stated that he made a suggestion to move the men up closer to the west gun gallery in order to overcome this weak spot. He does not recall exactly when he made this recommendation but believes it was about a month ago. His recollection is not clear either as to whether it was in regular memorandum form or on a regular "63" form, which is used for suggestions. He was very emphatic about the point that he had pointed out this weakness and that nothing was done about it. He stated that these men could not have had a better spot to work in than that in which they were located. He also pointed out that when he came into D block from C block, a warning was repeatedly sounded and that this had been called to the attention of the Deputy Warden but that nothing had been done about it. That there was some sort of a signal it is known, because the notes recovered from the lavatories after the time of the escape specifically state that the signal was a "cluck", the note reading as follows: "I heard Jack cluck a couple of times. He will have bull on case***"

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[redacted] He stated that immediately after taking over the post he makes a routine inspection and immediately upon completion of the inspection, about 4:10 each evening, proceeds to the north end of the gun gallery, which, incidentally, is the fartherest point from the post in which he would have a clear vision of D block isolation. He must remain at this particular spot, which commands a view of the corridor between blocks A and B, until such time as the inmates assemble for their evening mess, whereupon he goes to the port which commands a view of the messhall, at which position he stays until the inmates are returned to their cells for the nightly lockup and then after giving the keys to the officer who makes the count of the inmates confined in the hospital, he again returns to the post at the north end of the cell house, remaining there until the nightly lockup and final count is completed; then he returns to the small port which commands a view of the main dining hall, remaining there until such time as the entire number of inmates assigned to kitchen duty are returned to their cells, which is approximately 5:30 every night.

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[redacted] states that these are rigid orders to be carried out without

variance, although for this period of time, which amounts to about one hour and fifty minutes, he does not have any opportunity to observe the activities which might transpire in D block isolation. It will be noted that he could not see the cells in which the escaped men were locked, and this explains why they could work out of their own cells, cross the corridor and climb up on the wall, without fear of being molested, because they could bank on approximately one hour and fifty minutes when they knew that the only man who could see them was tied up at another point.

[redacted] stated that conditions, in his mind, had become acute of late and that he had surveyed the situation, because he had noted that the entire inmate population was uneasy, and that the entire cell house was pervaded with that tenseness which is noticeable prior to a state of emergency. He said that he had suggested to Captain P. J. MADIGAN that all of the doors of the isolation block be checked, especially as to the bolts which are on the hinges and have in the past been unscrewed without aid of tools whatsoever, allowing the inmates to remove the isolation doors and set them by the side of their cells. b7c b7d

Following is a suggestion letter written by [redacted] on January 9, 1939, and placed on the Warden's desk on January 9: b7c b7d

"May I submit for your consideration three items which I deem necessary to further the security of this Institution?

"First: i. e. The upper gallery floor in D Block, Isolation, be extended until it coincides with the outer wall of the building proper. That both ends be likewise sealed off; the one facing the Gun Gallery to be made of unbreakable glass, and that the utility corridor also be sealed with sound-proof material. This structural change would forstall the continuous passing of contraband, and eliminate most of the causes from which commotion in the Cell-house originates. Further, it would in no way interfere with the present lighting, heating, or ventilation of the Cell-house proper, while at the same time these facilities in the newly created isolation block would remain adequate. In all it would result in keeping those inmates who need additional security or disciplinary action to be housed in maximum security cells instead of being in the least secure cells as is the present practice.

"Second: That a section, at least two panels, of grill screen be placed on and attached to the bars of both Gun Galleries. This would not only afford added protection to the Officer here stationed from thrown missels which could be expected in times of commotion in the cell-block; but it would

also end the situation wherein the Gas Grenades, Gas Masks, and Night Sticks, could be procured by the inmates; this later being especially true in the day time when numerous inmates are consigned to orderly duties, as they have but to await that time when the Officer is called to the upper level in order to procure these articles. Such a screen would in no way interfere with the vision or impede the action of the Officer in time of stress.

"Third: That the practice of counting the inmates confined in isolation and solitary while regular inmate mess be discontinued and changed until such time as they are again locked securely in their cells. That the grill barricade be kept locked at this time. This slight change of routine would circumvent the possibility of attack both front and rear, in a time of emergency. The inmates in isolation are well aware of the fact that the Officer in the West Gallery must remain at a certain point in order to view the inmates at mess, and he is therefore unable to give protection to the Officer making this count. These inmates have in the past made keys. Material is ever at hand with which to make more keys; therefore in order to avert the possibility of them overpowering the Officer and getting possession of keys to the entire interior of the cell house, it should be discontinued."

A copy of this letter is being retained in our files, having been obtained from [redacted] It will be noted in this letter that he points out another weakness of the whole cell block—namely, that prisoners can obtain gas grenades, gas masks and night sticks without much trouble. b7c b7d

We have made several requests for information regarding periodic checks on testing of the cell bars and window bars, but so far we have been unable to determine that any records are maintained on these checks or when they are held.

[redacted] pointed out that his duties on the west gun gallery are so explicit and confining and that the officer on duty has to do certain little things which allow the men in isolation to be utterly unobserved on occasions to the extent of one or maybe one and a half hours at a time when the inmates are in the messhall or when the inmates confined to the kitchen are still in the kitchen, after the regular guard force has completed their duties, and the inmates are left in charge of but one officer, the kitchen guard, and it is very easy for the inmates of isolation at such times to commit any act unmolested. b7c b7d

Junior Guard C. Y. HURST stated that "about 5:00 A. M. it is the custom for the convicts employed in the kitchen to report for duty. I wake them up, having been furnished with a list who were required to do that work, and as a rule they go into the kitchen about 5 o'clock. About 15 minutes prior to the kitchen detail going to the kitchen, the guard in the east gun gallery goes out back of the kitchen to watch the outside of the kitchen where he remains, leaving no one to guard the cell block, except the guard on duty in the west gun gallery. As a matter of fact, he is the only one that can see the isolation cells. However, he cannot see the doors of the cells. He can see the corridor and can see the windows where the convicts made their escape, and when the convicts go to the dining room to eat or to the kitchen, his duty is to watch the dining room and kitchen through the dining room, and while doing that it is impossible to watch the isolation block. I also wish to state the guard in the west gun gallery has specific orders to keep the officer in charge of the cell house under constant surveillance. However, if he watches the dining room, he cannot do both at the same time, watch the cell house and the dining room too."

MEANS OF GETTING TOOLS INTO CELL BLOCKS

It has been called to our attention that tools of escape might be brought into cell blocks through the kitchen or kitchen basement, it being pointed out that there is no screen between the cell block and the kitchen and that there are a number of cell block orderlies working around in that area constantly who might very easily have something slipped to them by the kitchen detail; and, further, that the shake-down given the kitchen help is done in a very slipshod manner and that it would not be very hard at all for those of the kitchen help to actually slip something out as they came out, and they could even bring something with the food, which was admitted by the Warden to me, himself.

[redacted] stated to me that the shake-down of the kitchen men was perfunctory, and it is noticed that P. F. REED in his articles on Alcatraz, appearing in the San Francisco Examiner, also mentions this means of obtaining tools in the cell block.

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It is known by us, as has been pointed out in the investigations conducted on the Island heretofore, that tools are made in the blacksmith shop, and it is claimed by the guards that the so-called metal eye, the instrument which is known as the "snitcher", is not infallible, and as is pointed out in the statement by WILLIAM MARTIN, one of the escaped men,

these instruments can and are regularly beaten by the prisoners, so this is obviously a weakness. The Warden advised me that it was possible that tools might be mixed in with supplies for the kitchen, and it is generally agreed by those persons talked to by the Agents that it is not extremely difficult to get tools and materials for escape purposes out of the work area. The instrument that WILLIAM MARTIN claims was used to break the tool-proof steel bar—namely, a thumb screw jack—was made in the shops, as well as the files that were used. MARTIN also makes the statement in his written statement that there are knives all over the place, which are mostly of brass, which does not react at all on the "snitcher" and that these knives are not found in the mattresses either when they are shaken down. It was MARTIN'S statement that these knives were intended for the Warden, that the men hated him, and that that was their purpose in bringing them in. MARTIN makes the assertion in his written statement that STAMPHILL, while a cell orderly, was seen to go over to isolation block, and it was believed that he had hidden some contraband. A check apparently was made by MR. SHUTTLEWORTH, who was at the penitentiary at that time; however, we can find no record of this. MARTIN claims that they missed the material in the shake-down, which is possible in view of the fact that STAMPHILL was later caught with a knife with a four inch blade, stolen from the kitchen, which knife was found in his cell, for which he was placed in solitary on November 22, 1938. It has been suggested that he had committed this violation in order that he could get into isolation to effect his escape with the tools already planted there.

MATERIAL AVAILABLE TO MAKE ESCAPE TOOLS

To those of us who have found it necessary to proceed in the work area around the blacksmith shop, it is obvious that there is an unlimited source of material for escape tools. With the number of men who work in that area, with the limited supervision, which has already been reported in detail in regard to the COLE-ROE escape, it is easy to see how tools can be made by these men when unobserved. There is likewise material in the shops, which is verified by the shake-down that was made the night after the escape, when a mitre box saw was found concealed; also a spad, which is an instrument similar to a putty knife, used to spread printer's ink. This was found to have been sharpened to a knife-blade edge on one side and a saw-blade edge on the other. In addition, there was found a thin steel bar, which had on one side been converted into a saw edge. There were also found two heavy pieces of wire about 30 inches in length, on which the ends had been curled. In the opinion of some of the prison officials, these were used to push contraband from one cell to another.

It was also called to our attention that when they shook down the

kitchen after the recent break, a sack full of miscellaneous material was taken out, and at this time we have been unable to determine just exactly what kind of material it was. As to whether it was all concealed or whether part of it was found concealed and some just lying about, we do not know.

Also, during the shake-down, there were found two saw blades and a hand screw jack on the top of D cell block, the isolation section. There was no indication that these had been used. If this had been available to any of the prisoners in that section, they could easily have escaped with it.

It has also been suggested that musical instruments might be a source of escape material, particularly that a steel guitar or banjo string is very likely instrument to use to saw a steel frame.

As far as material to cover up the work that they are doing, it was admitted in this instance that putty was not used, but rather wax from the floor was scraped up, mixed with a little paint, picked from the cell walls or bars, which, when covering the point of cutting, appeared the same as the paint.

Razor blades are suggested by the guards as a material for escape; however, it is known that there is a close check on razor blades, and no further information has been developed regarding razor blades.

As to the means of disposal of contraband after the purpose has been served, the statement of WILLIAM MARTIN in this case states that they were disposed of by being thrown down the lavatory. This is logical because they did not in any way want the prison authorities to know that they had these instruments of escape, because having discovered them in some shake-down, they would have immediately caused a thorough check of the bars to see whether they had been used. It is suggested that this possibly was the means of disposing of the thumb jack screw.

The recommendation has been made and is being followed out at this time to use a magnet on the lavatories, because tools still may be available for escape which are reposing in the lavatory drains, as it was called to our attention that they had devised a means of tying a long string to a tool and letting it go down the drain until it rested normally and then the string would float in reach of the arm, but still out of sight in a shake-down.

The raft which was recovered by which the prisoners intended to escape from the Island after being in the water was found to be made of timbers, driftwood, a chair, and material which was available floating around the Island. The photographs already forwarded to you best describe this material; however, there is on the Island and was at the time of the escape, a number of piles of lumber, which, when examined by the Warden and myself, were very similar to that of which the raft was made. The only statement that we have obtained to date from MARTIN is to the effect that the raft lumber was obtained from driftwood along the shore and from wood in the vicinity of the dock. However, material exactly like that in the raft is piled and thrown around on the parade ground, which undoubtedly was in the near vicinity of the building, since it is not known exactly what their direction was after having gone down towards the water level from the window of escape. This wood is being used in construction work on the Island and makes excellent raft material. The binding material used to hold the wood together was sheets taken from the cells.

We have not endeavored to go into this source of material as a particular phase of this investigation, but the matters mentioned herein have come to our attention through the regular interrogation along other lines.

ALARMS

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Questioned as to what part he took in the apprehension of the escaped men, [redacted] stated that [redacted] immediately went to his room and there was unable to hear the siren or whistles, as were a number of other men sleeping in the same quarters. He did not know of the escape until the next morning, when he went to breakfast. Agent FARLAND was also advised by DR. HUNTER, the Protestant Chaplain, that he also had not heard the alarm. It is to be noted that the siren is directly over the Administration Building. This matter of failure to hear the alarms, we thought should be called to your attention.

There was also apparently considerable confusion, particularly as to whether there was an escape or a fire, inasmuch as Deputy Warden MILLER stated that he instructed that both the fire alarm and the siren be sounded in order that everyone might be awakened. This is borne out by W. O. ORSINGER, dental interne, who stated that he was awakened by the blowing of the siren, and he immediately dressed and started towards the direction, at which time he observed the launch McDowell coming into the dock and later inquiry by him at the dock disclosed that there had been a

prison break. MR. ORSINGER stated that he had never been advised as to the signal for a prison break.

We also have learned that three men obtained the fire truck, believing there was a fire and were on the road with the fire engine, having gotten as far as the canteen, when they were turned back, being advised that it was an escape.

WEAKNESSES STILL APPARENT

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[redacted] advised me that they are getting ready to go from the power house. This rumble was picked up by Agent FARLAND and myself several months ago. [redacted] stated that DeSHELLY, BARTLETT'S partner, who is suspected in this break of having possibly assisted in getting tools, because of his ability as an engineer, is now working in the electrical shop. [redacted] explains to me that from the laundry, where a great many of the prisoners are employed, men can go down to the laundry store room, from which store room, they can go to the electrical shop, which is adjoining. There is just a grill between the store room and the electrical shop, which can be easily cut. He said that DeSHELLY works in this area unobserved for as long as an hour at a time and that there is just a four inch wall between the electrical shop and the power house, which could be very easily knocked through, and from then on, if a weapon were obtainable, there could be a wholesale escape out of the laundry down through the store room, the electrical shop, and the power house, merely by killing the guard in the powerhouse tower, either by shooting him or setting fire to the tower, which is wooden, as he is absolutely alone and uncovered. From that point, the only thing that would have to be done to get the last guard out of the way would be to dispose of the guard in the tower over the docks and, with a wholesale escape in mind, that could be easily accomplished, particularly if some weapon were available, and then nothing could stop them from getting boats or taking over the Island.

The statement of WILLIAM MARTIN also mentions the fact that a crew of convicts in the kitchen had made preparations for escape and that they were planning to take women and children as hostages when they went. To our knowledge at this time, although certain things were taken from the kitchen, we have not had brought to our attention any sawed windows or anything of that type which might have been ready for a break.

Our attention now has been brought confidentially to the fact

that about the time of the COLE-ROE escape, there was a window sawed in the hospital.

Junior Officer C. Y. HURST stated that he was informed several days ago that convict RUFUS FRANKLIN, #335, tried to smuggle a letter out to someone in the blacksmith shop, probably BARTLETT, to furnish him with hack saws; however, before they had the opportunity to deliver the letter, he was searched and threw the letter in the lavatory, where it was recovered by Guard PEPPER and turned over to the authorities.

As stated in the beginning of this letter, we are merely reporting to you what we have heard and what has come to our attention without any effort being made to verify, except where it could be done without appearing to be making an administrative investigation. I, personally, am not satisfied with taking some of these statements without verification, realizing that they might be prompted by personal prejudices or jealousies or personalities, but these are the things that we are getting from the men, and, taking them for their value as such, I felt that they would be of great interest to you.

Very truly yours,

N. J. L. PIEPER
Special Agent in Charge

NJLP/mjd
AIR MAIL
SPECIAL DELIVERY

EAT:MC
76-4175

RECORDED 76-4175-11X January 24, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF PRISONS

For your information, I am transmitting herewith a copy of the report of Special Agent in Charge N. J. L. Pieper, dated at San Francisco, California, January 17, 1939, in connection with the unsuccessful attempt of five convicts to escape from the Alcatraz Island Penitentiary. I am also transmitting herewith one copy each of the following memoranda which I addressed to the Attorney General on the dates indicated: memorandum of January 14, 1939; second memorandum of January 14, 1939; memorandum of January 19, 1939.

With reference to my memorandum of January 19, 1939, transmitting a copy of Mr. Pieper's personal and confidential letter of January 18, 1939, concerning administrative matters at the Penitentiary, it will be noted that some data and material were obtained from the prison employees on a confidential basis. I would greatly appreciate your handling this information concerning the identity of these employees who furnished information to the Bureau in a most discreet manner.

I am also transmitting herewith a complete set of the photographs which were made during the course of the investigation of this break.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. McIntire
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

JAN 25 1939

JAN 24 6 23 PM '39

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 76-4175-11X

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FEDERA STIGATION

8 1939.

___The Director
___Mr. Nathan
✓ Mr. Tolson
___Mr. Clegg
___Mr. Foxworth
✓ Mr. Glavin
✓ Mr. Nichols
___Mr. Crowl

___Files Section
___Personnel Files
___Identification Division
___Technical Laboratory
___Mechanical Division
___Chief Clerk's Office
___Mr. Tracy

SUPERVISORS

___Mr. Balch
___Mr. Brennan
___Mr. Carson
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___Mr. Drayton
___Mr. Guerin
___Mr. Hayden
___Mr. Hogan
___Mr. Kramer
___Mr. Lawler

___Mr. McIntire
___Mr. Pennington
___Mr. Van Pelt

* * *

___Miss Gandy
___Mr. Rice
___Mrs. Morton
___Mr. West
___Mr. Gauthier
___Typists - 5724
___See Me

___Bring file up to date
___Send File
___Correct
___Call me regarding this
___Note and Return
___Search, serialize and route
___Stenographers 5730
___Stenographers 5706
___Stenographers 5724

E. A. TAMM - 5734

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35390

JM:MM
Time - 9 P. M.

January 16, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

I called Mr. Pieper in San Francisco concerning the Alcatraz escape and told him that we were sending him four copies of the photographs which he had forwarded to the Bureau. I told Mr. Pieper that I would like to have two more volumes of the photographs to be made for the Bureau after he receives the photographs from the Bureau, as well as two more copies of the charts, since the original sets of pictures and charts were given to the Attorney General.

Pieper stated that he had completed dictating on the confidential report for the Bureau concerning the escape and that the Agents are just about finished their investigation at the island. He stated Rice and Farland were there today and Mr. Bennett was also there, Bennett asking questions of the Agents. Mr. Bennett also asked Farland to come to the island tomorrow when Bennett is going to reinterview some of the prisoners. I asked Pieper why Bennett wants Farland present and he stated that Bennett wants him there to answer questions. I told Pieper it would be all right to have Farland there tomorrow to watch things and let us know of any developments but told Pieper to warn Farlan concerning the situation of Bennett and Schilder. Mr. Pieper advised that both Mr. Bennett and Mr. Schilder are living on the island.

Mr. Pieper called attention to one of the photographs showing the window from the outside in which it could be noted that the walls are crumbling. He stated one of the Agents overheard a conversation between a mechanic and the Deputy Warden at which time the mechanic stated it was impossible to put a grill over the window because the walls would crumble when they were installing the grill. He stated that Block D of the Isolation Section is in an old building which is not tool proof. He also stated that the magnet search is progressing but nothing has developed from this as the drains go down at a steep angle to the ocean. He stated further that several saw blades and another hand jack had been found in the isolation section. Mr. Pieper advised me that he had gotten a copy of the letter written by [redacted] advising that it was impossible to see the cells in Block D of the Isolation Section from the guard's stand, the letter being dated January 9th.

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I told Pieper to get the reports to the Bureau on this matter as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

RECORDED

76-4175-12

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 18 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SECTION
MAILED
JAN 17 1939
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

64

FEDERAL BUREAU OF IN[redacted]ATION

Room 5744 _____ 1939.

To:
- ____ Director
- ____ Mr. Nathan
- ____ Mr. Clegg
- ✓ Mr. Edward Tamm
- ____ Mr. Glavin
- ____ Mr. Crowl
- ____ Miss Gandy
- ____ Mr. Tracy
- ____ Mr. Harbo
- ____ Mr. Renneberger
- ____ Mr. Nichols
- ____ Mr. Quinn Tamm
- ____ Personnel Files Section
- ____ Files Section
- ____ Miss Sheaffer
- ____ _____

See Me For Appropriate Action

Send File Note and Return

was letter of commendation sent?

Clyde Tolson

65

CC-150

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

Transmit the following message to: PEF:DM

JANUARY 17, 1939

Code

SAC-LOS ANGELES

ALCATRAZ ATTEMPTED ESCAPE IMMEDIATELY FORWARD PHOTOGRAPHS SUBMITTED MY LETTER JANUARY SIXTEEN WITH COPY OF LETTER TO SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE SPECIAL DELIVERY

HOOVER

Alcatraz Prison

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. McIntire
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Candy

76

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

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JAN 17 6 16 PM '39
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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

76-4175-13
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 18 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SENT VIA _____ M _____ Per _____

66

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

JAN 17 1939

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Dewey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Gavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. McIntire
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy
Guerin

FBI SAN FRANCISCO 1-17-39 T 5-00 PM MR

DIRECTOR

ALCATRAZ ESCAPE. [redacted] REPORT DICTATED BEING TRANSCRIBED TONIGHT AMSD SHOULD ARRIVE BUREAU THURSDAY NOON. NO INFORMATION DEVELOPED NOT HERETOFORE REPORTED TELEPHONICALLY. PRISON AUTHORITIES INQUIRY STILL PROCEEDING. PRISONERS INTERROGATED HAVE REFUSED TO MAKE ANY STATEMENT TO DIRECTOR BENNETT. SEARCH FOR TOOLS OF ESCAPE NEGATIVE. NO RESULTS FROM LAVATORY SEARCHES. AUTHORITIES STILL SHAKING DOWN CELL HOUSE AREA. OUR INVESTIGATION SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETE.

PIEPER

END

OK FBI WASHINGTON DC THT

RECORDED

76-4175-14
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 18 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

67

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Dawsey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Gavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Tracy
Miss Candy

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JAN 17 1939
POSTAL

WP 16 GOVT COLLECT

F SANFRANCISCO CALIF 16 1053P

DIRECTOR

FBI JUSTICE WASHN DC

ALCATRAZ ESCAPE PERSONAL CONFIDENTIAL LETTER DIRECTOR AMASD BUREAU TONIGHT WEATHER ~~PERMITTING~~ PERMITTING ARRIVE WASHINGTON WEDNESDAY NOON

PIEPER.

BIR2

76-4175-15
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 18 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FBI

68

35397

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FILE NO. 76-347

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
San Francisco, Calif.	1/17/39	1/13-17/39	N. J. L. PIEPER - MJD-MLA-FB

TITLE: ARTHUR L. BARKER, alias DOC; DALE STAMPHILL, RUFUS McCAIN, HENRY YOUNG, WILLIAM MARTIN

CHARACTER OF CASE: ESCAPED FEDERAL PRISONER

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

At approximately 3:37 A. M. 1/13/39 prisoner discovered missing from D cell block Alcatraz Penitentiary and subsequent check revealed BARKER, STAMPHILL, McCAIN, YOUNG and MARTIN confined to adjoining isolation cells in D cell block had effected escape from cells and cell house by sawing regular bars and forcing tool-proof bar with thumb screw jack. All prisoners located on beach of Alcatraz Island. STAMPHILL and BARKER wounded while resisting recapture. BARKER died later. YOUNG, McCAIN and MARTIN surrendered. Apprehensions and return to confinement completed before 5:30 A. M. 1/13/39 by prison officials. All five endeavored to construct raft of driftwood, lumber and other available material, using clothes and strips of sheets to bind raft together. All subjects except BARKER interviewed and decline to make statements. MARTIN informed Deputy Warden E. J. MILLER that STAMPHILL obtained saws and screw jack from unknown person in blacksmith shop, and rendering of bars insecure by their use accomplished as result of efforts of all subjects during a period of more than a month. Tools used flushed down toilets. Pertinent statements of Alcatraz officers set out.

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15 SEP 9 1966

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

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3 - San Francisco (2 encls.)

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Details:

This report is the joint investigation of Special Agents J. H. RICE, A. E. FARLAND, L. H. RICHMOND, and Special Agent in Charge N. J. L. PIEPER. In view of the fact that there would be confusion as to the office of origin, since the prisoners were sentenced from various places, and further, in view of the fact that the prisoners are not at large, it has been deemed expedient to carry the San Francisco office as the office of origin.

This investigation is predicated upon a telephone call received by Special Agent in Charge N. J. L. PIEPER approximately a few minutes after 4 A. M. on the morning of Friday, January 13, 1939, at which time MR. FRED REICHEL, Secretary to Warden JOHNSTON at Alcatraz, telephoned, advising that 5 men had escaped from the cell house. He was unable at that time to furnish the names or to advise whether they had been successful in escaping from the Island. He advised that the Coast Guard and the police in the Bay Area had been notified.

Immediately arrangements were made to mobilize the Agents in the San Francisco Division office. Agent in Charge PIEPER telephonically checked with the San Francisco Police Department and the Coast Guard to determine whether the proper coverage was being maintained, and MR. TAMM, of the Bureau, was telephonically advised. Constant communication was maintained between Agent in Charge PIEPER and the interested agencies and the Island, Agent in Charge PIEPER being advised as to the progress of the search and the results, which will not be reviewed here, since they are going to be covered in detail in this report. At approximately 6 A. M. it was determined that at approximately 5:00 A. M., January 13, 1939, the five escaped prisoners — ARTHUR (DOC) BARKER, DALE STAMPHILL, RUFUS McCAIN, HENRY YOUNG and WILLIAM MARTIN — two of whom were wounded (BARKER and STAMPHILL), had been returned to confinement.

AT ALCATRAZ ISLAND, CALIFORNIA

Agents FARLAND and RICE were dispatched to Alcatraz Island on the 7:55 A. M. boat to begin investigation there, and Special Agent in Charge PIEPER , together with Special Agent R. E. LETHERT, who took the necessary photographs of the escape, proceeded by the next boat to the Island.

Investigation disclosed that at the time of the escape there was on Alcatraz Island and in the vicinity of the San Francisco area

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a very bad fog. The official weather reports of MR. H. DAVIS, in charge of the Alcatraz Lighthouse, Department of Commerce, reflect the following from January 12, 1939, through noon, January 13, 1939:

1/12/39 continuous fog started and horn blowing north end 10:15 P. M. - south end at 10:25 P. M., blowing continuously until 11 A. M., 1/13/39, when north end was shut down-11:40 A. M. - south end shut down. Visibility very bad, practically nil.

In order that the weather conditions might be further clarified, it was the personal observation of the Agents that this was one of the foggiest nights experienced this year. The newspapers carried several stories as to boats running aground and further stories to the effect that this was the foggiest night of the year.

The records at Alcatraz reflect that there three periodic full-count checks in the period between midnight and 6 A. M., namely-- 12 midnight, 3 A. M. and 6 A. M. The records disclose that the 12 o'clock check was made and that there were found to be no prisoners missing. The records disclose that the 3 A. M. full-count check was made without any prisoners being missing. The cell house count sheets, which are being maintained in the San Francisco office file, disclose that on January 12, 1939, at midnight, the count was as follows:

B block	131
C block	130
Hospital	10
Isolation	21
Solitary	1
Total	293

The 3 A. M. count on January 13, 1939, shows the same. The 6 A. M. count on January 13, 1939 shows the following:

B block	131
C block	130
Hospital	13
Isolation	18
Solitary	1
Total	293

These cell house count sheets are signed by C. Y. HURST, Junior Officer.

In order that the reading of this report will be made easier

and to clarify the incidents as they took place, which might not be so clear from reading the individual statements, the following summary of the escape and apprehension is being given:

Junior Officer C. Y. HURST, in charge of the cell house during the period of the escape, at about 3:37 A. M., January 13, 1939, in making a routine check noticed the bars cut in cell #532, assigned to DALE STAMPHILL. He immediately gave the alarm and further check of isolation cells in D block immediately thereafter disclosed that five men were missing, namely—ARTHUR (DOC) BARKER, #268, from cell #528; HENRY YOUNG, #244, from cell #529; RUFUS McCAIN, #267, from cell #530; WILLIAM MARTIN, #370, from cell #531; and DALE STAMPHILL, #535, from cell #532. All cells were found to have been cut, and a window in the outside wall, opposite the cell of YOUNG, had a portion of the bar removed and outside portion of the window frame cut, through which the men apparently made their escape.

Examination by the Agents investigating this case of the bars in the cells of the escaped prisoners disclosed that cells #528 through #531 each had two flat bar metal pieces cut, which permitted an aperture of approximately 10 by 16 inches. Cell #532 had two of the door bars cut, making an aperture of approximately 8 by 13 inches. The door bars are a square type of bar, whereas the other portion of the cell is faced by steel material which is in bands, being flat and narrow, rather than of the regular bar shape. Examination showed them to have been sawed and filed smooth, the cuts apparently having been covered, prior to the time of escape, to avoid detection by paint mixed with floor wax.

The outside window through which the escape was made has a regular steel frame, protected on the inside by a grill of tool proof steel, approximately an inch in thickness, a portion of which had been removed from the upper portion of the grill immediately over the window, permitting an individual to squeeze through and to also squeeze through an opening made by cutting the steel frame to a size to permit a body to pass through, in the outside frame.

This outside window and cell block are on the ground floor, and when escaping from this window, the prisoners dropped approximately eight feet to the ground and thereafter apparently escaped down the steep grade lawns and shrubbry immediately adjacent to the building on the Golden Gate side of the Island. Considerable grass and moss were found disturbed on a ledge overlooking the upper road leading to the Administration Building. From this point down to the water's edge, no definite trace as to the exact direction taken can be ascertained. However, it will be noted from the map of the Island attached hereto that

BARKER and STAMPHILL were first sighted in a cove almost directly beneath the road guard tower on the Golden Gate side of the Island. McCAIN and YOUNG were first sighted at a point on the beach almost directly below the siren located on the San Francisco tip of the Island. MARTIN was located on the beach at a point estimated by the officers to be approximately 100 yards from the siren in a direction towards the place where BARKER and STAMPHILL were located. The actual apprehension of these escapes will be recorded in detail in the statements that follow.

Junior Officer C. Y. HURST, whose assignment was officer in charge of the cell house during the time of the escape, made a statement, the pertinent portion of which is as follows:

"1. I reported for duty at 11:45 P. M. the night of January 12, 1939, relieving Junior Officer R. W. DENNISON, who was in charge of the evening watch in the Cell House. I immediately took a count of all cell blocks with the exception of isolation and solitary. The count checked with MR. DENNISON'S count and was correct. I continued to make the regular routine checks within each hour. Although these checks are not made at regular intervals, they are made once every hour. I conducted the regular cell house count, finishing at approximately 2:50 A. M. Lieut. H. W. WEINHOLD came in to make the hospital count at 1:30 A. M. I accompanied him to the west door of the Cell House, opened the gate leading to the hospital, and closed and locked it behind him and remained in the west end of the Cell House until he returned from the hospital at approximately 3:10 A. M. I then accompanied him to D Block for count of solitary and isolation. I then proceeded to A Block for the isolation count. This was completed at 3:15 A. M. and everything was all right and nothing unusual was found.

"2. I sat at the desk until 3:30 A. M. No unusual noise occurred during this time. I made a regular watch call at 3:30 A. M. and started checking B Block. Approximately one minute after I started this check I heard a slight noise such as a steam radiator or a steam kettle in the kitchen makes. This noise was not unusual and was not repeated so I could make no investigation other than the regular check I was making at the time. Officer C. A. SPUHN, who was on duty in the gun gallery west, said he heard the noise but couldn't locate it and didn't know what caused it. Not being repeated, I did not investigate other than was possible during the regular check. I completed check of B Block, starting C Block down Broadway (Broadway is what the main corridor of the Prison is called) to the west end. I proceeded to D Block by the way of the screen gate at west end, leaving the gate open behind me to be used as a ready exit in case of emergency. I proceeded past the cells of RUFUS FRANKLIN, No. 335, and JAMES LUCAS, No. 224; proceeded on past the stairway leading to the lower solitary cells between the stairway and

the front of the cells. After passing the stairway, I stepped towards the out wall Cell House intending to look up on the second gallery to see if all cell doors were closed on the second gallery. As I did so, I caught sight of the bars in the lower portion of the door of cell No. 532, occupied by STAMPHILL, No. 435, noticing that these were cut at the lower section of the first horizontal bar and bent out. A blanket was folded up laying in front of the opening. Also, a sheet was crumpled up laying on the blanket. I immediately turned and ran out of the isolation area through the door I had left open, locking it behind me. I instructed MR. SPUHN to cover the outer wall while I telephoned. I ran over to the telephone, west end of the Cell House, telephone number 38, and called the armory and Mr. P. E. TYE, who was on duty at the armory at that time, answered the phone. I instructed him to locate Lieut. WEINHOLD as quickly as possible and tell him to come into the Cell House. I then called the Road Tower. Mr. M. D. LLOYD answered the phone and I instructed him to keep a close watch on the outer wall of the Cell House as there was a man loose in the D Block. I then called Mr. S. H. McFAIL, substitute officer, who was on duty in the gun gallery east and instructed him to cover the aisle between C and D Blocks. I then called the armory where I made a contact with Lieut. WEINHOLD and informed him that there was a man loose in D Block and to come in as quickly as possible. As near as I can recall, this was about 3:37 A. M., January 13, 1939.

"3. Lieut. WEINHOLD arrived about 3:40 A. M. as near as I can judge. We proceeded to D Block by way of the screen door at the east end of D Block and made an inspection which resulted in finding that five inmates had broken out of their cells:

BARKER #268, cell 528
YOUNG #244, cell 529
McCAIN #267, cell 530
MARTIN #370, cell 531
STAMPHILL 435, cell 532.

"We made no further check at that time but immediately left the Cell Block for east end of the Cell House to telephone No. 37 where Lieut. WEINHOLD communicated with Associate Warden MILLER, the power house, and the armory to cause a general alarm. A further inspection was made in the Cell Block with Associate Warden MILLER and several officers and it was then found that the bars in the window had been sawed off and it is believed that the inmates escaped through that window. I was in the cell block at all times and made a further check to see if any of the other inmates confined in D Block were missing. All were accounted for. There was at the time one man, MINNTOLE #373, who was in solitary confinement in cell 526, and my instructions were not to open that cell door

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at any time when alone.

"I was in the Cell Block at all times during my tour of duty and can state positively that I never heard anything unusual in the block other than the one time I mentioned before, and that I did not hear the above mentioned inmates when they left their cells to go through the window out of the prison.

"5. I wish to state that up until three of the inmates, i.e., McCAIN 267, YOUNG 244, and MARTIN 370, were returned to the Cell Block where YOUNG and McCAIN were put in cells in the main corridor, that is, what we call "BROADWAY", I heard no shots. MARTIN was taken to the hospital. Two others were taken to the hospital. I later ascertained that they were BARKER and STAMPHILL.

"I continued on my regular assignment. No further incident happened that I can recall. I wish to state, also, that during my tour of duty in the cell block I was not armed other than to have in my possession a gas billy. It is the custom in this prison to issue gas billies to officers in charge of the several details. The only protection that an officer on duty in the Cell House has is that furnished him by the officers on duty in the gun galleries. The officers on duty in the gun galleries cannot see the cells which were occupied by the inmates that escaped from their posts of duty. I was relieved from duty at approximately 7:55 A. M. by Officer C. A. DITMER who took charge of the Cell Block on my relief."

HENRY W. WEINHOLD, Lieutenant in charge of the entire morning watch on Alcatraz Island, executed the following statement:

"Statement by HENRY W. WEINHOLD, Lieutenant in Charge of Morning Watch.

"1. After having taken the count of the Hospital and Isolation at 3:00 A. M. January 13, 1939, I left the Administration Building at approximately 3:25 A. M. went down the road around the Light House, down the steps, through the cut to the Parade Ground. While on the Parade Ground I noticed East Island Patrol Officer, THOMAS H. PRITCHARD, coming across Parade Ground West End whereupon I proceeded to the southwest corner of the handball court where I met Officer PRITCHARD. I remained with him for a few minutes discussing the necessity for extra precautions on foggy nights and asked him if he had been checking the shower room windows carefully then I proceeded down the steps on East End of Apartment Building #64 to the Dock Tower. During all this time I heard no unusual noise nor noticed anything unusual.

"2. On arriving at the Dock Tower, HORACE DIESCH, Officer in charge at Dock Tower, informed me that I was wanted on the phone by the Armory. This was at approximately 3:40 A. M. I immediately telephoned the Armory and at the same time CRISS Y. HURST, Officer in Charge of the Cell House, was on the telephone connected with the Armory Officer, HOWARD C. CHAPMAN. When Officer HURST heard my voice he told me that an inmate was out of his cell in D Isolation.

"3. I then raced up the steps from the Dock Tower to Administration Building Front Entrance and went into the Cell House through the Main Gate. Officer HURST and myself then proceeded to "D' Isolation through the screen door at East End of D Block and discovered five inmates were missing from their cells. Officer HURST and I then immediately proceeded to the telephone at East End of Cell House and I telephoned EDWARD J. MILLER, Associate Warden, at his residence and informed him that five inmates were missing from their cells. He instructed me to have the alarms, siren and whistle, sounded whereupon I telephoned Officer CHAPMAN in the Armory to sound the siren and telephoned STANLEY FULLALOVE, Assistant Engineer in charge at the Power House, to sound the whistle, which was immediately done.

"4. Officer HURST and myself then proceeded back to 'D' isolation through the screen door at East End 'D' block and inspected the five cells, and I checked the radiator ventilators and entrance to Lower Solitary returning with Officer HURST in a few minutes to the East End Cell House at the Main Gate where we met Associate Warden MILLER who detailed Officer SHELDON and myself to return and make thorough search of 'D' Block.

"5. Officers SHELDON and HURST and myself proceeded to D Block and I checked D Block around the middle tier and went up on top of D Block at the West End, about which time other officers began arriving in the Cell House, and on coming down from the top of 'D' Block at the East End I encountered Lieutenant JOSEPH H. SIMPSON on the top tier of D Block.

"6. Associate Warden MILLER had taken charge and instructed me to see that men were posted on the beaches after it had been discovered that the inmates had apparently got out of the Cell House through the window. I then went out of the Cell House through the Main Gate, procured arms from the Armory, a 45 automatic pistol and proceeded down the road toward the Road Tower on the way encountering several officers and instructed them to cover the beaches outside of the Work Area. I also met Lieutenant ISAAC B. FAULK on the road on the way down to the Road Tower and together we proceeded to the Work Area going through the Upper Road Gate immediately under the Road Tower. We had just entered when we heard shots being fired whereupon we immediately ran down to the lower

road to a point overlooking the cove on the beach immediately below the Road Tower and I began firing into the cove at some faintly white shadows, firing three to five shots to the best of my recollection. I then went out of the Work Area to the edge of the lower road overlooking the cove and instructed MAURICE D. LLOYD, officer in charge of the Road Tower, to turn his light on the cove and after more light had been brought to bear on the water edge in the cove two pairs of legs could be distinguished.

"7. "I then proceeded around the Parade Ground following the Road around to the Patch leading down to the Seal Wall at the East End of the Island, went down the patch to the Sea Wall and as I arrived the Launch McDowell came around the northeast corner of the Island throwing its searchlight along the beach. A makeshift raft was floating in the water near the end of the Sea Wall. I threw my flashlight along the beach toward the West side of the Island and saw two men, one naked and the other clad in a pair of stagged drawers. I called to them to surrender and they came on around the ledge of the rock with their hands in the air. I then identified them as inmates RUFUS ROY McCAIN #267 and HENRY YOUNG #244.

"8. Officer EDMUND J. KEAN appeared and he and I brought inmates McCAIN and YOUNG around to the Dock Office along the Sea Wall. On the way we met Officers HENRY T. DAVIS and EMIL E. RYCHNER and I instructed Officers KEAN and DAVIS to proceed to the beach at the end of the Sea Wall and maintain watch and Officer RYCHNER and I took the prisoners around by the Dock up the Road and to the Main Entrance of the Cell House and left them in the Main Entrance in charge of which inmates I left Officers RYCHNER and PALLAS E. TYE, Officer in charge of Main Gate, Morning Watch.

"9. As I passed the Dock Tower on the way up the hill with the inmates I instructed HORACE DIESCH, Officer in charge Dock Tower, to notify Associate Warden MILLER inmates McCAIN and YOUNG had been recaptured. The balance of the night I spent in assisting wherever I might be needed but nothing noteworthy happened where it would be possible for me to witness it.

"H. W. WEINHOLD, Lieutenant

"Statement made Alcatraz
Island, California January 14, 1938."

The following is a statement of Associate Warden EDWARD J. MILLER. More information will be set forth later as to what information Associate Warden MILLER has obtained as a result of interviewing WILLIAM MARTIN, one of the escapes.

"January 14, 1939

"I, EDWARD J. MILLER, Associate Warden at the United States Penitentiary, Alcatraz, California, furnish the following information to Special Agents L. H. RICHMOND and J. H. RICE of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"Early on the morning of January 13, 1939, I was awakened by my telephone ringing. When I answered it after slipping on a bath robe and going to the first floor where the telephone was located, about 3:45 A.M. I found that it was Lieutenant WEINHOLD stating that 'They are all loose in "D" Block Isolation'. I instructed him to turn on the siren on the roof and to instruct the power plant to sound their whistle. I put on my shoes and a pair of pants and left my house. I did not see a light at Lieutenant FAULK'S residence and I ran across and rang his bell and then came across the parade ground, up the cutoff behind Buildings #43 and #15. When I arrived at the Administration Building, Lieutenant WEINHOLD was inside and other officers were starting to arrive. As they came up I told each officer that some men were loose in 'D' Block Isolation, told them to draw a club or gas billy gun from the Armory. When I got six or seven men, I told the Armorer to hold all the rest of them until I started this group into the Cell Block with Lieutenant WEINHOLD. When I got to the cellhouse door at the main gate and started to go into the cellhouse, Lieutenant WEINHOLD met me there and told me that there were five of them gone and they had left through a window and were not in the cell block. I detailed three or four officers to go into the cell block with the cellhouse officer to check immediately and went back to the Armory where as the officers began to come in, I sent them out to cover the cell building, the different posts around the Island and different parts of the beach. When Lieutenant WEINHOLD came out I instructed him to take a couple of officers and go down into the work area to see if any of them had gone over the cat walks. About this time Warden JOHNSTON arrived and I told him what had happened and what had been done.

"There was considerable exitement but I remember instructing Officer DITMAR to draw a Thompson Sub-Machine Gun and go to the road below the Road Tower to check the cove on the beach immediately beneath the Tower. I then went to the window which had been broken through and made sure that that point was amply covered. While there I heard shots fired down below me near the cove and I went around the road and down to where MR. DITMAR was on the lower road. On the way down I passed Officer PRITCHARD on the upper road and noted that the Road Tower Guard was out and had his tower light turned down into the cove. With these lights on we could see two white bodies, one was laying down and the other was partly sitting up. In a few minutes the Launch McDowell came around, put their lights on, playing up and down the entire cove and we

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could make out only the two men. The men on the Launch said that they had sighted two men farther down near the seawall and other officers had taken them to the cellhouse. I sent MR. FAULK to the dock for ropes and sent MR. CURRY down over the hillside to the cove where the men were lying. Officer KAUFMAN who was part way down on the hillside then followed Officer CURRY down to the beach. I gave the pistol I had taken from Officer CURRY to Lieutenant FAULK and suggested we go down to the east beach. We met Officers DAVIS and KEAN at the end of the sea wall where a makeshift raft was drifting in. We left them to get the raft in and dismantle it and went along the beach in the direction of the cove. The tide was in almost to the cliff and it was necessary to wade almost to our waists in spots. I went on ahead with my light, following by Lieutenant FAULK. We had gone about eighty or a hundred feet, perhaps more, when Lieutenant FULK hollered 'There he is' and on turning I heard a splash in the water and found that the negro, MARTIN, was in the water, floundering about, approximately thirty feet out. He was apparently trying to stand up on the slippery rocks, hollering out 'I give up, I give up'. I went to him, motioned him to come in to the cliff which he tried to do but seemed to be having difficulty, apparently having strained himself in the fall. I waded out to him, got hold of him and got him over to the cliff. We walked him over to the beach on the east sea wall. He was naked except for a pair of socks. We took a pair of coveralls from the material found on the raft and wrapped about his waist, marched him on up the roadway, up the patch, across the parade ground, up the road passed the apartment building to the clothing room door. I took Lieutenant FAULK'S pistol from him, gave it to Officer GARDNER and instructed Lieutenant FAULK to take MARTIN to the Hospital and stay there until the Hospital attendants put him to bed, which he did.

"I then came back to the Administration Building office, learned of the progress made and returned to the cove. At that time they had the row boat off of the launch, rowing into the cove. I stayed there until the bodies were picked up and put in boat and the Launch left for the dock. I then went to the dock. Two coast guard boats were standing with their lights playing on the launch and following our boat around. The launch McDowell pulled into the dock. BARKER was removed from the skiff first, then STAMPHILL, both placed in the bus and brought to the clothing room in the basement, then to the hospital. I turned my gun over to Officer GARDNER and went to the hospital.

"DR. RITCHEY was in the Hospital when I arrived there. I went into the first aid room, saw BARKER being given treatment. STAMPHILL was brought up second and one of the nurses began to give him first aid. STAMPHILL was doing nothing but groaning. BARKER was conscious,

mumbling to himself, could not make out a good deal he said, the only clear words being 'I'm shot all to Hell.'

"I then left the Hospital, went back to the cell block, and took all necessary precautions to safeguard the institution and continue with the regular routine.

/s/ E. J. MILLER
E. J. Miller, Associate Warden
U. S. Penitentiary
Alcatraz, California

"Witnesses:

/s/ L. H. RICHMOND /s/ J. H. RICE
L. H. Richmond J. H. Rice
F. B. I. San Francisco, Calif.

"January 14, 1939

"I, PAUL J. MADIGAN, Captain at the U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz, California, furnish the following information to Special Agents L. H. RICHMOND and J. H. RICE of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

"When the siren sounded early on the morning of January 13, 1939, I came to the Administration Building as soon as possible and went into the cellhouse with the Associate Warden and other officers. On checking "D" Block we found bars on some of the cells cut and on checking the windows Officer CARMAN found the hole through which the men had gone. We came out to the Armory, drew arms and I went down to the dock, met the two boatmen, had then draw the key and got the launch out.

"As we went around the east end of the Island, we picked out two men near the shore and after making sure that officers on the shore had them in custody, proceeded around, flashing the searchlight on the beach. When we got to the cove and the two men were in safe control, we returned to the dock for the rowboat, Officer MAY rowed to the cove and the prisoners were taken back to the Dock and up to the Hospital.

(signed) P. J. MADIGAN
PAUL J. MADIGAN, Captain
U. S. Penitentiary,
Alcatraz, California"

"January 14, 1939

"I, ROBERT L. CARMAN, Junior Officer at the U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz, California, furnish the following information to Special Agents L. H. RICHMOND and J. H. RICE of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

"As soon as I heard the alarm early on the morning of January 13, 1939, I reported to the Administration Building and went into the cellhouse "D" Block with other officers. On looking around I noticed the bars being sawed on the window and shortly thereafter all of the officers went to the front part of the prison. Mr. COTTERAL and I were sent back to stay in the cellhouse with the cellhouse officer and I had no further part in the search for the men.

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"The pieces removed from the window and the basket guard were not on the inside of the cellhouse.

(signed) ROBERT L. CARMAN
Junior Officer
U. S. Penitentiary
Alcatraz, California"

"January 14, 1939

"I, CLIFFORD E. DITMER, Junior Officer at the U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz, California, furnish the following information to Special Agents L. H. RICHMOND and J. H. RICE of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

"On hearing the siren sounded early on the morning of January 13, 1939, I came as soon as possible to the Administration Building, met the Associate Warden and he told me to draw a gun and see if I could locate the prisoners. I was finally sent down to the road near the Road Tower. I was looking along the beach but it was rather foggy when I first got down there and you could not see the water but the wind came in and the fog drifted out and I saw a couple of white shapes moving to the water, so I hollered to them to stop. I knew they were men by the way they were moving. They did not stop and I fired five shots into the water, between them and the water. They continued to go toward the water, so I aimed directly at the men and fired nine shots and when I finished firing the last shot they were both down, so I quit firing. There were others firing, I heard firing on both sides of me but it was dark and I do not know who did the shooting.

"I stayed in that vicinity until the two prisoners were loaded in the rowboat. At the time I first fired at the men the launch had not arrived, they were just coming around the point. I was about seventy five feet above the men and off to one side when I fired down at them. I had a Thompson sub-machine gun.

"After the men were loaded in the rowboat, I came on up to the cellhouse, turned in my gun, had breakfast and reported for duty.

(signed) CLIFFORD E. DITMER
Junior Officer
U. S. Penitentiary
Alcatraz, California"

"January 14, 1939

"I, JOHN P. OBERTO, Chief Engineer Water Equipment at the U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz, California, furnish the following information to Special Agents L. H. RICHMOND and J. H. RICE of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

"I was awakened the morning of January 13, 1939 by the siren blowing and the whistle from the power house. I dressed as fast as I could, ran down to my post under the Dock Tower to stand by for the key and orders. On the way I met Mr. REBHOLTZ and we went to the dock together. When we arrived at the Dock Tower Officer DIESCH, on duty in the tower, did not ___ what had happened. Shortly afterwards Lieutenant SIMPSON and Captain MADIGAN arrived at the dock, we secured the key from the Dock Tower and started the boat. We started around the east side of the Island with out searchlight playing on the beach. I was steering the boat and Mr. REBHOLTZ, my Assistant, was operating the searchlight and the radio. As we got around just a little beyond the seawall on the east end of the Island we could see something on the beach that was unusual so someone on the outside of the boat hollered "Get up there" and fired a couple of shots and two men jumped up with hands raised and some officers on the shore were close to the men and took charge of them.

"We proceeded along the beach, circling the Island playing the light on the shore and when we got to the cove just this side of the incinerator, we saw two men huddled up on the beach. A few warning shots were fired from the boat and then we proceeded in close and could see that the men were lying there wounded with blood showing, so we came back to the wharf and got the rowboat in tow and proceeded back around to where the men were. Officer MAY was in the rowboat and he rowed in to pick up the wounded men. Two officers came down from over the bank and helped get the men in the boat. One of the officers returned in the boat with Officer MAY and the two prisoners, the officers then got on the launch and the launch returned to the wharf towing the skiff with the two prisoners in it. The prisoners were placed ashore and taken away in the bus.

(signed) JOHN P. OBERTO
Chief Engineer - Water Equipment
U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz"

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"January 14, 1939

"I, JOSEPH K. KAUFMAN, Junior Officer at the U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz, California, furnish the following information to Special Agents L. H. RICHMOND and J. H. RICE of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

"After the alarm was sounded the morning of January 13, 1939, I came to the Administration Building as rapidly as possible, drew a flashlight from the Armory and went on a search with Officers BOYD, RYCHNER and PEPPER. We went around past the Road Tower down the road and were working around on the parade ground when we heard shots up by the Road Tower, so we came back there and went down on the lower road. The Associate Warden was there directing and I went down on the bank part way where I could see the two men lying on the beach.

"When the rope was secured and Mr. CURRY got down, I followed down immediately after him. When we reached the men, we identified them as ARTHUR BARKER and DALE STAMPHILL. We waited on the beach until they got the rowboat around and we got the two men into the rowboat. Mr. MAY was in the rowboat and he and Mr. CURRY took the boat back out to our launch. I climbed back up the cliff. The remainder of the morning, I performed routine duties as ordered by Captain MADIGAN.

(signed) JOSEPH K. KAUFMAN,
Junior Officer,
U. S. Penitentiary
Alcatraz, California"

"January 14, 1939

"I, KENNETH C. CURRY, Junior Officer at the U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz, California, furnish the following information to Special Agents L. H. RICHMOND and J. H. RICE of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

"At five minutes to four A. M. January 13, 1939, I heard the siren and I reported immediately to the Administration Building. On learning what had happened, I secured a 45 revolver and flashlight

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"from the Armory. I started down to the beach and when I came to the trenches on the parade ground I looked underneath the culverts, then I went over to the edge of the Island where the signal gun is and I searched around the trees there and around the bank and then I started down toward the east end of the Island. There is a path by the fog horn leading down to the beach. I got about half way and I heard some shots by the Road Tower and then I saw two officers running towards the Road Tower, so I ran up there and when I got there the Associate Warden was there and he said there were some of the men down in the cove, but he did not know how many, that the boat was goung around and for me to report to the dock and accompany the boat, giving the same instructions to Officers MAY and PEPPER.

"We went to the dock and Lieutenant SIMPSON who was there stated that he wanted two of us to get a rope to go down into the cove where the inmates were. So Mr. FAULK and I got a rope and we took the bus and drove around, tied the rope onto the bus and I went down the rope to the cove. Mr. KAUFMAN was there on the first ledge and after I passed him, he followed me down the rope. When I got down there, BARKER and STAMPHILL were there, wounded, and we just stayed and waited until the boat got around.

"When MAY arrived in the rowboat we lifted the prisoners into the boat and I got in the boat with Mr. MAY and the prisoners and we rowed back to the Launch. At that time one of the Coast Guard boats was standing by and turning its lights into the cove also. Mr. KAUFMAN returned by the rope. When we reached the launch, Mr. MAY and I boarded the Launch and left the prisoners in the rowboat alone while it was towed back to the dock. I helped carry BARKER into the bus. The prisoners never were put on the McDowell.

"The water was quite rough and we had quite a time outselves to get off the rowboat onto the launch. When we reached the prisoners in the cove, they were both conscious, said they were helpless, unarmed and complained of the cold. They just had shorts on but had been in the water for they were wet and bloody.

(signed) KENNETH C. CURRY
Junior Officer
U. S. Penitentiary
Alcatraz, California"

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"January 14, 1939

"I, RAYMOND W. MAY, Junior Officer at the U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz, California, furnish the following information to Special Agents L. H. RICHMOND and J. H. RICE of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

"When the siren and whistles sounded early on the morning of January 13, 1939, I first thought it was a fire and by this confusion was delayed in reached the Administration Building a few moments. I received a billy and went down along the road. I heard some shots, met the Associate Warden and he told me to have the boat come around to the cove near the incinerator.

"On the way to the cove, we played the searchlight on two prisoners and after seeing that officers on shore took them into custody, proceeded on to the cove. When it was seen that the prisoners were safely guarded, we proceeded back to the dock for the rowboat and I rode back in the rowboat and on reaching the cove rowed ashore.

"Officers CURRY and KAUFMAN were on the beach in the cover near the prisoners. I noticed that BARKER had his short trunks on and I started to frisk him when STAMPHILL said "He hasn't got a knife". We loaded the prisoners in the boat, Officer CURRY and I rowed them back to the Launch, got on the Launch ourselves and the Launch towed the rowboat containing the two prisoners back to the dock and they were loaded on the bus and taken to the Hospital.

(signed) RAYMOND W. MAY
Junior Officer
U. S. Penitentiary
Alcatraz, California"

"January 14, 1939

"I, EDMUND J. KEAN, Junior Officer at the U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz, California, furnish the following information to Special Agents L. H. RICHMOND and J. H. RICE of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

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"After the alarm was sounded the morning of January 13, 1939 I reported as soon as possible at the Administration Building, secured a pistol and was sent down to the beach. I went down and stood at the extreme end of the seawall near the last light standard and patrolled up and down. I had no flash light. After I had walked around about ten minutes, the Launch McDowell came around the corner from the dock with its searchlight on and about the same time Lieutenant WEINHOLD came around, walking on the wall patrolling with the launch . Just the other side of the seawall the light from the Launch picked up two of the convicts and they came up with their hands up and Lieutenant WEINHOLD told them to come on out. I did not shoot at the men although I did hear a couple of shots about that time though I am uncertain as to where they originated. I asked Lieutenant WEINHOLD if he wished me to go in with him and he told me to stay where I was.

"After Lieutenant WEINHOLD left Officer HENRY T. DAVIS came along and he had a rather poor pocket flashlight. About that time we noticed a raft right below the wall on the extreme end of the wall. We were deliberating whether to tear it apart when the Associate Warden came along, accompanied by Lieutenant FAULK. He inquired whether anyone had been along on the beach beyond the wall where the two men had been found. Then the Associate Warden and Lieutenant FAULK went along the beach and in about five minutes I heard a splash and soon thereafter the Associate Warden and Lieutenant FAULK came back with the negro. The Associate Warden wrapped a pair of coveralls about his waist. The raft was hauled up on the wall. It was floating on the water when first seen, came into shore. Was constructed of several boards bound together with sheeting and there was a small bow backed chair and a canvas camp chair and clothing, underclothing and shoes. It was about 5' x 6' I should judge.

"We went up the path with the Associate Warden, Lieutenant FAULK and the negro (MARTIN) and when we got to the top the Associate Warden said something about going over to the Road Tower and DAVIS and I went over there and we were there probably ten or twelve minutes when the Launch came around, the two prisoners were picked up and taken to the dock. I then went to the Armory and turned in my pistol and went to my quarters.

(signed) EDMUND J. KEAN
Junior Officer
U. S. Penitentiary
Alcatraz, California"

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"January 14, 1939

"I, ISAAC B. FAULK, Lieutenant at the United States Penitentiary, Alcatraz, California, furnish the following information to Special Agents L. H. RICHMOND and J. H. RICE of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

"When I awakened early on the morning of January 13, 1939, I heard the siren going and got out of bed. At first I took it to be a siren in the Bay, it sounded like a boat. I called up the Armory but there was another party evidently on the line because he said "You cut in on me" and then the telephone went dead. I got up and at that time someone rang my doorbell but when I went outside after putting my overcoat on there was no one there. I then went outside and went down to the dock at first. Could not see anyone around and went back home and called the Dock Tower and the man in the Dock Tower told me they needed me at the top side so I immediately went to the administration building. I ran into men coming down the hill starting on the search, so I fell in with them. Lieutenant WEINHOLD and I then went inside the work area. We first went to the incinerator. Just as we got to the incinerator, a man outside the fence said "Come out of there" and soon we heard shots. I did not have any arms but Lieutenant WEINHOLD fired a few shots, I do not know how many. We came back outside the fence and when I got outside, I went down to the dock to get a rope so we could go down over the bank. We could see the two men laying down there in the cove.

"I got a rope and came back. We dropped the rope over the bank and as I got the rope over the bank, the launch McDowell came in view. The Associate Warden hollered out to the boat and asked how many they could see there and they replied that they could see two and that an officer had two going around the beach taking them over toward the dock, so that left one man unaccounted for.

"The Associate Warden said to me that we would take a walk down on the beach and see if we could locate him. We got down to the beach and right at the end of the seawall we came across a raft that they had made, composed of several boards, clothing and shoes wrapped on it, and all held together with strips of sheets. We proceeded on around through the water. We had to wade through the water as the tide was in. We went, I should say, 80 to 100 feet around on the

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"shore playing our lights up along the bank and we had evidently passed this negro for he was up on the cliff above approximately 15 or 20 feet up over our heads to the right. The Associate Warden was playing his light up and I just happened to look around and saw this negro move and down he came, the rock having probably given way. He struck the bank on the way down and landed several feet out in the Bay. We went over and he surrendered peacefully. He did not give any trouble at all. The negro, MARTIN, did not have a strip of clothes on except a pair of socks. We picked up a pair of coveralls from the material on the raft and wrapped around his waist. We took him across the parade ground, he seemed to be injured and had trouble making it up, but we got up to the clothing room door and he was checked into the hospital at approximately 5:15 A. M.

(signed) I. B. FAULK
Lieutenant,
U. S. Penitentiary,
Alcatraz"

"January 14, 1939

"I, FREEMAN E. PEPPER, Junior Officer at the U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz, California, furnish the following information to Special Agents L. H. RICHMOND and J. H. RICE of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

"After I heard the alarm, I came to the Administration Building as rapidly as possible. When it was found that five men had escaped, I got a billy from the Armory and started down the hill with a group of other men. When we went by the road below the Road Tower I heard some shots and the Associate Warden came running and told me to go and bring the Launch McDowell around. I went to the dock with several other men and boarded the boat.

"As we went around the Island, the searchlight was turned on the beach and near the end of the seawall two men were discovered and officers on the shore took charge of them. Continuing around to the cove, we found there were only two men there, completely under

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"control and received orders to go back to the dock and get a rowboat. The rowboat was secured and Mr. MAY rode in it back to the cove. Mr. MAY rowed the boat over into the cove and with two officers who had come down the cliff on a rope, the two prisoners were placed in the rowboat, rowed back by Mr. MAY and Mr. CURRY. The two officers got on the launch and the rowboat containing the two prisoners was towed around to the dock.

"On arriving at the dock I went to get some blankets and canvas and bags to put on the floor of the passenger bus, the prisoners were lifted into the bus and taken to the clothing room door of the institution. I assisted in carrying each in turn up the stairway to the Hospital. After BARKER was laid on the table in the Hospital, he said "I was a fool to try it". STAMPHILL said nothing though he was fully conscious.

(signed) FREEMAN E. PEPPER
Junior Officer,
U. S. Penitentiary
Alcatraz, California"

"January 14, 1939

"I, M. B. COMEFFORD, Guard Attendant with the United States Public Health Service stationed at the U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz, California, furnish the following information to Special Agents L. H. RICHMOND and J. H. RICE of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

"After the alarm was sounded the morning of January 13, 1939, I made inquiries to find out what happened and when I saw the Launch McDowell pulling into the dock I asked Captain MADIGAN if I could be of assistance. After the rowboat was attached to the Launch, I got on the McDowell and we went around to the cove near the incinerator.

"There was a Coast Guard boat out there shining their searchlight on the beach and the Launch got as close to shore as it could without grounding, I should say about 200 or 250 feet. There were two men lying on the beach, conscious, moving around and there were two officers watching them and on the cliff above there were more officers. Mr. MAY rowed in to the cove and the prisoners were loaded into the rowboat and taken to the dock. I lifted BARKER out of the rowboat first. He was rather slippery, so I got him to give me

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"some help in getting him on the dock. Then I lifted the other man out, STAMPHILL (I did not recognize the men but remembered by description and found out the names later). STAMPHILL asked me to be careful as his leg was fractured and he assisted me as much as possible in getting him up to the dock. I do not remember exactly who was on the boat, perhaps eight or nine, but I remember Officers PEPPER and ORDWAY, the Boatman, REBHOLTZ and OBERTO, and DR. ORSINGER. While we were getting the men in the bus, Officer ORDWAY looked at his watch and said "It is now 5:20". I went upstairs to the Hospital and helped with the patients, after stopping for a cup of coffee at my quarters.

(signed) M. B. COMERFORD,
Guard Attendant,
U. S. Public Health Service
U. S. Penitentiary
Alcatraz, California"

"January 14, 1939

"I, W. O. ORSINGER, Second Year Dental Interne with the United States Public Health Service now stationed at the U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz, California, furnish the following information to Special Agents L. E. RICHMOND and J. H. RICE of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

"After being awakened by the emergency siren on the morning of January 13, 1939, I got dressed and investigated and when I saw the Launch McDowell coming into the dock, I went down and found that two men had been shot and I helped launch the rowboat in the water and boarded the McDowell.

"We went around to the side of the Island where the incinerator is. Searchlights were shining on the shore and I saw two partially stripped men with blood on them lying on the ground guarded by two officers. The prisoners were placed in the rowboat and brought to the dock. I helped place the men on stretchers and put them in the bus. I did not recognize either of the prisoners but I understood that one of them was ARTHUR BARKER and the other DALE STAMPHILL. The bus brought the men back to the clothing room door. I helped carry one of the men up to the Hospital. I understood it was ARTHUR BARKER. I then helped clean up the two men and give them treatment and stayed in

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"the hospital until approximately 1 P. M. that afternoon, helping and assisting as much as I could.

(signed) W. O. ORSINGER
Second Year Dental Interne
U. S. Public Health Service
U. S. Penitentiary
Alcatraz, California"

"January 14, 1939

"I, HERBERT C. SABIN, Guard Attendant of the United States Public Health Service, stationed at the U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz, California, furnish the following information to Special Agents L. H. RICHMOND and J. H. RICE of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

"When the siren sounded early on the morning of January 13, 1939, I reported to the Administration Building as soon as possible and Associate Warden MILLER instructed me to draw a gun and go to the Dock accompanied by Officer HENRY T. DAVIS. I was down there a short while when Officer RYCHNER relieved me and I came back and went into the Hospital.

"Shortly after I got to the Hospital they brought in MARTIN #370 and we treated him and put him to bed. After a while BARKER was brought up, followed by STAMPHILL. None of the men have made any statement to me relative to the matter except STAMPHILL said today that BARKER was shot first the same as he was, in the legs, and when he kind of straightened up to relieve the pain in his legs and that was when he received the bullet in the head.

(signed) HERBERT C. SABIN
Guard Attendant
U. S. Public Health Service
U. S. Penitentiary
Alcatraz, California"

All of the statements heretofore quoted, with the exception of that of C. Y. HURST, were taken at Alcatraz and were all witnessed by Special Agents J. H. RICE and L. H. RICHMOND, assigned to the San Francisco Office of this Bureau, if their names are mentioned in the opening paragraph of the statement.

The following is a statement of CARL A. SPUHN, Junior Officer, which was taken at Alcatraz in the presence of Special Agents J. H. RICE and A. E. FARLAND of the San Francisco Field Office. The question and answer portion of this statement is a result of questions interposed by WARDEN JAMES JOHNSTON:

"1. Reported for roll call 11.45 P.M. January 12, 1939. Went to West Gun Gallery entrance accompanied by LIEUTENANT STARLING. Relieved OFFICER BURNS. LIEUTENANT WEINHOLD and OFFICER DENNISON appeared at the gate leading out of Dining Room, lowered keys, they proceeded into Cell House, locked gate. I brought up keys and LIEUTENANT WEINHOLD and OFFICER DENNISON went into "D" Isolation through West End Screen Door, I covering them. This was about midnight. LIEUTENANT WEINHOLD and OFFICER DENNISON left "D" Isolation through East End Screen Door and around East End Cell Blocks over in back of "A" Block to "A" Isolation disappearing around East End "A" Block soon thereafter reappearing after checking "A" Isolation. They went to the desk at East End and later left the Cell House through Main Gate. Officer HURST in charge of Cell House was at the desk and remained there. I went on patrol in the usual manner walking back and forth and know I was quite alert during the entire watch. I made my 12.30 watch call and 1.00 AM watch call and 1.30 watch call when OFFICER HURST checked the Cell House.

2. Made 2.00 o'clock watch call and 2.30 watch call and OFFICER HURST again made check. During the time between checking the Cell House when I covered OFFICER HURST at all times possible per instructions I was on constant patrol. I made 3.00 AM watch call and about five minutes after three AM LIEUTENANT WINHOLD entered Cell House through Main Gate. LIEUTENANT WEINHOLD and OFFICER HURST came down Center Aisle to Gate to Dining Room and procured Gate Key from me, went into Dining Room. I took the key back, OFFICER HURST went back into kitchen after letting LIEUTENANT WEINHOLD through to the hospital shortly thereafter appearing and returned through the Gate into the Cell House. They went into "D" Isolation through West End Screen Door, I covering them, checked Isolation Cells and went out East End and around East End Cell Blocks to "A" Isolation disappearing behind "A" Block East End shortly afterward reappearing and went over to desk shortly thereafter LIEUTENANT WEINHOLD left the Cell House through Main Gate and OFFICER HURST was at his desk and I resumed patrol.

3. At 3.30 I made my watch call and up until that time I heard nothing unusual nor noticed anything unusual. Following 3.30 watch call OFFICER HURST started on his rounds checking the cells checking "B" block first entirely and when he reached the West End of "B" Block, Middle Tier I heard a sound, kind of a "boom" which, in my opinion, sounded like someone taking a pillow and hitting it against a bar which is not uncommon and I hesitated and OFFICER HURST hesitated and looked in the direction from which it came over from "C" Block and I started to go that direction when, remembering my instructions to cover the Cell House Officer at all times he was walking around the Cell House I remained and watched OFFICER HURST who continued on with his checking of "B" Block at the East End and came down the Center Aisle between "B" and "C" Block checking lower South side of "C" Block on his way westerly down center aisle.

4. He then went into "D" Isolation through West Screen Door, unlocked door, left it open, walked into "D" Isolation, walked down to far end, East End "D" Isolation Lower Tier on floor level, looking at cells, as he neared East End he hesitated, started back, looked again and came out then quite hurriedly watching back as he came out, locked the screen door and looked up at me and said apparently "they're gone" or something like that and then he hurried to the telephone at the West End of Cell House and I remained at the North End of my gallery and watched "D" Isolation at the same time keeping OFFICER HURST in view as much as possible. He telephoned for a few minutes and I could not tell what he said. I remained in front of "D" Isolation from the time he came out. I did not see OFFICER HURST leave the telephone.

5. The next I saw was when LIEUTENANT WEINHOLD and OFFICER HURST came into "D" Isolation at the far end, East End, "D" Block and started checking the cells. This was approximately fifteen minutes after I had made my 3.30 A.M. watch call in my judgment. LIEUTENANT WEINHOLD then checked the middle tier and went up on top of "D" Block instructing me to go up to the upper gallery before he went up on top of "D" Block. Immediately thereafter LIEUTENANT WEINHOLD and OFFICER HURST left "D" Isolation through East End and I remained watching "D" Isolation as much as possible until I was relieved from duty by OFFICER CASSIDY about 7.00 A.M.

6. I did not see anything suspicious about the Cell House, cells, windows or in "D" Isolation during the time I was on duty. It was foggy that morning and I believe I was particularly alert and patrolled more frequently remembering instructions of LIEUTENANT WEINHOLD particularly to watch the isolation section and the Cell House officer. The only thing that might have sounded suspicious

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was the noise which occurred while OFFICER HURST was at West End Middle Tier "B" Block which sounded like kind of a "boom", sort of metallic sound and I had heard sounds like that before and thought maybe some one was taking a pillow and slamming it against the bars which was not unusual as they did it to stop others from snoring, I heard no other noises except perhaps the usual toilet flushing and setting down drinking cups which noises were not unusual. I had heard the water pipes at times, it seems as though it happened after three o'clock several times kind of a "boom". Both OFFICER HURST and myself heard the sound as we looked at each other when it occurred and then went on about his checking.

(paragraph six, sentences are responses to questions or statements made in response to questions by WARDEN J. A. JOHNSTON and following is in question and answer form for convenience of clarity):

Q. (Warden J. A. JOHNSTON) Had you at any time in the past reason to believe any man in "D" Block got out during your watch?
A. Never the slightest.

Q. Did you ever notice any shadows or anything that might indicate any man might be getting back into his cell?
A. I never had the slightest suspicion.

Q. Nor even see or hear anything that would lead to suspicioning that anyone might have got out of their cell?
A. Not the slightest.

Q. Even looking at it now, do you recall of anything that might lead you to believe someone might have beat you, get out and back quickly while you were at the other end?
A. No sir.

Q. You never heard anything, nor any combination of things that might lead you to suspicion anyone might have been getting out of their cells?
A. The only thing I might have noticed would be coughing but not to be suspicious of anything.

Q. You didn't notice anything out of the ordinary that would arouse your suspicion?

A. No sir.

Q. Can any of the men see you at the extreme end?
A. Yes sir, West End.

Q. The man nearest that end, can see you?
A. I think he can, I can see him.

Q. Did you ever notice the men nearest the end show any interest in your movements?
A. Not that I know.

Q. Did you ever have any reason to believe when you left to go down to the other end of the gallery that they might be up to something and turn right back?
A. Yes sir, quite often, I thought that was a pretty good way and often I would make sounds like I was going down other end and come right back and even standing in the same spot and make a noise like I was going down and then listen, but never noticed anything suspicious or out of the ordinary.

Q. Could you see the extreme end of the cells?
A. Three solitary cells project out and it made it difficult to see the extreme end. I couldn't see the cells, just barely see the side of the far cell. I couldn't see the men unless they were close to the door and that was on my end and the farther down the harder it was to see and couldn't see beyond the far solitary cell.

Q. If a man got out and into the aisle you would have no trouble seeing him?
A. He could be behind the projection of the solitary cells.

Q. I mean if any of them got out and went to the windows there is no chance that you would not have been able to see them?
A. No sir, I could have seen them if I were there.

CARL A. SPUHN,
Junior Officer,
Alcatraz Island, California, January 13, 1939."

The following is a statement of STANLEY H. McFAIL, Junior Officer. OFFICER McFAIL was the officer in charge of the East Gun Gallery on the morning watch of January 13, 1939 and OFFICER SPUHN was the Officer in Charge of the West Gun Gallery on the morning watch of the same date:

"1. I stood roll call at 11.45 PM January 12, 1939, secured Key #112 to the East Gun Gallery, went into Main Entrance between double gate with LIEUTENANT WEINHOLD and Guard Attendant Martin the latter two were let in the Cell House by OFFICER TYE in charge

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of Main Gate and then let me proceed upstairs where I unlocked East Gun Gallery door, checked arms of OFFICER H. T. DAVIS, whom I relieved, he taking the key and locking the door from the outside and leaving. This was about 11.55 P.M.

2. I immediately saw Officer HURST in charge of Cell House on the second tier of B Block East/end and covered him while he made the count. LIEUTENANT WEINHOLD AND OFFICER DENNISON went through gate leading to dining room and few minutes later returned and proceeded to "D" Isolation through screen door at West End of "D" block and while they were in back I continued covering OFFICER HURST while he counted "C" Block when LIEUTENANT WEINHOLD and OFFICER DENNISON came out of "D" Isolation on East end screen door and came East between "D" and "C" Block and around under gun gallery and over into "A" Isolation and I covered them while they checked "A" Isolation following which they returned and stopped at the desk at East end of center aisle between "B" and "C" Block soon thereafter both leaving the Cell House. OFFICER HURST had completed his check and was at the desk with them at the time they left the Cell House.

3. I then went on patrol in usual manner; made 12.30 watch call; at 12.30 covered OFFICER HURST as much as possible while he made his checkof the cells and about 12.45 he returned to the desk. Resumed patrol and made 1.00 A.M. watch call and 1.30 watch call at which time I again covered OFFICER HURST while he made his check of the cells. I continued in this manner until 3.00 A.M. at which time LIEUTENANT WEINHOLD entered the Cell House and proceeded to the West End and went through the gate leading to the Dining Room with OFFICER HURST and in about three to five minutes they reappeared and proceeded to "D" Isolation through the screen door at West End "D" Block. They reappeared at the screen door at East End "D" Block and proceeded to "A" Isolation where I covered them while they checked "A" Isolation returning to the desk and soon thereafter LIEUTENANT WEINHOLD went out the Main Gate from the Cell House. This was about 3.15 A.M. I resumed patrol until about 3.30 A.M. when I made my watch call.

4. I then covered OFFICER HURST as he started his check of the cells, he first started with lower tier "B" Block in usual manner and checked "B" block, came down to floor level East end and proceeded West between "B" and "C" block checking lower tier "C" Block and then he disappeared behind "D" block where he entered the screen door at West End to check "D" Isolation. I had noticed nothing unusual nor heard nothing unusual up until this time.

5. While waiting at the South end of East Gun Gallery for OFFICER HURST to reappear at West end of "D" Block through the screen door I heard a rather loud yell of "Hey" which in my opinion was sufficiently loud to be heard by anyone within the cell house and sounded as if it came from within the Cell House but may not have been possible. This was at about 3.40 A.M. This did not seem out of the ordinary and no immediate report was made nor could the source be determined.

6. While I was waiting for OFFICER HURST to reappear I also saw OFFICER SPUHN in West Gun Gallery back up hurriedly in a northerly direction on his gallery covering OFFICER HURST who reappeared at the West screen door of "D" Block and went across in back of "C" block and immediately thereafter while I was waiting for OFFICER HURST to reappear my telephone rang and OFFICER HURST was on the phone from #38 at the West End of Cell House and told me to the best of my recollection that five men were out of their cells in "D" Isolation. I thereupon remained at the south end of East Gun Gallery watching "D" block and entrance to "D" Isolation and the aisle between "C" and "D" blocks.

7. According to my best recollection OFFICER HURST entered "D" Isolation West End and came right back out not being in more than half a minute and disappeared behind "C" block and reappeared at East end of center aisle between "B" and "C" block at his desk. Soon thereafter LIEUTENANT WEINHOLD entered Cell House and with OFFICER HURST entered "D" Isolation through East Screen door. LIEUTENANT WEINHOLD was carrying a gas gun and flashlight at the time and within a minute approximately LIEUTENANT WEINHOLD appeared on the middle tier of "D" Block East and at the northeast corner and proceeded west disappearing around West end "D" block on middle tier and then soon thereafter appeared in less than a minute on top of "D" block. LIEUTENANT WEINHOLD and OFFICER HURST came out from "D" block East end and went to the telephone and while they were telephoning I heard him say "Blow the siren" while he was telephoning.

8. SHortly thereafter many officers entered the cell house. I had remained at south end of East Gun Gallery all the time watching "D" block. This was about 4.00 A.M. Shortly after officers entered OFFICER CHAPMAN in the Armory telephoned me and asked me who was in Cell House and if anyone else was in the East Gun Gallery with me.

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I continued to watch "D" Block until 6.15 A.M. when LIEUTENANT WEINHOLD telephoned and instructed me to cover "A" Isolation which I immediately did and remained there until relieved about 9.45 A.M. by OFFICER DAVIS who had reported earlier about 7.30 A.M. but I was not relieved from duty at that time. OFFICER HURST informed me while all the officers were in Cell House that five men were out of their cells and had gotten out of Cell House.

STANLEY H. McFAIL,
Junior Officer

Alcatraz Island, Calif.,
January 13, 1939."

The above statements are contained in the report to show that although these men were on duty within the cell block they did not observe the men leaving their cells or going through the outside window.

The following medical reports are being set out herein, being the only reports available to this office at the writing of this report.

A lead is being set out later to obtain the medical reports up to date for the benefit of the United States Attorney.

It is also to be noted that ARTHUR E. BARKER, Alcatraz Penitentiary Number 268 died on January 13, 1939, and a coroner's hearing at the writing of this report has not, as yet, been had and pertinent data will be obtained for the benefit of the United States Attorney in this regard for which a lead is also being set out later herein.

The medical reports follow:

"UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, U.S.PENITENTIARY, ALCATRAZ, CALIFORNIA, JANUARY 13, 1939 - 9.30 A.M.

MEMORANDUM TO THE WARDEN:

RE: STAMPHILL, D., 435-Az.

The above captioned inmate was brought to the hospital at about 5.20 A.M. this morning. He was suffering from shock and multiple penetrating wounds which appeared to be bullet wounds.

There is one wound on the outer part of the upper third of the left thigh and another a little lower down on the internal surface of the thigh, perhaps wounds of entrance and exit. The femur is fractured. There is another wound higher up on the outer surface of the left thigh and one in the gluteal region on the same side. Perhaps again wounds of entrance and exit. A third pair of similar wounds low down on the outer and inner surfaces of the right leg above the ankle. Of these wounds the one to the upper third of the left thigh appears to be the most serious. There was no great amount of hemorrhage and the wounds were dressed and he was treated for shock and kept in bed.

By eight o'clock he was having great pain in the leg and the leg was swelling rapidly apparently from hemorrhage into the muscles. It was thought that an emergency operation would be necessary and preparations were made for such a procedure and a tourniquet was placed about the thigh. The blood oozing from the wounds appeared to be venous blood and it was hoped that it might stop with this measure. After several minutes compressing the tourniquet was removed and the bleeding appeared to have stopped so that operation was not immediately resorted to. Surgical consultation was requested from the Marine Hospital and will be available in another hour. In the meantime we are postponing the operation.

You will be advised of further developments in the case,

Respectfully,

ROMNEY M. RITCHEY, Surgeon
Chief Medical Officer. "

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"UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE,
U.S.PENITENTIARY, ALCATRAZ, CALIFORNIA
JANUARY 13, 1939, 1.30 P.M.

Memorandum to the Warden:

RE: MARTIN, WM. 370-AZ.

The above captioned inmate was brought to the hospital at approximately 5.00 A.M. this morning. He walked with the assistance of two officers. He was shivering from the cold and exposure he had undergone during the previous hour. He was covered with bruises and abrasions but

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examination failed to reveal any serious injury. His wounds were treated and he was placed in bed and treated for exposure. He rallied shortly and complained of pains in his feet and back and also his neck which he stated he had wrenched ina fall. He was given suitable medication and kept in bed for the observations of any complications which might arise later. This afternoon he seems to be fairly comfortable and none of his injuries appears to be at all serious. In his fall down the embankment he received many bruises and was considerably shaken up but not badly injured so far as can be told at this time and no complications are anticipated. He should be ambulatory in a few days.

ROMNEY M. RITCHEY, Surgeon
Chief "edical Officer".

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"UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE,
U. S. PENITENTIARY, ALCATRAZ, CALIFORNIA,
JANUARY 13, 1939, 9.45 A.M.

MEMORANDUM TO THE WARDEN:

RE: ARTHUR BARKER, 268 - AZ.

The above captioned inmate was brought to the hospital this morning at about 5.15 A.M. He was on a stretcher and badly smeared with blood. Upon examination it was found that his left femur had been broken by a bullet which entered the thigh about the middle of the outer surface and emerged a little lower on the inner surface of the thigh. Another bullet entered the neck back of, and below the right ear and appears to have emerged from the inner angle of the right orbit. The eye was completely closed and there was hemorrhage into the lids. There was a deep laceration on the left buttocks. His body was well covered with superficial abrasions, none of which appeared to be serious.

His general condition seemed to be rather better than would be expected with such serious wounds and he was partly conscious and complained of pain in his leg and of feeling cold. There was bleeding from the right ear indicating a fracture of the skull. His wounds were dressed and he was given shock treatment and placed in bed. Sedative medicine had been given to alley the pain as soon as he arrived in the hospital.

His condition at this hour is very much worse. He is restless in bed and appears to be unconscious. No radial pulse can be obtained and the outlook appears exceedingly grave with all signs pointing to a fatal termination. Everything possible will be done to improve his condition and prevent his suffering.

You will be informed of any change in his condition.

Respectfully,

ROMNEY M. RITCHEY, Surgeon
Chief Medical Officer."

In order that it may be understood what Isolation means, it is that section of the cell block known as "D" Block which is used for those men who are placed in segregation more or less permanently and who do not work. There were twenty two men in isolation on two tiers at the time of the escape. "D" Block is located in that section of the cell block which is immediately adjoining the wall facing the Golden Gate, the cell blocks themselves being separated from the outside wall by a hallway.

Subject HENRY YOUNG was interviewed on January 14, 1939, by Associate Warden E. J. MILLER and Special Agent L. H. RICHMOND. YOUNG declined to make any statements whatsoever about the escape. He said he did not want to answer any questions;that he had nothing to say to agents of the Federal Bureauof Investigation or employees of the Bureau of Prisons. He was entirely uncommunicative.

Subject RUFUS McCAIN upon interview by Associate Warden MILLER and Special Agent J. H. RICE on January 14, 1939, refused to furnish any information relating to the method of escape. McCAIN was questioned as to why he had attempted to make an escape from Alcatraz to which he replied, "I just wanted to go home."

Associate Warden MILLER and Special Agent J. H. RICE interviewed DALE STAMPHILL on January 14, 1939, in the hospital ward. The only information STAMPHILL furnished when questioned concerning the escape was that they had three saws. He refused to furnish any further information or to elaborate on the saws. On the same date, Associate WARDEN MILLER and Agent RICE also interviewed WILLIAM MARTIN in the hospital ward. WILLIAM MARTIN stated to Agent RICE that he had no statement whatsoever to make to any Bureau agent.

ARTHUR E. BARKER alias "DOC" was not interviewed by Bureau agents

in view of the fact that he lapsed into unconsciousness immediately after reaching the hospital and never did regain consciousness before his death.

IMMediately after MARTIN'S apprehension he was interviewed by Associate WARDEN MILLER in the prison hospital and a transcription of a question and answer interrogation was made by JOHN D. MILLER Assistant Chief Clerk. For the sake of brevity the contents have been summarized and the gist of the statements reveals that the escape had been planned prior to the time that MARTIN was placed in isolation and that all of the individuals involved did some of the actual sawing of the bars. According to MARTIN the sawing was done at night and also during the day, while the inmates who were not in isolation were having their meals in the prison dining room. MARTIN said that in cutting the small bars on the outside window, that all of the prisoners who attempted to escape did some of the work. He admitted he had cut one of these small bars on this particular window. MARTIN informed MR. MILLER that the bars on the cells were cut first and that this was done in such a fashion that it was possible for the prisoners involved in the escape to slide out of their cell, saw for awhile on the outside window and then retreat to their cells and close the bars through which they had gone.

MARTIN said that all five of the escapes had saw blades in their possession. MARTIN said that in order to render the tool proof bar insecure, they "had a screw about 1/4 of an inch in diameter and four inches long, guess it was bigger than that, about 1/2 inch in diameter and a little bolt go on the screw and there was a little groove on the bolt and naturally the bar is going to bend in the quickest spot". MARTIN said that this tool proof bar was filed around first. With reference to the method of securing the materials used, MARTIN informed Associate Warden MILLER that STAMPHILL smuggled the screw and files into the isolation section ~~where~~ before STAMPHILL was actually placed in that portion of the cell house. At the time this smuggling was effected by STAMPHILL, he was employed as a cell house orderly. MARTIN said also that the rendering of all of the bars insecure took over a month to accomplish and after the work was finished the tools used were flushed down the toilets. It is noted, at this point that there is a toilet in each of the cells. MARTIN said that on the morning of January 13, 1939, all of the five escapes went out of their cells and through the outside window; that they went down to the beach in a group and after arriving on the beach, separated for the purpose of finding lumber to make a raft. MARTIN said that he did not know who made the saws and the jack but that the jack was made in the blacksmith shop of the prison. MARTIN also said that he was waiting near the raft for the other four escapes to return when he heard the shooting, saw the boat and was apprehended.

The original copy of the question and answer statement summarized above, was retained by the officials at the Alcatraz Penitentiary.

Several notes were found in the lavatory in the cell of DALE STAMPHILL. These read as follows:

"435

That spot cant be seen on the window at all. I thought you were asleep so I read Jacks kite. The ----- hasn't got better judgment. If its pretty good I can take a look after the man come through or Rufe can peek.

I guess the cat cage would run wild whit those nuts proul around like they are ever one look and we will go by our own judgment so let me know. I can see quite a ways but every one look.

435-p.2.

Henery how many round did the Bull make while I was trying to sleep if it like it is not let take it next round he make give him time to git out good for he may walk right back.

That was his second, he is staying out longer tonight than last night.

Well Be ready we will leave here ore git hit the next round give the Bull a minute to leave from around here. the nuts are going to rank this thing pointing .

435-p.3

We are going to take it the next round. Take one of your sheets along the best one roll it up tight as we may need a rope to go down the cliff. It wont take but a minute to go out that hole so that bull in the cage would have to be mighty restless to wheel back so quick.

435-p.4.

No good yet but be ready to go anytime I heard Jack cluck a couple of time he will have Bull on case put clothes on But dont pull over shoulder"

Other notes were found in the lavatory in the cell of HENRY YOUNG. These notes read as follows:

"#244

"Casey I hear some one moving is it you. Doc wasn't asleep all night so he is getting some now. He said that if it gets good enough to go punch him awake as he got all his clothes on. Casey is casing it to tell when it good enough to go. I can't tell from where I am. I was leaving it up to Doc.

There is nothing to it yet for I can see the Frisco light. We couldn't get a break on the time like this anyway.

Yes things are lit up like Christmas but there is a lot out there it may be here anytime no breeze.
Henery I have lost so much sleep I can't stay awake but have shoes on and clothes like fire man it will take just one minute so will sleep but if things get right just touch me there look like a lot of fog out there if O.K. clear your throat

That stuff sure comes and goes fast. Now I can't see the lights in Frisco. Dale told me yesterday that he had a sure way of telling. Can you see the light out front?

Casey I had rather you ask Doc about going out."

It will be noted that of the notes recovered in the lavatory, some were torn and it was necessary to dry them out and to piece them together making it possible for us to discern what is set out above.

The original notes are being retained by the Alcatraz Prison authorities.

In view of the fact that there was a possibility that some of the escape tools might also still be available in the lavatories, a check was made and it was determined that it would probably be impossible for any tools to remain because of the grade of the pipe and the force of the water which is necessary for satisfactory drain. THERE is no catch basin in the drainage system of the lavatories which therefore made it impracticable to endeavor to have a magnet search conducted because the drains go directly into the ocean.

The photographs which were taken by Special Agent R. E. LETHERT were forwarded to the Bureau on January 14, 1939.

Photostatic copies of blueprints and diagrams of the island and

cell house were also forwarded to the Bureau. However, additional copies are being forwarded with copies of this report to the Bureau and to the U.S.Attorney, at San Francisco.

There was obtained from Warden JOHNSTON the following memorandum as concerning the background of the prisoners involved:

"January 16, 1939

To J. A. JOHNSTON, Warden
From W. F. DORINGTON, Record Clerk

Subject ATTEMPTED ESCAPE OF FIVE PRISONERS, JANUARY 13, 1939.

Sir:

Data in connection with recent escape attempt is as follows:

#244-AZ YOUNG, HENRY - placed in "A" Block Isolation September 20,1937, for participating in strike and refusing to leave cell to go to his work.

October 8,1937, removed from "A" Block Isolation to "D" Block Isolation.

January 29,1938, Cell changed from end cell to center cell.

September 4,1938, removed to Solitary cell.

September 11, 1938, removed from solitary cell back into "D" Block Isolation.

October 6,1938, removed to Solitary cell.

October 27,1938, removed from solitary cell back into "D" Block Isolation.

#267-AZ McCAIN, RUFUS - Placed in solitary confinement May 20,1938, for attacking inmate #292 - SULLIVAN, with knife made out of solid piece of brass.

June 5,1938, removed from solitary to "D" Block Isolation.

October 7,1938, removed to Solitary Cell.

October 9,1938, removed from solitary cell back into "D" Block Isolation.

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#268-AZ - BARKER ARTHUR - Placed in solitary confinement October 30, 1938, for engaging in fist fight with #180-BLACKWOOD.

November 18,1938, removed from solitary to "D" Block Isolation.

#370-AZ - MARTIN, WILLIAM.

Placed in solitary confinement June 14,1938, for fighting with #343 ROUBIDEAUX (attacked him with wrench while at work in Mat Shop, also attempted to attack #156-GOUKER).

June 30,1938, removed from solitary to "D" Block isolation.

#435-AZ - STAMPHILL DALE

Placed in "A" Block isolation, for attacking #66-Messamore, October 24,1938.

October 29,1938, removed to solitary for loud talking while in isolation.

November 5,1938, removed to regular cell.

November 22, 1938, placed in solitary (knife found in his cell, knife stolen from kitchen, 4 inch blade, handle tapped with adhesive tape.

December 10,1938, removed from solitary to "D" Block Isolation."

This particular statement pertains only to the activities of these individuals since their incarceration in Alcatraz.

A discussion of this case was had with U.S.Attorney FRANK HENNESSY by Special Agent L. H. RICHMOND, at which time he stated that he did not desire, at this time that photostatic copies of docket entries concerning sentences and commitment papers be obtained but that the information be furnished to him concerning the date and place of sentence and other material information so that if he should at a later date, desire to get these records he could handle that by mail.

OF INVESTIGATI

mechanical Section

1/17/ 1938.

TO:
Director
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Miss Gandy
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Q. Tamm
Chief Clerk
Wash. Field Division
S. F. P. S.
Files Section
Section
Div. One Steno, Room
M

File

These six prints and one negative go with the envelope #72 on the special film pack job from your office on 1/16/39

NOT RECORDED
76-4175

JRC
R. C. Renneberger

108

COPIES DESTROYED
215 SEP 9 1966

ENCLOSURE

76-4175

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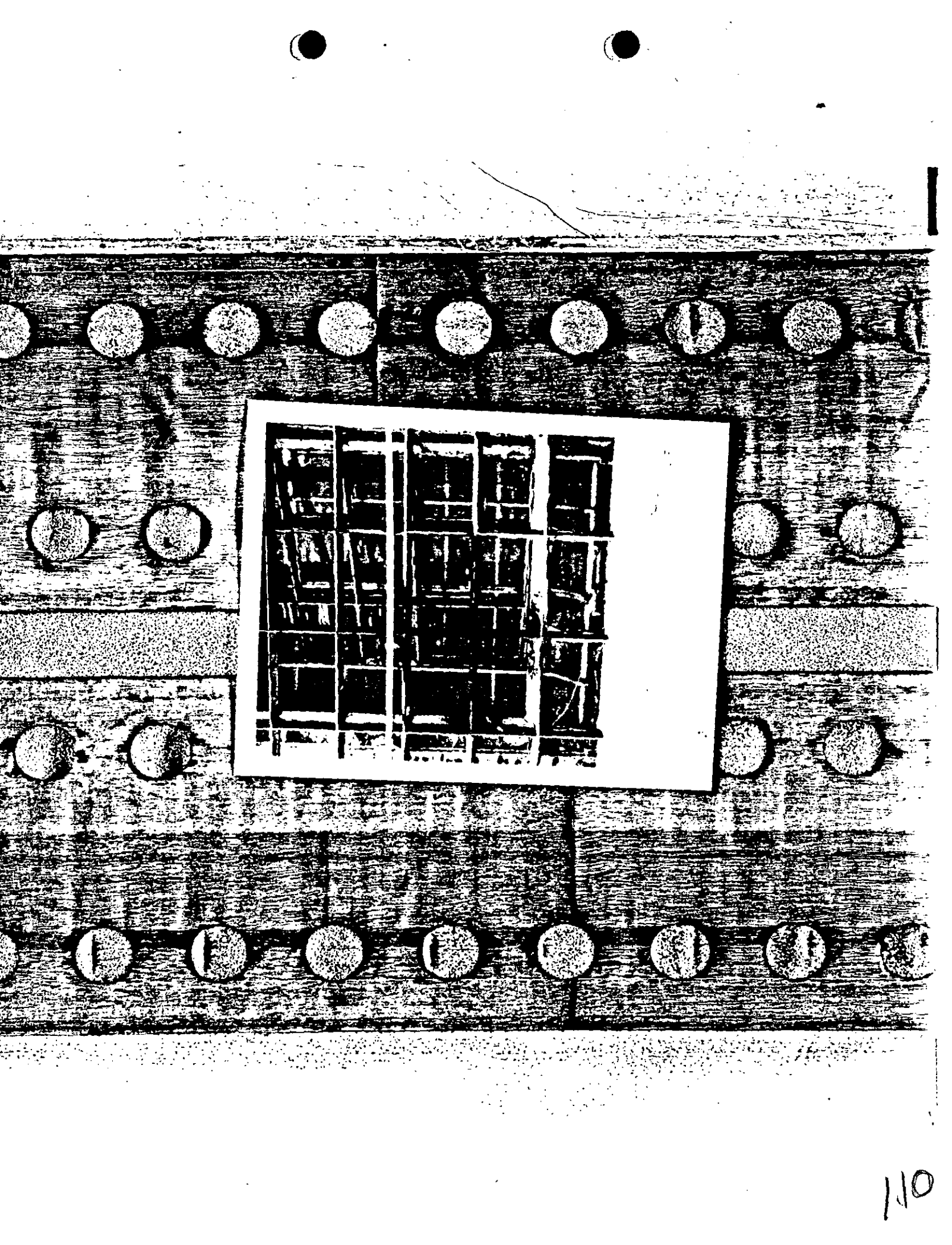

INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION - FBI

2-2 1938.

___Mr. E. A. Tamm
___Mr. Foxworth
✓ Files Section
___Mechanical Division
___Chief Clerk's Office
___Identification Div.
___Statistical Section
___Technical Laboratory
___Crime Records Section
___Mr. Glavin

SUPERVISORS

___Mr. Balch	___Mr. Coulter	___Mr. Kramer
___Mr. Brennan	___Mr. Drayton	___Mr. Lawler
___Mr. Carson	___Mr. Guerin	___Mr. McIntire
___Mr. Chambers	___Mr. Hayden	___Mr. Pennington
___Mr. Cornelius	___Mr. Hogan	___Mr. Van Pelt

* * *

___Mr. Rice
___Mrs. Morton
___Miss Conlon
___Stenographers 5730
___Typists 5724
___Stenographers 5706
___Stenographers 5724

___Send File
___Correct
___Bring file up to date
___Re-date
___Record, search, serialize and route
___Indicate index references

File in 76-4175

R. A. Guerin

SUPERVISOR

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

[X] Deleted under exemption(s) B3 Title 28; U.S.C. 534 with no segregable material available for release to you.

[ ] Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

[ ] Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

[ ] Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

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

_____

_____

[ ] For your information: _____

_____

[X] The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
Arthur Barker 76-4175- NR.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

112

FBI/DOJ

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

EAT:JW

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

January 23, 1939

Time - 2:30 P. M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ~~DIRECTOR~~ File

Re: ALCATRAZ ESCAPE ATTEMPT

Director Bennett, of the Prison Bureau, called and inquired as to whether anything had been heard from the San Francisco Office with regard to the two or three leads which Mr. Bennett had requested that office to check. Mr. Bennett advised that the leads had to do with an inquiry to be made on Officer Long.

Director Bennett also inquired as to whether the Bureau has another set of the pictures taken at Alcatraz or the negatives, and requested that a set be made available to him if they are still in the possession of the Bureau.

I told Mr. Bennett I would follow up both of these items and let him know what the situation is in each case.

~~Respectfully,~~

EDWARD A. TAMM

76-4475-21
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 25 1939
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FILES

113

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Hardo
Mr. Lester
Mr. McIntire
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

Los Angeles, California
January 24, 1939.

35394

Special Agent in Charge,
San Francisco, California.

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Sir:

Miss FRANCES HELD who lives in apartment #311 at 2709 West Pico, Los Angeles, called at the Los Angeles office to night at which time she furnished four sheets of regular stationary and one large sheet of what appears to be soiled paper toweling on all of which appears writing which is in the form of a letter addressed to "My Dear Goldie and Carl" and which is not signed. On this letter, reference is made to the writers presence on the "Rock" and the food and rigid hours and the "prison". Mention is also made through out of various types of medical examinations and veterans and "Sawtelle", which is the Veterans Administration home near Los Angeles.

This letter was rolled up and held by a rubber band; Miss HELD also furnished a slip of paper on which there appeared medical instructions as well as a photograph of the prison at Alcatraz taken from some newspaper dated January 13, 1939, showing the recent escape of "Doc" Barker and his associates; on the picture appears written in pencil the following "From this window we will escape shortly, N.B. a la Doc Barker".

Except for the continued reference to Veterans Administration matters in the letter, the papers would appear to have a connection with an inmate or inmates in Alcatraz.

The above described papers are being forwarded to you tonight for your immediate attention and in order to make the last mail, the same are not being photostated.

It is believed your office will be able to tell from the names mentioned in the letter and from the paper etc., what connection it may have with Alcatraz and perhaps the recent break there. It is possible that this letter was written by some Veteran in a Veteran Institution near San Francisco.

It is desired that you immediately furnish the Bureau and this office with photostatic copies of the enclosed letters and papers. No investigation will be conducted here pending advice from your office.

Very truly yours,

VAL C. ZIMMER,
Special Agent in Charge.

VCZ:fl
cc: Bureau

76- 4175-21X

JAN 26 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

114

C
O
P
Y

LBN:HHB

35393

January 24, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

RE: ARTHUR "DOC" BARKER
Member of Karpis-Barker Gang
I. C. #7-576

There is attached hereto a copy of I. C. #7-576 on Arthur "Doc" Barker, member of the Karpis-Barker Gang.

It is requested that this write-up be revised to reflect the death of the subject "Doc" Barker in his recent attempt to escape from Alcatraz. It is also suggested that the interesting details of the Cleveland and Toledo, Ohio, as well as the details of the Hot Springs, Arkansas, harboring cases be prepared in interesting case write-up form; however, it is being left to the discretion of the Investigative Division whether or not these latter features should be included in the revision of the attached I.C., or made the subject matter of a separate write-up.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ORIGINAL FILED IN 7-576-15004

76-4175-22
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 25 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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DECODED COPY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JAN 25 1939
TELETYPE

35392

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Dawsey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. McIntire
Mr. Nichol
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

FBI LOS ANGELES 1-24-39 10-14 PM FL

DIRECTOR

FRANCES HELD RESIDING IN APARTMENT AT TWO SEVEN NAUGHT NINE WEST PICOR LOS ANGELES JUST FURNISHED UNSIGNED LETTER AND NEWSPAPER PHOTOGRAPH OF ALCATRAZ PRISON SHOWING PATH OF DOC BARKER ESCAPE FOUND ON HER APARTMENT STAIRWAY. LETTER REFERS TO VETERAN BUREAU MATTERS AND TREATMENTS GIVEN THE WRITER AND MENTIONS THE ROCK AS WELL AS NAMES OF NURSES. IN VIEW OF POSSIBLE RELATION TO ALCATRAZ ESCAPE ATTEMPT LETTER HAS BEEN FORWARDED DIRECT TO SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION TO NIGHT FOR INTERPRETATION AND INVESTIGATION.

ZIMMER

END

OK FBI WASHINGTON DC FS

RECORDED
INDEXED

76-4175-23

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 27 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TAMM FOXWORTH PUG. SUP.

116

San Francisco, California
January 16, 1939

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. John Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: CONDITIONS AT ALCATRAZ.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In view of the fact that copies of the report of the attempted escape of ARTHUR (DOC) BARKER, #268; DALE STAMPHILL, #435; RUFUS McCAIN, #267; HENRY YOUNG, #244; and WILLIAM MARTIN, #370, from Alcatraz on January 13, 1939, will be sent to the U. S. Attorney here, it has been deemed advisable to limit the contents of that report to the essentials necessary in such types of cases. However, in view of the matters that came to our attention during the investigation which reflect possible reasons for the escape and weaknesses which, if not corrected, might be the cause of future escapes, it was thought that the data in this letter would be of importance for your personal consideration.

We have not interrogated persons in charge of details in order to obtain confirmation of these conditions, because this would appear to be an administrative investigation. This will not be done, unless specific instructions are given. I want to point out also that we have not been able to verify all these accusations, that some of the complainants probably have an individual axe to grind, but I thought that the subject matter is of enough importance to be considered by you. I also want to call to your attention the fact that these matters were developed by us in talking to the men, who voluntarily expressed themselves on these matters and stated to us that their loyalties were with the Director of the Bureau of Prisons, that they felt that the Bureau of Prisons program was as it should be, but that they just had to tell somebody of these situations, because they felt that there was a breakdown in the system at Alcatraz to such an extent that it would probably effect the entire system of the Bureau of Prisons. These men seemed sincere, and [redacted] expressed the belief that they probably would lose their jobs if their confidence were broken.

b7c
b7d

RECORDED & INDEXED

76-4175-24

MORALE AT ALCATRAZ ISLAND

It has been my personal observation that when the Deputy Warden,

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E. J. MILLER, is in the presence of the Warden, he is not given an opportunity to express his views but answers only the questions that are put to him by Warden JOHNSTON. I was in conversation with Deputy Warden MILLER concerning this recent break, at which time he was giving me a great many details, and a few minutes thereafter we both went in to see the Warden, and it was obvious to me that he was just giving information to the Warden in answer to those questions put to him and that he hesitated in volunteering any general statements regarding the matter. It is rumor that has been picked up by the Agents going to Alcatraz that the Deputy Warden must get the Warden's authority to do everything and is not permitted to exercise any initiative of his own. We have noted that there is an attitude on the part of some of the men subordinate to the Deputy Warden which indicates their lack of confidence and respect for him in view of the fact that they have come and told us that they do not think he is the proper man for the job, that he shows preferences, that he has an uncontrollable temper and that he uses poor discretion in the duties of his office. We have learned, in discussing the escape, from [redacted] that the men, because of the attitude of the Deputy Warden and the Warden in apparently ignoring their recommendations for corrections, have assumed an attitude of indifference. This attitude of indifference is explained by them in that it is almost necessary that they assume this attitude because any suggestions that are made for corrections are taken by the Deputy Warden as a personal grievance and a personal reflection upon his work and not as constructive criticism for the benefit of the institution. b7c b7d

In talking to individual officers, while interrogating them with regard to this official investigation, they give the impression and hint at the lack of harmony and the low ebb of morale, but also express their fear of discussing these conditions because they fear their jobs. With regard to this fear element, [redacted] advised me that it is his responsibility to keep quiet and order in the cell block while he is on duty and that he has known of instances where contraband has been smuggled in the main cell block or that irregularities were noticed and he was not notified by the Deputy Warden or anyone else. He stated to me that he thought that they were probably afraid to tell him because they seemed "scared to death that somebody's going to go tell the newspapers what's going on over there", so that they will even hold out on the man in charge of the cell block, even to the point of refusing him the right to see the records of certain criminals incarcerated therein, although it was pointed out that he wanted to do that in order to learn something of their background so that he could better handle them. There was also brought to our b7c b7d

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For the information of the United States Attorney the following information has been obtained from the records at the Alcatraz Penitentiary:

Name	Offense	Sentence	Begins	District where sentenced
#244-YOUNG, HENRY	Bank Robbery	20 years	12/29/34	E/Wash.
#267-McCAIN, RUFUS	Bank Robbery & Kidnaping & Dyer Act.	99 years	6/11/35	E/Okla.
#268-BARKER, ARTHUR	Kidnaping	Life	5/17/35	Minn. St.Paul
#370-MARTIN, WILLIAM	P.O.Robbery	25 yrs.	11/5/36	N/Illinois
#435-STAMPHILL, DALE	Kidnaping	Life	10/26/37	W/Okla.

The descriptions of subjects as reflected by the records at Alcatraz Penitentiary, are as follows:

Name	DALE STAMPHILL, Alcatraz Penitentiary Number 435,
Age	27,
Born	3/11/12, Fairview, Oklahoma
Height	5' 7½"
Weight	134,
Eyes	Brown
Hair	Dark brown
Complexion	Medium
Build	Medium
Nationality	American
Occupation	Laborer

Name	ARTHUR E. BARKER (DECEASED) Alcatraz Penitentiary Number 268,
Born	6/4/99 - Webb City, Mo.
Nationality	American
Occupation	Laborer

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Height	5' 5½"
Weight	150
Complexion	Ruddy
Eyes	Brown
Hair	Dark brown
Build	Small medium
Died	5.40 P.M. January 13, 1939.

Name	WILLIAM MARTIN Alcatraz Penitentiary Number 370
Age	25 (Born 12/25/14) born at Nashville, Tenn.
Height	5' 11"
Weight	170
Eyes	Brown
Complexion	Dark
Build	Medium
Hair	Kinky black
Nationality	American
Occupation	Laborer

Name	HENRY YOUNG, Alcatraz Penitentiary Number 244,
Born	6/20/11
Age	28
HEight	5' 9"
Weight	152
Eyes	Hazel
Hair	Brown
Complexion	Fair
Build	Medium
Nationality	American.

Name	RUFUS McCAIN, Alcatraz Penitentiary Number 267,
Age	35
Born	7/7/03 at New Boston, Texas
Height	5' 8½"
Weight	154
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Brown
Build	Medium
Complexion	Fair
Nationality	American

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ENCLOSURES: TO THE BUREAU:

One photostatic copy of diagram of "D" Cell Block.

One photostatic copy of a diagram of the Island showing pertinent points to this investigation.

TO THE U.S.ATTORNEY, San Francisco:

One photostatic copy of diagram of "D" Cell Block.

One photostatic copy of a diagram of the Island showing pertinent points to this investigation.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE SAN FRANCISCO FIELD OFFICE AT ALCATRAZ will obtain copies of the medical reports submitted subsequent to those contained in this report.

Will maintain contact with officials at Alcatraz to obtain information concerning results of subsequent searches, especially with view of obtaining the tools which might have used to effect the escape.

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, will obtain from the Coroner's Office, a copy of the Coroner's report submitted in connection with ARTHUR BARKER.

Will consult the United States Attorney as to prosecutive action in this case.

PENDING.

ENCLOSURE

16-4175-16

122

FUG. SUP.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

76-4175-17

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 20 1939
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JEF:RP
Time - 8:50 PM

January 18, 1939

35396

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

Mr. Pieper called from San Francisco at this time concerning the Alcatraz escape case. He stated that Agent Farland had just returned from the island and reports that Mr. Bennett is satisfied that the bars were cut with razor blades, and that the tool proof bar on the window was weakened and then the thumb jack was used, as previously explained. Mr. Pieper stated also that Bennett has confidential information that [redacted] by the name of [redacted] is possibly a contact man who worked between Doc Barker and somebody on the shore. Bennett has requested the Bureau to ascertain whether or not there were any contacts made by [redacted] and whether or not he is, in fact, a liaison between the inside of the prison and the outside. Mr. Pieper asked advice as to whether this investigation should be conducted.

b7c

I asked Pieper where Mr. Bennett got this information and he said we have not been advised by Bennett exactly where it came from, but that Farland advises that Mr. Bennett was in a conference with convicts in the hospital all day today, the hospital being known as a possible source of trouble in the past. The indications are, therefore, that he got the information from some convict. I told Pieper that we should go ahead with this investigation but that Bennett should be asked of the source and background of his information to assist us in the investigation since, naturally, we can't just start walking the streets of San Francisco and find the contact. I told Pieper that we should have the benefit of all the information on the subject which Mr. Bennett has. Pieper stated that they will work on this investigation tomorrow.

Mr. Pieper stated that the report was mailed to the Bureau last night; that a copy went to the United States Attorney, who, upon its receipt received inquiries from the press and stated that he had received the report but there was nothing out of the ordinary in it. I asked Mr. Pieper when Bennett is leaving and he stated that as far as Agent Farland knows Mr. Bennett is leaving tonight. Mr. Schilder is remaining at Alcatraz in somewhat of a student capacity as he has been in the other penitentiaries.

Mr. Pieper stated that he would be out of town tomorrow but should anything important arise Mr. Richmond would call me.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. T.
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Lu...
Mr. Forward
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ingle
Mr. ...
Mr. ...
Mr. ...
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

JAN 19 1939

A 123

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

JEL:JHK

January 13, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. P. E. FOXWORTH

There is transmitted herewith a memorandum outlining briefly the sentences in connection with which Arthur "Doc" Barker, Dave Stamphill, Henry Young, Rufus Roy McCain and William Martin, alias Martin Tyree, were sentenced to the United States Penitentiary, Alcatraz Island, California.

I want to point out that in the forty-five minutes allotted to me to prepare this memorandum, I was unable to definitely ascertain from the 144 cards on William Martin whether or not the individual in whom you are interested was among these 144 cards. I would be glad, of course, to review each one of the files in which the name William Martin is mentioned if you deem it advisable.

Respectfully,

J. E. Lawler

J. E. Lawler

RECORDED & INDEXED

76-4175-18

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