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himself was being put in the middle more and more ever since TIM DURANT had returned from the East. He then pointed out that there had always been a question in his mind as to where TIM DURANT got his money. He said he believed CHAPLIN was keeping him.

With particular reference to this case, ARDEN stated that in May of 1943 after BERRY had been arrested, the first he knew anything about it was the following Monday, when CHAPLIN told him that she was in jail and instructed him to go down to see what he could do. ARDEN was asked what further instructions CHAPLIN gave and just what he meant by saying "what he could do." ARDEN replied that CHAPLIN authorized him to offer BERRY up to \$5,000 to get out of town. CHAPLIN did not tell ARDEN that BERRY was pregnant.

On a date which ARDEN fixed as approximately May 12, he did call the County Jail and was told that she had been released to her attorney, CECIL D. HOLLAND. Immediately thereafter ARDEN said he called CHAPLIN on the phone to tell him what he had found out, whereupon CHAPLIN said, "Wait a minute" and then put TIM DURANT on the phone. DURANT, ARDEN said, told him in effect, "I have taken care of everything. I arranged for her lawyer. You can forget about the matter." These remarks on the part of DURANT to ARDEN led him to believe and to the conclusion that DURANT had taken care of everything for CHAPLIN this time and ARDEN could keep out of it.

With reference to BERRY'S being in jail in January, 1943, ARDEN said there was no question but what CHAPLIN wanted to get her out of town and that he, ARDEN, was CHAPLIN'S stooge in this activity.

ARDEN maintained in answer to Agents' queries that he had not given WHITE any money for his activity in his behalf, and continued by saying that he didn't need to give him any money because he, ARDEN, was a radio personality well known in this area, and everyone had heard of him, and for that reason the very fact that he had requested WHITE to do such a thing, WHITE would be glad to accommodate him.

ARDEN said that the reason CHAPLIN married OONA O'NEILL was so that she couldn't testify against him, and in this connection he told of his, ARDEN'S, conferring with JERRY GIESLER, local attorney, on three separate evenings. GIESLER was kind enough to give him his time, and they discussed what CHAPLIN should do. This was, of course, before CHAPLIN married O'NEILL and after the publicity had broken in the newspapers concerning BERRY.

In illustrating CHAPLIN'S ingratitude, ARDEN said that he had not even bothered to send GIESLER a Christmas card, nor had he sent ARDEN a Christmas greeting. It was ARDEN'S opinion that JERRY GIESLER would not be interested in the criminal case against CHAPLIN for a million dollars.

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ARDEN also told Agents that about a week previous to instant interview he called LOYD WRIGHT on the telephone and told him to tell CHAPLIN the next time he saw him that he, ARDEN, did not appreciate CHAPLIN'S forsaking him in his time of trouble. It was also ARDEN'S opinion that in connection with the civil suit against CHAPLIN on BERRY'S behalf, CHAPLIN would eventually offer a couple of hundred thousand dollars and the thing would be over. He said CHAPLIN maintained he was going to fight it to the end, but he, ARDEN, did not believe he would. He said CHAPLIN was of the belief that the Government was out to confiscate his money and if he could, he would have left the United States immediately.

On Agents' return to the office, the writer telephonically contacted United States Attorney CHARLES H. CARR and briefly reviewed the results of interview with ARDEN. At his suggestion the writer recontacted ARDEN about 6:00 P.M. that date and advised him the United States Attorney would appreciate his being in his offices the following morning for a conference. ARDEN stated he would be only too glad to appear before Mr. CARR.

Agent picked him up at his apartment the following morning and investigating Agents, together with Mr. CARR, conferred with ARDEN for a period of approximately five hours, during which time he was taken to lunch.

During the interview with ARDEN on this occasion, Mr. CARR reviewed with him the details of his association with BERRY and CHAPLIN. The information furnished was substantially the same as that previously given Agents, however, he was questioned more in detail by Mr. CARR along the lines which he desired to bring out in connection with prosecution of this case. Mr. CARR pointed out to him his constitutional rights in the matter - that he did not have to say anything; that he could obtain the services of an attorney before talking, but ARDEN said that was the reason he had come into his office, because he wanted to cooperate and tell all he knew. At the conclusion of the interview, ARDEN was advised by Mr. CARR that in the near future he would like to have him return and give a signed statement. ARDEN said that he would be glad to do so.

On Sunday, January 2, 1944, ARDEN telephonically contacted the Bureau Office and requested Agent to get in touch with him. This information was furnished the writer at his home and ARDEN was subsequently contacted. He stated that he was at the home of LILLIAN HARVEY; that she had received a phone call from the CHAPLIN residence and that Mrs. CHAPLIN would like to have her come up for tea that day. ARDEN said that it appeared to him that the CHAPLINS were now endeavoring to bolster their lines of defense, and thought it would be a good idea for LILLIAN HARVEY to go and then he would be able to report back to the Government what was said. Later that day ARDEN again got in touch with Agent, at which time he said that HARVEY'S conversation in the CHAPLIN home had been rather limited because an unexpected guest came in and the case was not discussed in his presence. He did advise, however, that CHAPLIN was anxious to get in touch with him, ARDEN, but

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ARDEN said he wasn't going to see him. He continued that EDWARD, the butler, and he were apparently in the same boat and that he was going to see EDWARD that night.

The writer contacted him at his home Monday, January 3, 1944, at which time he said he had conferred with EDWARD but had not learned anything of value except that JERRY GIESLER was in the case and was going to defend CHAPLIN.

On January 24, 1944, ARDEN telephonically contacted Agents of the Bureau Office and inquired as to whether the FBI had done anything about BOB ANDERSON who had caused some inconvenience on the part of LILLIAN HARVEY. He was told that this involved no Federal jurisdiction.

ARDEN continued that he had heard some loose talk around town that the Government's investigation concerning CHAPLIN, et al, which by this time was in the local newspapers, resulted in his contract being cancelled at Radio Station KFWB. ARDEN also said that the talk was around town that he was the "head of a black market gang." The writer advised him that this office had no information in connection with those matters. ARDEN also on this date asked if he was going to be indicted, and was told that that was a matter which was to be decided by the Federal Grand Jury only.

Agent asked him on that occasion if his desires to be of assistance to the Government and his willingness to cooperate in any manner whatever had changed, and he replied in the negative. He professed not to have been in touch with CHAPLIN, however it is known that throughout this period he had been seeking counsel with CHAPLIN.

Interview with ROBERT ARDEN by Agents  
and United States Attorney CHARLES H. CARR

*b7c*  
On February 9, 1944, ROBERT ARDEN was interviewed in the office of U.S. Attorney CARR, and during the first part of the interview Mr. CARR and SYLVESTER MYERS of the Department of Justice were present, as well as Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted]. At this time ARDEN stated that he had seen CHAPLIN on several occasions since he had last been interviewed by Agents. He said that on the day that TIM DURANT was interviewed at the U.S. Attorney's Office, he was up at CHAPLIN'S. DURANT came up later and when he arrived, he told ARDEN that the FBI Agents had said that ARDEN made certain statements that TIM DURANT had seen fit to deny. These particular statements were the ones where CHAPLIN had told ARDEN to go down to the jail and spend \$5,000 to get BERRY out of jail and out of town, in May of 1943. At the jail ARDEN had found out that BERRY had been released to Judge CECIL D. HOLLAND. ARDEN called CHAPLIN on the phone and told him this. CHAPLIN did not talk about it, but referred the call to TIM DURANT, who insinuated that ARDEN was a "dumb, meddling fool," and said

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that ARDEN should do nothing more about it, that he, DURANT, had taken care of the whole thing. This is the story that DURANT told ARDEN he had better change.

At this point ARDEN was specifically asked if DURANT admitted that he had made such a statement to ARDEN over the telephone that day. ARDEN said that DURANT did admit that it was true. They argued back and forth for about half an hour and DURANT finally suggested that ARDEN say that DURANT answered the phone and gave it to CHAPLIN, who was non-committal, and ARDEN is supposed to say that DURANT didn't make any statement at all. DURANT had first suggested to ARDEN that he say that he can't remember and can't actually recall who really did answer the telephone. ARDEN explained that all of the above conversation took place in the presence of CHAPLIN. ARDEN, however, did say that after this discussion with TIM DURANT that he got in touch with GIESLER and the latter had instructed him to tell the truth, whatever it was.

At this point Mr. CARR requested that Agents and Mr. MYERS interview ARDEN in the next room, and this was done. ARDEN then went over his part in the January, 1943, episode, and told substantially the same story as he had previously told the Agents, except that he stated on several occasions that CHAPLIN never told him that he wanted to get rid of the girl and that in his, ARDEN'S opinion, he doesn't think that CHAPLIN wanted to get her out of the state. He explained that he thought that CHAPLIN was just trying to be a good Samaritan to the girl. During the interview ARDEN, however, did say that CHAPLIN told him "Put her on the train and see that she actually leaves."

ARDEN stated that the only reason he had asked WHITE to accompany the girl to the station was because he was busy with a radio broadcast that night. He denied that he asked WHITE in an effort to influence BERRY because of WHITE'S capacity as a police officer. ARDEN admitted that he acted in CHAPLIN'S behalf, but not as a paid agent. In his opinion the reason that WHITE agreed to accompany the girl to the train was to do a favor for CHAPLIN in view of CHAPLIN'S prominence and that he felt sure that WHITE would not have done the same for ARDEN alone. ARDEN further admitted that he called WHITE afterwards to verify that she had been put on the train.

ARDEN also admitted that after JOAN had left town he had heard through EDWARD that she had passed two checks in Kansas City which had been returned because of insufficient funds, and that several days later he stopped by the Beverly Hills Police Station and told Captain WHITE about these checks. His explanation of why he made a point of going in to see WHITE about the checks was because he just happened to be in the neighborhood and thought he would drop in and pay his respects.

ARDEN at this time expressed his dislike for CHAPLIN and TIM DURANT, but

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on the other hand, admitted that he had seen CHAPLIN quite frequently, and as a matter of fact had been up to the CHAPLIN house for tennis the previous Sunday. He stated that CHAPLIN had refused to help him financially in any way and that he was presently living on \$200 that he had saved up from his job as a radio commentator.

In an effort to develop further information concerning what went on at Chasen's restaurant on the night of December 31, 1942, the writer on December 15, 1943, interviewed DAVE CHASEN, proprietor. He recalled that ARDEN had been there with CHAPLIN; that there was a girl in the party, although he said he did not remember who she was. He had no recollection whatsoever about CHAPLIN receiving any phone call. He remembered that BERT LAMR and REX ST. CYR were in the restaurant that night and talking frequently with CHAPLIN and ARDEN. CHASEN checked with the waiters and telephone operator, with negative results.

It is recalled that ARDEN says that he told Captain WHITE that he would like to have him take BERRY to the station because he had a radio broadcast. Agents during the course of several interviews with ARDEN when he was still employed by the radio station as a news commentator recall that on at least two occasions he told Agents that he was not going to give his broadcast that night because he didn't feel like it. The first time he was interviewed he said he had a headache from smoking too much and that he was not going back to the station. He said that any time he didn't want to broadcast for any reason whatsoever all he had to do was to call them up and they would play some records.

#### Investigation at Radio Station KFBW

Further along the line mentioned above, investigation was conducted to determine whether ARDEN did broadcast from the radio station on the night of January 5, 1943.

*b7c* Special Agent [REDACTED] on February 17, 1944, conducted the following investigation at Radio Station KFBW through Source A, who checked the studio records with respect to ARDEN'S broadcast on January 5, 1943.

*b7D* [REDACTED] advised that only two records of the studio would be applicable (1) a technicians log, and (2) an announcers log. The technicians log is maintained in a typewriter in the technicians room and entries are typed thereon by the technician as the program progresses. He stated that it has been the requirement of the studio due to Federal Communications Commission requirements that this log be kept with the greatest care to the point of entering the time to the exact second that a program goes on and leaves the air. He stated that in the course of business this log would reflect whether or not ARDEN was on the air or whether records were played in his absence.

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b7D [redacted] advised that he located the technicians log for January 5, 1943, and found that it contained the entry at the regular time for ARDEN's program - "ROBERT ARDEN, Commentary." He stated that in his opinion this is conclusive that ARDEN was actually on the air at Radio Station KFVB that evening.

b7D [redacted] also checked the announcers-log, which he stated is maintained in longhand by the announcer and does not, however, have so strict a requirement as to events occurring during the broadcast, but stated that he noted on this log that there was also a notation "ROBERT ARDEN, Commentary."

b7D [redacted] stated that he was unable to say whether anyone at the station could be approached as to whether he would remember exact occurrences on the night of January 5, 1943. In connection with the mentioned logs, this source advised that the program of ROBERT ARDEN was also broadcast simultaneously over Radio Station KFOX of Long Beach, and this line is handled through "Network Central" in the Broadway Arcade Building. The last named organization exists for the purpose of feeding Los Angeles programs to Radio Station KFOX.

b7D [redacted] advised that LAWRENCE McDOWELL, Commercial Manager of KEOX in Long Beach, would be able to furnish information similar to that supplied by him with respect to the technicians logs maintained both at Radio Station KFOX in Long Beach and at Network Central in the Broadway Arcade Building, Los Angeles.

b7D [redacted] advised that there had been occasions when ROBERT ARDEN would not go on the air when he was scheduled to do so and frequently he would wait until nearly half an hour before the broadcast before advising that he was not going on the air. In each such case records of music were played in place of the commentary. He stated that it appeared to him that ROBERT ARDEN could go on the air or not as he pleased, and that on at least two occasions ROBERT ARDEN was actually present at the studios but declined to go on the air, claiming his material was not prepared.

b7D At one time, [redacted] advised Agent [redacted] HARRY MAIZLISCH, Manager of Radio Station KFVB, appeared friendly toward ROBERT ARDEN. He stated, however, that he believed ROBERT ARDEN had indicated to MAIZLISCH that he had some influence among MAIZLISCH'S superiors, which would warrant the friendly attitude of MAIZLISCH. In this connection, at the time ARDEN was taken off Radio Station KFVB at the outset of publicity in connection with instant matter, ARDEN stated that he was going to HARRY and JACK WARNER of Warner Bros. Studios with regard to his being taken off the air. Source A advised, however, that recently a program on KFVB has been inaugurated in behalf of the Warner Bros. Theaters in which a commentator was needed, and someone suggested the name of ROBERT ARDEN, which was immediately declined by executives at Warner Bros. Studios. This may indicate that his status in the minds of JACK and HARRY WARNER is not what it has been.

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Interview with SYLVESTER SCHAFFER  
by Agents

On February 7, 1944, SYLVESTER SCHAFFER, 8272 Marmont Lane, telephone Granite 9029, was interviewed in his home by investigating Agents. It is recalled that it was in the home of SCHAFFER that ARDEN met GYLES and arranged for the latter's picking up JOAN BERRY and taking her to the train with Captain WHITE on January 5, 1943. SCHAFFER and his wife in November of 1942 were injured when part of a home in the canyon toppled over and they were both struck by falling debris. His wife was killed and SCHAFFER was in the hospital, he said, from the time of the accident for nearly a month, and then on returning to his home was in bed until February of 1943.

He recalled that ARDEN, GYLES and LILLIAN HARVEY frequently discussed various matters while in his home. He said, however, that in January of 1943 he was suffering from his accident and he was positive that any conversation between GYLES and ARDEN about JOAN BERRY had not been overheard by him. He said they were frequently there, but he paid no attention to what they said. He described ARDEN as a tricky fellow and wanted Agents to believe that he didn't like him.

From what SCHAFFER said, it appears that ARDEN persuaded LILLIAN HARVEY to leave the SCHAFFER home shortly after he had recovered from the accident. SCHAFFER ascertained that it was between the 15th of January, 1943 and the 1st of February that HARVEY left.

It is to be noted that SCHAFFER lives in a small apartment which was originally the maid's quarters for the home that he had previously lived in. He has rented those premises. He is living with his son, PETER, who is a boy about thirteen years old. SCHAFFER said that he would like to help in any way possible, but that he was sure that he never heard the name of JOAN BERRY mentioned.

SCHAFFER mentioned DOUGLAS RHODES, who it will be recalled has appeared in this investigation before. He is the one who was in love with HARVEY and caused both HARVEY and ARDEN some embarrassment when he had an investigator try to get information from HARVEY about CHAPLIN. He said that RHODES was around quite a bit while he was ill. In fact, he helped HARVEY when she cleaned the house. SCHAFFER was of the opinion that RHODES might have some information concerning ARDEN and GYLES arranging for BERRY'S departure from Los Angeles. However, his son PETER was interviewed at the same time and he did not think RHODES would know anything because he said he and ARDEN did not get along and they were never there at the same time.

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Interview with LILLIAN HARVEY

b7c On December 7, 1943, Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] interviewed Miss LILLIAN HARVEY at her home, 738 North Alfred, Hollywood, California. Miss HARVEY stated that the first time she met the Subject CHAPLIN was when she was taken there by HERMAN WEISMAN, a writer who was making the picture "The Bridge of San Luis Rey" at General Service Studio. She recalled this was on a Sunday afternoon, and she went up to CHAPLIN'S to watch some of the other guests play tennis. It was also here that she first met ROBERT ARDEN. After that, ARDEN began showing her some attention, and took her out from time to time. She stated that she has never been introduced to JOAN BERRY, but recalls that once in the Hollywood Bowl in 1942 BERRY was pointed out to her as CHAPLIN'S new leading lady.

Miss HARVEY recalled that she was with ROBERT ARDEN and CHAPLIN at Chasen's Restaurant on the night of December 31, 1942, and the morning of January 1, 1943. She stated that she recalled CHAPLIN did not have a date and that there were just the three of them at their table. She also recalled that some time before midnight CHAPLIN got a phone call, and thereafter called ARDEN to the phone and after some conversation with ARDEN, ARDEN left Chasen's and returned in about half an hour. Miss HARVEY stated that she did not know what the phone call was about; she heard none of the conversation between ARDEN and CHAPLIN. She does not know where ARDEN went, and she did not hear ARDEN say anything about his departure when he returned. She further advised that on the way home that night ARDEN made no mention to her about JOAN BERRY.

Miss HARVEY stated that ARDEN has probably mentioned the CHAPLIN-BERRY affair to her on several occasions, and she has also read most of the publicity that has appeared in the newspapers in this connection. She stated that it is very difficult for her to distinguish between what ARDEN has told her and what was in the newspapers.

Miss HARVEY said that she admired CHAPLIN very much as an artist, and in the same breath added that that was the only way she knew him.

She was also asked if she and Mr. ARDEN were engaged to be married. She replied that ARDEN had asked for her hand, but that she had not decided. She admitted further that she had not been seeing much of him since ARDEN'S return from New York. She understood he was very busy and, too, she said she was quite occupied with her painting. She is employed by her friend, Mr. L. PORTER, and from the glassware in her house it appears that she paints figures on bottles and vases etc.

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It was pointed out to Miss HARVEY that it was rather unusual that she could not recall any incidents of New Year's Eve, and, too, that it was a bit unusual that her escort should leave her at Chasen's and she have no idea as to where he had been or what he was doing. In this connection it is recalled that Miss HARVEY, according to the interview given Agents of the San Francisco Office by Captain BOB ANDERSON, told him that ARDEN said he had to go to the Beverly Hills Jail because JOAN BERRY had been placed therein. She claimed that ARDEN'S leaving her that night, New Year's Eve, was a matter that she thought no more of than if he had gone to the washroom.

After considerable questioning, which usually resulted in her "I don't remember," Miss HARVEY did recall that ARDEN had contacted her later in the morning of January 1, and told her that JOAN BERRY was in jail. She couldn't remember what he told her he was going to do about it, if anything, except that he was going over to the jail. She claimed to know nothing about any arrangements made by Mr. ARDEN for BERRY'S leaving town January 5, 1943, but did admit that she was at that time living at the home of Mr. SYLVESTER SCHLEFFER on Marmont Lane. It is recalled that it was at the home of SCHLEFFER that arrangements were made by ARDEN with GYMES for BERRY'S being taken to the train by Captain WHITE.

Miss HARVEY was asked if anyone else had talked to her about the CHAPLIN-BERRY case, and she told the story of Captain BOB ANDERSON claiming to be from the Sheriff's Office, coming to her home one day. She gave details which were the same as had been previously developed.

In the course of the interview she admitted that after Mr. THOMPSON'S call of the previous day, arranging for the interview, she had gotten in touch with Mr. ARDEN and asked him if he had any idea what the desired interview was about. She said Mr. ARDEN told her it might be about the CHAPLIN case. It is to be noted that Agent [redacted] called her and that the first part of the actual interview concerned a matter which he had previously discussed with Miss HARVEY.

The last named professed to be extremely sorry that she had not been more helpful, but she said she "just didn't remember" anything further.

b7c [redacted]

b7D On December 6, 1943, [redacted] telephonically contacted the writer. He advised that on that date at about 12:00 Noon he had received a phone call from a man who refused to give his name

but who identified himself as a butler. He spoke in a heavily accented German voice. He said that he was in the course of his employment serving a dinner party about three weeks previous where ARDEN was present; that ARDEN was conversing with others there who were of foreign extraction in the German language; that in his conversation he was bragging about the connections he had with CHARLES CHAPLIN, how all the attorneys involved in the case to date were stupid and that anyone with money could do anything. This individual in his conversation with [REDACTED] indicated that from the tenor of ARDEN'S talking it appeared that some kind of a deal had been put over by ARDEN with Captain WHITE of the Beverly Hills Police Department. He further stated that a woman who was present at the party recognized ARDEN as a confidence man who had formerly been in Europe. The butler identified this individual as a Hungarian woman and said that she was there with the wife of the former Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs. This individual promised to keep in touch with [REDACTED] and was going to endeavor to get further information. [REDACTED] however, has not advised of any further contact made with him by this woman.

[REDACTED]

b7C  
b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b3  
b6

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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CAPTAIN W. W. WHITE, SUBJECT

Background Information

b7c [REDACTED]

b7c [REDACTED]

Review of Los Angeles County District  
Attorney's Office File Concerning W. W. WHITE

On November 17, 1943, Agents reviewed the records of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office with reference to its investigation of CHAPLIN and BERRY. It is their file No. 15-2983. Copies of the statements taken by the District Attorney's investigators were made and have been previously referred to.

b7c  
b7D [REDACTED]

There is being included herein a review of the statement made by WHITE to the District Attorney's investigators HERBERT GROSMAN and PHILIP T. TOWER. This statement was made at 11:35 P.M. June 4, 1943, in the presence of C. H. ANDERSON, Chief of Police, Beverly Hills, and G. W. ZINN, Police Clerk. It was reported by one LORNA ADAMS.

WHITE stated that JOAN BERRY first came to his attention about 1942 when

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he was working for her father, JOHN BERRY. It appears that he never met her personally but, as WHITE explained it, "I met her at a distance." The next time she came to his attention he said was January 1, 1943, when she had been booked in the Beverly Hills Jail. WHITE said, having in front of him his report of January 1, 1943, that he came to work at 8:00 o'clock that morning; that one of his duties is to check on those who are in jail. WHITE said that he was not told by Sergeant CLAUDE R. MARPLE that BERRY was in jail. He said he found out about it by examining the booking records.

WHITE was asked the substance of his conversation with Miss BERRY on January 1, 1943, and he said that the main part of the conversation was, "I noticed she was booked on a vagrancy charge and I naturally wanted to find out who she knew and if she had any home and any money, etc." At this point he was asked if at the time he was trying to locate her father back in 1942 he knew that she was connected with CHARLES CHAPLIN. He replied in the negative. When asked what BERRY told him about herself, WHITE said that from memory he recalled her saying something about having some kind of a contract with CHAPLIN, and continued "I didn't pay much attention to it. She said it was broken sometime before. She told me she had no money whatever and she had slept at a man's apartment down on Olympic the night before - a man she had recently met. She didn't have a dime, she had no place whatever to go, no relatives or friends she could go to other than this man, probably, if I remember right." WHITE said that on this first interview with her she made some remarks about CHARLIE CHAPLIN.

Thereafter there was read into the District Attorney's statement from WHITE the Captain's report of January 1, 1943, which is set forth elsewhere. With reference to this report, WHITE when asked if that was approximately the conversation he had with her, said that no doubt it was because he believed it was his report. He said he made that up after she had left his office, typing it himself from memory of what she had said. WHITE said in answer to the question whether he had then proceeded to have a vagrancy complaint filed, that he did not do so, pointing out that he had nothing to do with the vagrancy complaint, that she had already been booked on such a complaint. He then got evasive and didn't know whether he had anything to do with it or not, but finally concluded that he was positive that he had not signed the vagrancy complaint against her.

After his interview with her WHITE said that he did not contact anyone at the CHAPLIN home. When asked if anyone from CHAPLIN'S had contacted him, he said that a Mr. ARDEN got in touch with him. He first placed the date of ARDEN'S contact with him as the 2nd of January, but later straightened it out as having taken place on the 1st. He said that ARDEN talked to him on the phone and also in person at the police station. He was asked what conversation he had with ARDEN, and replied that the only conversation that he could remember was the one had with him four or five days after BERRY had been sentenced. He said that

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ARDEN asked him as a favor to take her to the railroad station; that he was busy and that he would send a cab to the house to pick him up, and WHITE said he replied, "Okay, if my wife can go along with me I'll go with her." Investigator GROSMAN then asked him if it was not true that prior to the arraignment and sentence by Judge GRIFFIN he had some conversation with ARDEN. WHITE replied, "well, I no doubt did." When pressed for the subject of this conversation, WHITE said that he knew there was some conversation about getting some clothes for her because she had come into the station with only a bathrobe and a pair of men's house shoes on. WHITE recalled that ARDEN told him he would get some clothes for her and take her to a hotel, which WHITE said was "no doubt prior to the time she wanted to go to New York or Detroit."

WHITE was asked if he had ever met ARDEN previously and replied, "I think I met Mr. ARDEN once before." When questioned by Agents in this regard, WHITE said that he had never met him before.

He was then asked if ARDEN told him, WHITE, in whose behalf he, ARDEN, was acting. WHITE replied, "No doubt he did - I don't remember." He was then asked if it was not true that ARDEN said it was CHAPLIN that he was representing. To this question WHITE replied, "You got me there. He no doubt did - otherwise I wouldn't have known who he was talking about."

WHITE was asked if before BERRY'S arraignment in any conversation that he had with ARDEN, ARDEN discussed the advisability or the probabilities of being able to get Miss BERRY sentenced in such a fashion as to be taken out of the state. To this question WHITE replied, "No, I don't believe so."

He was then asked if ARDEN had discussed with him before the sentence was passed the matter of providing a train ticket plus \$100 in cash to be given to Miss BERRY. To this WHITE replied, "No, he didn't, I'm sure of that. I'm sure he never did talk to me about any amount of money or anything - he did hand me an envelope the day I took her, or rode down with her to the train, he handed me an envelope, but I don't know what it did contain - I never looked in it." GROSMAN then asked WHITE if ARDEN at any time discussed with him the chances of getting Judge GRIFFIN to put BERRY on probation and go out of the state, in other words, to float her out of the state. WHITE answered, "I don't know - I don't remember him doing it."

The above questions are the examples which TOWER pointed out were indicative of WHITE'S "I don't remember" attitude.

Pressing this point further, GROSMAN then asked WHITE if it was not true that he had a conversation with Judge GRIFFIN just prior to the time of

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BERRY'S hearing, this session with GRIFFIN taking place in the chambers. WHITE admitted that he had, and when asked to relate the substance of that conversation with Judge GRIFFIN, this is what WHITE said: "Well, I don't know how the thing came up. SOMEBODY HAD ASKED ME IF THIS GIRL COULD BE FLOATED OUT OF THE STATE - I don't know who it was asked me, whether it was ARDEN or somebody else, but I imagine it was ARDEN, and I did ask Judge GRIFFIN or did tell Judge GRIFFIN that in the event that she wanted to go back to New York or to Detroit that there would be money coming that would pay the expenses."

Attention is directed to the fact that not more than three or four questions prior to this one WHITE had denied that there was any conversation about floating BERRY out of the state. Continuing this line of questioning, WHITE was asked for all of the conversation on this point, to which he replied, "I don't remember it all about the blamed thing, but I got a faint recollection of talking about this thing - I knew he couldn't float her out of the state." At this point of the interview Chief of Police ANDERSON spoke up and remarked "This was just another case - it was nothing of - - I'll explain it. I can see why he wouldn't be able to remember too plainly, because there wasn't anything at the time that would be especially impressive. She just was a tramp - is that your attitude, Captain?" WHITE replied, "Definitely. She had been staying down here on Olympic Boulevard with this guy she hardly knew."

WHITE was then asked if the day he made his report he recalled getting a telephone call from ARDEN or having any personal conversation with him. WHITE replied that he did not. Attention here is directed to the fact that when interviewed by Agents WHITE did recall that ARDEN came in to see him on the day of BERRY'S arrest, which was January 1, 1943.

WHITE was then asked if he remembered going to Judge GRIFFIN'S chambers and telling him that "if it was possible for the girl to be floated out of the state that you knew arrangements could be made to pay her passage back east and to give her some money." To this question WHITE replied, "I believe I did have that conversation." He recalled that in reply to that proposition he had put up to the Judge that GRIFFIN said that he couldn't possibly float her out of the state, and WHITE said he knew that that is what his reply would be. He denied that prior to the time of the arraignment he had talked with the girl in regard to her going back east. He said he never saw BERRY after his interview with her on January 1, 1943, although he was still not sure that that was the date until the night he took her down to the station with his wife.

In explaining how that happened, WHITE said "Mr. ARDEN called me and asked me if I would as a favor to him, take her down. He would send a car down and pick her up, and I said, 'Yes, I'll take her if my wife will go with me.' He handed me an envelope." WHITE said ARDEN never told him what was in it, nor did he ask him, but that his instructions were to give BERRY the envelope. Chief

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ANDERSON asked him where he had picked BERRY up; although he did not remember the address, WHITE recalled that it was in Hollywood. He said the cab driver picked him up in his home; that they then went over to where BERRY was staying; that she came out to the car and said she would be with him in just a minute. He said they went down to the Union Station; that they had friendly conversation with her en route, and she said she was going to see her mother; that he gave her the envelope which she did not open in his presence, nor did she ask him what was in it. After they got to the Station WHITE said they went clear through to the train with her and she told them goodbye and waved to him and his wife.

Thereafter he said the cab took him and his wife back to his house; that after he got home he did not call Mr. ARDEN, nor did ARDEN call him. In fact, WHITE said he did not have any subsequent conversation with ARDEN concerning putting her on the train. He was asked if he talked with Mr. CHAPLIN about this matter. WHITE replied "I have never talked to Mr. CHAPLIN in my life." WHITE said that after he put the girl on the train the matter was dropped and he completely forgot about it. He denied he ever received any compensation for his services.

WHITE said that when he put the girl on the train he did not tell the porter anything about who she was, nor did he tell the conductor of the train. In fact, WHITE said, "There was nothing official about that whatever - nothing. There was nothing ever mentioned to her about police business or anything, not a word."

When BERRY was picked up for violation of probation in May of 1943, WHITE said he had nothing to do with her being in jail, and in fact never even saw her. He was asked if he had ever had any conversation with anyone else concerning BERRY after this affair in January, 1943, and he said no, except for a conversation with ROBERT ARDEN that morning, which was June 4, 1943. He said ARDEN came into the police station to call him down for a matter that had been written up in the paper. The news article, WHITE said, set forth that he, WHITE, had said that he had had a conversation with a certain attorney about furnishing money and a ticket for BERRY to go home. He said ARDEN asked him why he had made such a statement, and WHITE said he replied that he had just told the truth. WHITE explained that he had had a slight conversation with Attorney CECIL D. HOLLAND about a week ago at which time HOLLAND had mentioned the JOAN BERRY case and had said, "I think it's common knowledge that BOB ARDEN furnished the money and the ticket to send her out of town." WHITE said he replied to this statement of HOLLAND'S, "I don't know."

Chief ANDERSON at this point asked WHITE if at any time during the period she was in custody of the Beverly Hills Jail was he, WHITE, aware that the girl was pregnant. WHITE replied in the negative. GROSMAN asked if Police Matron RENO had advised WHITE after BERRY'S presence there on May 7 and 8, 1943, that she knew

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BERRY was pregnant. WHITE did not recall her ever having told him. WHITE said he didn't know anything about her being pregnant until he read it in the newspapers. When asked his state of mind regarding BERRY, if, because of ARDEN'S interest he thought her case was an exceptional one, or merely a routine case, WHITE replied that he "considered it just a routine case," and then asked the question if GROSMAN meant before or after. It was explained that he meant during the entire handling of the case from the time he first talked with her, and she told him about her association with CHAPLIN, and subsequently his conversation with ARDEN prior to the arraignment and sentence. WHITE answered this question by stating he thought it was a routine case all the way through.

WHITE was asked how Judge GRIFFIN determined that the hotel bills were owed by BERRY. WHITE replied that BERRY had told him about them and that probably he had told Judge GRIFFIN of them. When pressed to make sure whether he had told GRIFFIN or not, WHITE replied, "I guess I did, I don't know. I must have - who else would have?"

WHITE admitted that he had asked ARDEN what his interest in the case was and ARDEN had replied that he was connected with CHARLIE CHAPLIN and as a representative of CHAPLIN he was interested in the girl. GROSMAN then asked him if he considered it unusual that a girl who was being charged with vagrancy had such a person as CHARLES CHAPLIN displaying a considerable amount of interest in her. WHITE replied to this query by saying that the girl had told him that she had broken her contract with CHAPLIN and had further stated that she had no home, no one she could go to for help, and so WHITE said he considered it "just another routine case." GROSMAN'S next question, "You didn't consider it unusual that CHARLES CHAPLIN was displaying an interest through ROBERT ARDEN in getting the girl out of the state?" WHITE replied, "Naturally I thought there was no doubt some reason for all that." WHITE could not recall that he had asked ARDEN what this was all about. When asked if it was his impression that ARDEN was definitely interested in getting the girl out of the state, WHITE replied, "Well he was definitely interested in helping the girl to get home. The way he told it to me, if I remember right, was that after - sometime after this sentence, that she wanted to go home to her mother, and I naturally figured that it was a good Samaritan act to get her home." When asked if he had considered it unusual that a girl who was charged with vagrancy would have friends that would be able to pay her train fare and give her money besides, WHITE replied that he "didn't know if he ever gave it that thought." When asked if he had told ARDEN of the various things that BERRY had told him which were set forth in his report of January 1, 1943, WHITE replied that he did not believe he did.

At this point in the interview the recess previously mentioned was held and on their return, WHITE denied that he had ever talked with ARDEN or anyone else on January 1, 1943, about the case, but said it was on the morning of January 2.

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that he received a call from someone, namely Mr. ARDEN, who came to his office. He was then asked the substance of this conversation with ARDEN and WHITE replied as follows: "The substance was that this girl had been a terrific expense to Mr. CHAPLIN, he had spent a lot of money on her - he had bought a play for her which turned out it was a part she couldn't take, and had spent considerable money on her, and that he was still willing to spend a few dollars in a charitable way if she would go back to her home." GROSSMAN asked if he meant CHAPLIN would be charitable about it, and WHITE replied, "Yes, but through ARDEN." WHITE concluded, "He also asked me if I thought that she could be floated out of the state, and WHITE said he told ARDEN no, he didn't believe GRIFFIN would have the authority to float her out of the state, but WHITE said he did tell him that he would talk the situation over with GRIFFIN. WHITE said he did talk with GRIFFIN and when asked what he told him on this occasion, replied "At that time I told Judge GRIFFIN that this girl had run up numerous bills in the City of Los Angeles at different hotels, several of which were holding her clothing; that CHAPLIN would - that I had information through ARDEN that CHAPLIN would pay those bills and also furnish her a ticket to return home if she wanted to"; that in addition he would give her some extra money. WHITE recalled that GRIFFIN'S reaction to that proposal was that the judge said he couldn't float her out or force her to go out of the state, and wouldn't. WHITE said he was not present in court when BERRY'S hearing was held. WHITE could not recall that GRIFFIN had told him that he was not running his court for the benefit of CHAPLIN. However, he said of his own knowledge he knew GRIFFIN did not run his court for the benefit of anyone.

WHITE said the next time he had heard from ARDEN after their conference in his office was ARDEN'S calling him and saying that JOAN BERRY wanted to go back home, and asking if he would do ARDEN the favor of riding down to the train with her. WHITE said he told ARDEN he would if it was all right for his wife to go along, whereupon ARDEN told him that he would send a car by to pick him up at his house at a certain time - WHITE did not remember the time - and that thereafter the driver would know where to find Miss BERRY. WHITE said ARDEN came into the station later the same day and handed him an envelope and told him to give it to BERRY when he saw her. On this occasion when asked if ARDEN told him what was in the envelope, WHITE replied "No doubt he told me there was a ticket and some money." Thereafter followed questions reflecting that that evening a car came by and picked him up; that it was a yellow cab; that they went over and picked up BERRY; that they went down to the station, but still WHITE could not remember ARDEN having talked with him after he put her on the train. However, when GROSSMAN asked him if it wasn't true that ARDEN called him to see if everything had gone off all right WHITE recalled, "I believe he did a few days later. I believe he called me at the office one day and I wasn't in and he left a number and I called him back and told him that she had taken the train."

In conclusion WHITE said that his part in the affair was "unofficial, very much so"; that he did not do it for any remuneration, but strictly as a favor

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that he was never paid any money; that he felt that "no doubt CHAPLIN was doing this girl a pretty good deed - he was helping her out to get her back home to her family where she no doubt belonged, a young girl." The interview was concluded with WHITE'S repeating conversation with ARDEN that morning when ARDEN seemed to object to WHITE having told an attorney that he, ARDEN, had furnished the money and transportation for the girl to go back east. However, he said that ARDEN did not at any time intimate that he preferred WHITE did not talk to anyone or tell his part in the deal.

*b7c* In connection with another investigation being conducted by the Los Angeles Office the forepart of 1943, Special Agent [REDACTED] interviewed Captain W. W. WHITE. In the course of interview with him it was developed that WHITE knew JOAN BERRY and something about HANS RUESCH. At that time, which was reported in March of 1943, WHITE had the following to say about those just mentioned.

WHITE advised that he did not know HANS RUESCH, but that he did know something concerning him. He stated that a pair of RUESCH'S slippers and a bathrobe belonging to him were presently in his closet and that these articles of clothing had been taken from a girl named JOAN BERRY who was picked up in a hysterical condition in front of 9709 Olympic Boulevard in the early morning of January 1, 1943 and that she was alleged to have attempted suicide, but that subsequent medical examination reflected that she had merely painted her lips with either iodine or some other medicine which would discolor the mouth. He stated that subsequent questioning of JOAN BERRY reflected that she resided at 9921 Robbins Drive, Beverly Hills, with her mother, GERTRUDE BERRY, who at the present time is in Detroit, Michigan. She advised that she was brought to Hollywood by CHARLES CHAPLIN under contract at \$100.00 per week and that she lived at the CHAPLIN residence for approximately six weeks, but due to a riff with him, the contract was broken. She stated she then had an affair with PAUL GETTY, a hotel man, whom she lived with for a couple of weeks.

Miss BERRY advised WHITE that after leaving GETTY she took up residence at the Beverly Hills Hotel, the Hollywood Plaza Hotel, and the Ambassador Hotel, but was forced to leave each place because she had no funds with which to pay her rent. She then advised that she resided with various individuals whom she had met and had spent several nights at the apartment of HANS RUESCH.

WHITE stated that when she was brought before justice on a vagrancy charge, some person in Beverly Hills whose name he could not recall, assumed responsibility for her and made arrangements for her transportation to Detroit

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to be with her mother. (WHITE described her as a cheap little prostitute who was very attractive and who was apparently trying to crash the movies, but in failing to do so, had taken to making a living the best way she could.)

Captain W. W. WHITE  
Beverly Hills Police Department  
Beverly Hills, California  
Residence, 311 North Palm Drive  
Beverly Hills - Telephone CRestview 1-2949

On November 27, 1943, after arrangements had been made through Chief of Police ANDERSON, Captain WHITE appeared at the Bureau Office and was interviewed by Agents. At the outset, the nature of the investigation was pointed out to Captain WHITE, this along the lines that the Government was investigating CHAPLIN in connection with possible White Slave Traffic Act violations; that in connection therewith it was necessary to obtain any and all information involving CHAPLIN and the Victim, JOAN BERRY. The confidential nature of the Bureau's inquiry at that time was made known to WHITE, and he promised that he would keep it that way.

WHITE opened his remarks shortly after the interview commenced with the statement that he had "just learned yesterday" that JOAN BERRY was arrested twice in 1938 in Los Angeles for shoplifting. WHITE explained that yesterday he had verified the arrest from an officer who is a personal friend of his, but that several days before that he had heard of her arrest.

WHITE continued that the first time that he ever had any knowledge about BERRY was when they were looking for her father. After he had been apprehended the next that she came to his attention was the morning of January 1, 1943. It was pointed out to WHITE by Agents that she had been in the previous morning and interviewed by Sergeant C. R. MARPLE. WHITE said that he could not recall MARPLE having told him anything about her being at the police station on the morning of the 31st. He admitted that MARPLE might have told him that, but he was not sure. WHITE had brought with him some records from the Police Department and located the slip filled out by MARPLE reflecting her presence in the police station on December 31st. He explained that that was what they called a "bring in" slip. It bore number 3142. After he had refreshed his recollection from seeing this slip, WHITE thought that BERRY might have mentioned during the course of his interview with her January 1, 1943, that she had been in the previous morning.

With reference to his interview with JOAN BERRY, January 1, 1943, WHITE had the following to say. The first thing he does when he comes into the police station, WHITE said, was to check on those who were in jail, and if there is anybody that "needs checking up, well it's my duty to check them, and naturally that was one of the matters I had that morning. She was brought down to my office by the matron and we had considerable conversation. If I remember right, she put on a big

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act for me - she thought she was an actress and she was - you know." WHITE was not sure whether RENO, the matron, was present during the interview. He explained that sometimes he was alone and sometimes several of the other officers were present. Although when he looked at his report and saw that he had mentioned RENO being there he "imagined that was correct."

When asked to explain what he meant by the statement that BERRY put on an act, WHITE replied, "Well, you know how girls are - they would like to have everybody believe that they're actresses. Well, she went into detail more or less and told me she was under contract or had been to CHARLIE CHAPLIN, who brought her out here to star in a picture." When asked if she had told him that CHAPLIN "brought her out here," WHITE admitted that that put him on a spot, his making such a statement. He said he could not swear to that because he was not positive. He said that most of her conversation that morning was out much she thought of CHAPLIN and he said he remembered her saying many times that she was deeply in love with the man.

WHITE said BERRY mentioned that she had been up to CHAPLIN'S house a lot of times; that she had been out to dinner parties with him; that she told him she "was under contract to him for \$75 a week and had been for quite a while. There was some conversation also about the contract had been broken. Whether she broke it or whether he broke it, I don't know." When asked if BERRY had told him that morning if she had been with CHAPLIN the night before, WHITE replied, "No, she had not been. I know that. She mentioned that she had been with a fellow by the name of HANS - somebody, down on Olympic Boulevard. I remember that. Some alien that your office was checking later, and - HANS RUESCH I think it was, on Olympic Boulevard, the 9700 block I remember. She had stayed there all night with him because she didn't have any room or any place to go." As to whether BERRY had told him of being in the police station the night before, WHITE said he did not remember. He was again asked if MARPLE had told him about her being in there the previous morning, and WHITE said it was very doubtful if he even saw MARPLE the morning that he interviewed her. If he had told him anything, he didn't remember. WHITE did say though, that he had had conversations with MARPLE about the case - numerous ones - but he still didn't remember anything about BERRY being brought in the night before although WHITE said there was no doubt she was there because of the slip. WHITE thought it "seemed funny to me I didn't know about the card, about her being brought in the night before. Now, I may have and it may have slipped my mind. It may have meant nothing to me and - you know."

WHITE was asked if BERRY had gone into any detail about how she happened to be in jail on the morning of January 1, 1943. To this question he replied that "I actually questioned her about the facts that were on the arrest report and this arrest report - let me see what it says - well, you know what this says, no doubt. She had no funds and no friends, no place to go." At this point in the interview WHITE was reading his report of the interview with her on January 1, 1943, and came

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to the part wherein he had mentioned that this was the second time the police department had had contact with her, "she having come into the station in a hysterical condition yesterday morning. At that time was taken to the above address by Matron RENO." WHITE then said that he now remembered that the matron had been telling him that she had taken BERRY to the Olympic Boulevard address, the home of HANS RUESCH. WHITE said he now clearly remembered, and pointed out that he had not even looked at any of the reports before coming into the FBI Office that morning.

His attention was also drawn to the fact that in his report he had written that "a few nights ago CHAPLIN told her he would not give her any more money and that this is the time she became hysterical and came into the station," that many times she had gone to CHAPLIN'S estate, broken a window in order to get into the house; that she had told WHITE about taking a taxi to CHAPLIN'S home, not having money to pay for it and leaving her fur coat. WHITE recalled that that was all true, that she had told him those things.

WHITE'S attention was also directed to BERRY'S story that on the night of New Year's Eve, 1942, she had jumped out of the window when the watchman was calling the police. He was asked if to his knowledge the police had been called that night. WHITE replied that if the department had been called no doubt there would be a blotter stamp. He was told that Agents had examined the records for same the previous day and there was no such record of a call. WHITE explained that "those things are slipped up once in a while. If they are busy they slip up on them once in a while no doubt, but there should be a blotter stamp that they had received a call from so and so, a watchman, concerning whatever it might be."

In explaining his attitude at the time he was interviewing BERRY, WHITE had the following to say when asked if BERRY had told him of ever having been out here before: "Well, I know she was, but I don't remember whether she told me she was. I don't know whether I checked that. It didn't mean a h--- of a lot to me. It was just one of those things. I checked it. It was one of those things. It didn't amount to a d---. Either take her in and vag her or get rid of her. I didn't do a lot of questioning on the thing - I had no idea it would go to all of this that it has come to."

WHITE was asked if while he was talking to her she had tried to call CHAPLIN or made any effort to get in touch with him. WHITE said that not to his knowledge, but that he believed that she did call CHAPLIN, and explained that that was no doubt hearsay as far as he was concerned.

WHITE explained in answer to the question of whether BERRY had mentioned any others she knew, that while talking with her BERRY mentioned or else he asked her about J. PAUL GETTY. WHITE said he either had information ahead of time about him or she volunteered it, because GETTY came into the situation. He said that he

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talked with her and discussed the fact that her father had been arrested in Flagstaff, Arizona. WHITE said he naturally asked her what her financial conditions were, if she had any place to go, etc., and he said she told him she did not. WHITE pointed out she had no money, that in fact when she came into the station all she had was a bathrobe and a pair of men's house shoes and was wearing a pair of men's pajamas. WHITE related that the report reflected that she had been picked up on Olympic Boulevard with what appeared to be iodine on her lips, and taken to the Beverly Hills hospital. He was asked if he questioned her about that. WHITE said that he remembered that he did so question her, but that he couldn't remember now what she said.

WHITE estimated that he probably talked to BERRY that morning between twenty and thirty minutes. When asked if Chief of Police ANDERSON was present during interview with BERRY, WHITE was not certain, he didn't believe he was, and then later thought he might have stopped in for part of the interview.

After the initial interview with BERRY, WHITE said his impression was that she was just a movie struck kid who was out here trying to put on a big front and get in the best way she could. When asked if he believed her stories about the contract with CHAPLIN and having lived in his house, WHITE said that "I couldn't disbelieve that because I didn't know, but I knew that the contract didn't amount to a heck of a lot as she was only getting \$75 or \$100 a week and if she was any good at all, why CHAPLIN would have been taking a whole lot better care of her." He was then asked if he had attempted to verify her employment with CHAPLIN, and he replied, "No, I don't think I did the first time in. The first time I talked to her I don't believe I did. We have any number of those kind of cases every year. Kids that come out here - we pick them up on the front porch of some actor's home - just movie struck kids that come out here and all they have in mind is being a star. They've seen some star in numerous pictures and come out here and try to get into the house to meet the folks. We have those very often and I figured that was what we had there. It was one of those things where a kid was movie struck and out here and destitute, and living here and there, and didn't really amount to a h--- of a lot."

At this point in the interview WHITE in discussing when ARDEN had first come into the picture, more definitely recalled that no doubt BERRY had called CHAPLIN'S home, not from his office, but WHITE said he believed she called from the telephone out in the hallway. As he remembered, ARDEN came into the picture after she got word to CHAPLIN'S home. WHITE did not say whether the call was made after she had been released from Judge GRIFFIN'S court or on January 1, 1943. WHITE explained that when he talked to ARDEN the latter more or less verified the fact that BERRY was a movie struck kid and that she had been under contract to CHAPLIN; that CHAPLIN had spent a considerable amount of money on her. He was asked if ARDEN had inquired as to what sentence BERRY would probably get or what the disposition of the case against her might be, and also if he had said anything

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about how CHAPLIN was interested in the case. To this question WHITE replied, "Well, I know he gave me some conversation that CHAPLIN would be willing to send her back to her home if it could be done, and I told him that I had no idea what the judge would do with her because no one could talk to Judge GRIFFIN - I mean get something worked out the way he wanted it, and there was considerable conversation about bills around town she had run up at different hotels and ARDEN said that CHAPLIN would be willing to pick up all those bad bills and give her a railroad ticket home if she could be sentenced that way, or whenever she got out."

WHITE was then asked if ARDEN had mentioned the fact that he would like to have her floated out of the state and whether he himself had brought up the question that he didn't know whether Judge GRIFFIN could do that. WHITE said, "I think that was more like the way it was mentioned - something about a floater or send her out of town." WHITE was then asked if he, ARDEN, didn't specify that BERRY should be floated out of the state rather than just out of town. To this question WHITE replied, "Yes, I think he did. I think I said that in the District Attorney's report. I believe he said that if they could get her sent out of the state, and I know I told him on that one that there was no city judge that could send anyone out of the state, and I knew that Judge GRIFFIN wouldn't even think of it."

WHITE said that he told ARDEN thereafter that he would convey CHAPLIN'S wishes to the judge. More specifically, the writer asked him if he, WHITE, didn't tell ARDEN that he would tell the judge that "if she got a suspended sentence and was told to stay out of the state, that CHAPLIN would pay these bills, buy her a ticket." WHITE replied, "I believe I did tell him that. I believe I did." In this connection WHITE went on to say that he hoped that it wouldn't look like Judge GRIFFIN was listening to some policeman because, he said, GRIFFIN won't listen to "no policeman." He said further that he wouldn't even go to GRIFFIN and ask him to help out on a traffic citation, pointing out that he hadn't done that "twice since GRIFFIN had been sitting on the bench." WHITE said that his idea was that BERRY was in need of help, that she was a movie struck little "nut" out here who had no money, and that his first thought was that she was going to wind up being a prostitute and that it was proper she should be sent home where she was known.

WHITE explained that while he had no desire to help CHAPLIN or ARDEN, pointing out that he didn't know either one of them, and that they meant nothing to him, he wanted to make it clear that he believed that they did not have any great desire to float the girl out of the country. WHITE said he thought personally that they were interested in helping the girl too. He said, "I have no reason to believe that it was just a case of where they were trying to push her out of the state and get rid of her. I've got no reason to believe that, there was no pressure put on me to that effect. They did mention - BOB ARDEN mentioned

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that she had bothered CHAPLIN a h--- of a lot, that she had been up there and broken into the house a number of times."

WHITE was asked if he remembered that ARDEN after his initial conversation with him on January 1, 1943, said he would have to go up and see CHAPLIN about whether he would pay those hotel bills, and that thereafter ARDEN called back and said that he would, and that in effect ARDEN'S words were when he talked with WHITE "I'll have to confer with CHAPLIN before I say that I can pay those bills," and then after he had talked with CHAPLIN, ARDEN told WHITE that CHAPLIN would pay those hotel bills "if this works out." WHITE said that ARDEN might have said that to him, but that he didn't remember it that way.

WHITE was asked if when he was talking with BERRY she inquired of him as to what was going to happen to her, whether she would get a jail sentence, etc. He replied that he didn't think so, that "her attitude was more or less of an I don't care attitude - I don't care what happens."

Before BERRY was brought before Judge GRIFFIN, WHITE said he talked with him about fifteen minutes before court time that afternoon. He was asked exactly what he had told the judge, and WHITE said, "As best I can recall, I told him the entire story. The girl was out here, destitute, had slept with this guy on Olympic Boulevard the night before; when she was arrested she was wearing his pajamas, robe and his house shoes and there was some indication that she had attempted to take some iodine, and that she had no money and no friends, and that I had been told by Mr. ARDEN that CHAPLIN would pay her expenses back home and pay any hotel bills - I told him about the hotel bills she had run up around town and that they were holding her clothes - they were in fact - and I think when she was called before the court he asked her if she wanted to leave town." WHITE admitted that he probably wasn't in court that day, but he remembered that the judge had told him later, or at least somebody had, that he, the judge, had asked BERRY if she wanted to go back home to her mother, and BERRY replied that he did not, so WHITE said the judge "didn't send her out." WHITE was asked if GRIFFIN had questioned him at all when he was giving his story about BERRY, and WHITE said he could not recall whether the judge had inquired into her association with CHAPLIN, the contract, etc.

WHITE insisted that he had never heard any rumors or stories to the effect that BERRY had been keeping company with CHAPLIN, and the first he knew of their association was when he interviewed her on the morning of January 1, 1943.

He was asked if in cases similar to this one he made it a practice of talking to the judge before court. WHITE said that he did that very often in every case that amounted to anything at all he went in to see the

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was asked if where facts are as they were in this case, and somebody said they would be willing to pay her expenses out of town, if he usually pointed that out to the judge. To this question WHITE replied, "That's never happened before that I know of - that particular type of thing."

WHITE was asked if it occurred to him that with CHAPLIN and ARDEN so willing to pay money for her, that actually they were friends of hers; that this was in contrast to her statement to him that she didn't have any friends. WHITE replied "Well, naturally, after I learned that, I felt as though there was a slight friendship there, and I know CHAPLIN pretty well, you know. I know of him, I know he's tighter than the bark on a tree. We've had many details up there, special details, and he don't pay much extra money - you know, he lets you work for many hours for little or nothing. That naturally made me wonder what the situation was. As far as that's concerned, at the time the girl was twenty-one years of age."

WHITE stated that he understood that after BERRY was released by Judge GRIFFIN she didn't have any clothes to wear out and that some were brought in for her. He didn't recall whether he had seen ARDEN at that time or not, and was quite sure he didn't because she was in court on a Saturday, which he said was his day off. He couldn't remember how it happened that he would come over to the police station on his day off and tell Judge GRIFFIN the facts, but he guessed he must have because he was sure that he talked to him about the case.

With reference to what ARDEN had told him about his connection with CHAPLIN and how it happened that he was at the jail in connection with BERRY, WHITE said, "It's my thought that ARDEN told me that he was taking care of CHAPLIN'S interests, or words to that effect; that CHAPLIN had called him."

The next that WHITE heard of ARDEN was the day that BERRY left town. He said ARDEN came into the police station and give him an envelope and told him that the girl wanted to go home and asked him if he would take her to the station. WHITE said that he told ARDEN, "Sure, but my wife will go with me," to which ARDEN said, "Okay, swell. I'll have a car pick you up at your house at a certain time and pick her up and take her to the station." WHITE was asked if there was any particular reason why he would do such an errand for ARDEN, and replied that "No more than anybody else." He was then asked if such action on his part was an ordinary course of procedure where somebody was sentenced. To this question he replied, "Oh, no, it isn't ordinary, but I've done it many times in a case like that. I felt sorry for the kid and I felt that it wouldn't hurt matters any to take her down." Agent asked him if he knew why ARDEN didn't take her to the train himself. To this question WHITE replied, "I didn't ask him that - yes, I guess I did too. He said he was busy or he would do it - he had a broadcast that night." In connection with that broadcast he said ARDEN told him he could not

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possibly take her down, and asked him, WHITE, if he would do it as a favor to him. WHITE said he agreed.

En route to the station after they had picked BERRY up, WHITE said she appeared "Happy and glad, in fact, she told me she was very happy to have met me and my wife also. General conversation - no complaint about nothing."

With reference to the envelope which ARDEN had given him, WHITE said first that he didn't open it, and then later that he couldn't remember whether he did or not, but he recalled that ARDEN told him that there were "tickets and some money" therein. Then WHITE recalled that he guessed he did open the envelope because he seemed to remember giving the man at the gate tickets for her and handing her the envelope. WHITE said he did not get on the train, although he and his wife walked clear through the station taking her to the train. He explained that by saying that his wife had never been to the Union Station before. He said he did not give any instructions to the porter or conductor; that he talked to "nobody."

When it was pointed out to him that there probably had been some discussion about a suitcase or travelling bag which BERRY had, WHITE did recall that ARDEN had said something to him about it. In this connection he said, "I think there was some conversation about a very valuable bag. Yes, I think you're right. I can't remember just what it was, but there was some conversation about a bag." He then remembered that it probably was a bag which belonged to CHAPLIN, and when it was pointed out that ARDEN probably had said something about being sure she sent it back, WHITE remembered and stated "I think there was something like that. She was supposed to have taken it away from the house or something. Something about if she needed it to take her things home, it would be okay to take it and to send it back when she got home." WHITE didn't remember that ARDEN had told him that he had told BERRY that if she did send the bag back he, ARDEN, would see that she got some money.

WHITE was asked if when he got BERRY to the train he told her to be sure and stay on the train and not get off. He replied, "No, it meant nothing to me whether she did or not. No, in fact I wasn't interested too much whether she went or not. Why should I be interested - I didn't care whether she left town or not. It meant nothing to me."

WHITE was then asked if it hadn't occurred to him to wonder why ARDEN, a comparative stranger, should ask him to take her to the train, instead of one of ARDEN'S closer friends, or a closer friend of CHAPLIN'S. WHITE replied that at the time it didn't, but since then it had. He said that now he could plainly see that "as far as I'm concerned, why, apparently they just made me the goat." By "they" he said he meant CHAPLIN and ARDEN. He denied that ARDEN had offered

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him any money for his services. WHITE explained his above statement further by saying that since the original breaking of the publicity in this case he could now plainly see that there was "no doubt that CHAPLIN was very anxious to get her out of town." He couldn't see why they picked on him, except that "I just happened to be the fall guy, I guess." He was asked if he ever had called that fact to ARDEN'S attention and he said no.

WHITE could not positively remember whether ARDEN had called him or he called ARDEN to tell him he had delivered BERRY to the train. He said that he and his wife waited until BERRY got in the coach and in her seat, and when she waved to them they left the station. Agent asked WHITE if he told Chief ANDERSON that he was going to take BERRY to the train at the request of ARDEN. WHITE said, "No, he was awfully busy." Nor did he tell the Chief afterwards, but he admitted that when ANDERSON asked him about it he told him. However, he said that he had never been asked about this until publicity broke in May or June of 1943, at which time, as WHITE expressed it, "The 'Hollywood News' started giving us h--- over there in the papers." WHITE said that at that time "I told the Chief when he asked me about it. I never even gave it a thought. As far as that's concerned, it amounted to nothing. I was off duty - I was on my own time." As for Chief ANDERSON'S attitude about this situation, WHITE said that "It was all right - there was nothing wrong."

With reference to WHITE'S working hours, he explained in answer to the question that they were supposed to be from 8:00 in the morning until 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon, daytime, but he explained, "I went to work yesterday morning at a quarter of seven and quit at 12:00 o'clock last night, so the hours are a good deal like yours in that business, but my hours are 8:00 to 4:00, and if things are quiet, nothing doing, it's okay to go home, you know. I generally work nine or ten hours every day. I very seldom go home before 5:00 o'clock and I'm always at work at a quarter of eight in the morning, and if things are quiet and there's nothing particular, why we go home."

After WHITE had taken BERRY to the train in January, 1943, he said he didn't see ARDEN again until after her arrest in May of that year. With reference to that arrest, he said he knew nothing about it. Agent asked him if her presence had not come to his attention and if he didn't handle any part of it, and WHITE said that one of his men picked her up the night of May 7, 1943, and on the next morning she was in jail when he came to work. He said he did not talk to her, nor did he see her. He didn't know whether anybody talked to her the next morning. He said that Officer GEBHARDT arrested her and he recalled that GEBHARDT'S report reflected that BERRY admitted being out of employment and having no visible means of support and also appeared to be psychopathic. WHITE was asked if normally somebody wouldn't have interviewed her from the police department and he said they might not have because it was a straight case of probation, the case was known to the department and that if he had been on duty he might have gone down

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and had a little chat with her, and he might not have.

WHITE was questioned as to the reason for his conversation with ARDEN after that arrest and he replied, "I don't know. I called him up or he called me - one of the two, and I don't know what the heck the occasion was. I know I told him he had me in a h--- of a mess." WHITE explained that this was after the matter had been mentioned in the newspapers, and he continued that he told ARDEN "You've got me into a predicament where I'm getting a lot of undesirable publicity." WHITE did not remember what ARDEN replied.

WHITE was asked if he recalled MAX WATT, CHAPLIN'S night watchman, calling him the day after she had been in CHAPLIN'S house in January of 1942. To this question WHITE replied, "Yes, I think MAX called me once on the phone." He continued that he had known WATT since they were kids together and said that on that occasion "he mentioned that this JOAN BERRY was up there raising h--- again. That was when, I believe, it was before she was picked up the second time. Yes, I've known MAX for many years." Asked what the purpose of WATT'S call to him was, WHITE replied, "To let us know, I believe, that she was hanging around up there. I take it that he knew she was on probation from the department - I don't know." It is noted that so far in discussing his conversation with WATT, WHITE was of the opinion that it was after her second arrest, namely the one in May, 1943. When it was pointed out to WHITE that it was probably after or just before her arrest on January 1, 1943, WHITE replied "Well, he may have, but I don't just place it. That may be the call that I had in mind. It may not be just before the second arrest. I don't know that I heard from him over once about it."

When asked to recall definitely the conversation with WATT on that occasion, WHITE said that "No, I couldn't. If I remember right, it was about her and that's all. Yes, that was before the first time, because he told me that he had her upstairs - going to the telephone with her. She run into the bathroom, locked the door and jumped out of the window on him. I believe that's right."

WHITE was asked if either TIM DURANT or MINNA WALLIS had ever talked to him about BERRY and if he knew them. He stated that he did not know them, nor had they ever talked to him, but he recalled having read their names in the newspapers in connection with this case.

WHITE then stated that his conversation with ARDEN on what was probably June 4, 1943, consisted of each of them giving the other a bit of h---. He recalled that they had some words about the undesirable publicity they were both getting, but he did not recall that ARDEN requested him to keep his name out of the story. It was his understanding, WHITE said, that ARDEN was willing to tell anything he knew about the case.

WHITE was questioned as to what conversation he had with Mrs. RENO

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about BERRY'S presence in jail on either occasion. He said he did not recall any conversation with her concerning whether she knew BERRY was pregnant. He had no idea of what RENO may have told him about BERRY'S presence in jail in January, 1943.

WHITE was asked what BERRY had told him about her relations with J. PAUL GETTY. He said that as he recalled, she "merely told me that he was a very good friend of hers. She had known him for quite a while," and continued that "the indications would be to me that she had similar relations with both men - not any sexual relationship. She didn't mention any sexual relations at all with either of them." WHITE explained this later when he was asked if it was not his understanding that both men had been giving her money and helping her along in the world, and WHITE agreed that that was what he meant.

The writer asked WHITE if he thought from his contact with her in January, 1943, that she was a mental case of any kind. To this he replied, "Well, between you and I, I think that all these kids that get these screwy ideas that they are going to be motion picture actresses are to a certain extent slightly demented." WHITE did say that when he talked to her she was highly nervous and he was asked if she appeared to be under the influence of any alcohol, sleeping tablets, etc. He replied, "Well, that's what I had in mind, that she probably had had a few sleeping tablets of some kind, or something like that."

The report made by Officer GEBHART on May 7, 1943, reflecting that she had \$1.09, a compact and miscellaneous accessories in her possession when he arrested her, was brought to the attention of WHITE. WHITE recalled that Sergeant MARPLE told him that "she broke a mirror or something and was cutting on her wrists while waiting in the detention room at the booking desk for the matron to appear. You see, our matron has to be called. We have not so many female cases and when we do, we have to call a matron in on it, so it takes five or ten minutes to get the matron there. Oftentimes if I'm bringing in a female case and I think it's necessary, I call over the radio before I get in if I'm en route in the city or somewhere, I'll call in on the radio and tell them so that they can have the matron in the booking office when I get there, but in this particular case apparently the matron hadn't been called beforehand and there was a lapse of time there when she was placed in the waiting room, and if I remember right - this is strictly from memory - MARPLE walked in there or looked in, and she had some broken glass in her hand and was attempting to cut her wrists with it. That's correct, isn't it? That's just hearsay, as far as I know - MARPLE had made some remarks about it there in the office."

Near the conclusion of the interview, WHITE was asked if there was anything else that had come to his mind with reference to instant case which he would like to add. He stated, "I know one thing - when we picked up that girl

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that night to go to the station, there was nothing that would lead anyone to believe that she was not going and tickled to death that she was going. That's the thing I can't understand about all this. Everybody seems to think that me especially must have put some heat on her to leave town. Well, G-- d--- it, I never in any way - that's for you men's information especially - I never in any way tried to get her to leave town or tried to induce her to leave town in any way, and if she told you any different from that, she's a G-- d--- liar." WHITE was told that she never had indicated that he or his wife were anything but nice to her, nor did they try to influence her to leave town, and that Agents had not so implied. WHITE to this statement replied, "No, I know you haven't, but I've had it indirectly so worded that it would lead me to believe that that's probably what they figured, and my wife will tell you the same thing - the girl was very happy and seemed to be tickled to death that she was getting out of there and going back home. I never met her or talked to her; I never phoned her and tried to induce her in any way to leave town. I never spoke to any member of the railroad company in any way, shape or form, or anyone, to see that she left town. You know, if I was sending a kid home to his mother, I'd go to the conductor, or I'd go to the brakeman, or somebody - the Pullman porter - and tell him, 'Now, look, I'm sending this kid home and I want to see that she gets there.' But, J---, there was nothing like that. There was nothing trying to induce the girl to leave. It meant nothing to me whether she left or whether she stayed here."

After this statement, WHITE was asked how it appeared to him what her leaving town would mean to ARDEN and to CHAPLIN, and WHITE replied, "I don't know what CHAPLIN'S thoughts were, I have no idea. I don't know what ARDEN'S thoughts were, but it's plain to be seen that ARDEN was doing what he could to help her get out of town. He's the one who brought the money and ticket and what not; paid off the bills apparently. I don't know that he paid them off, but he must have. I never checked the hotels to see if the bills had been paid that she owed. I never even checked to see that she owed them. She told me they were holding her clothes, and that was common sense. She was without clothes, so I imagine that was the truth."

He was then asked if it didn't strike him that ARDEN and CHAPLIN were particularly anxious to get rid of her and he replied, "Not necessarily, no. The way I got it was that they would pay her bills and give her her expenses home if she would go - if she was willing to go," and again "I didn't get it that anybody was trying to put the heat on her and make her leave. It never entered my mind that the girl was getting the roust." He was then asked if it hadn't entered his mind since then and WHITE said, "Well, it would lead you to believe now that all this heat's on the d--- thing that - I don't know it to be true even now. I felt as though CHAPLIN and ARDEN were in the first place trying to help the kid - get her back home. No doubt they did have her under contract at one time and she didn't fulfill the contract for some reason or other, which I have no idea what it was, then she's out here and she's destitute. Sometimes those people do show a

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little kindness of heart and help someone out that way."

If a similar situation should arise again, WHITE was asked if he would take the same action as he had in this case. Not, he said, if ARDEN and CHAPLIN were involved, "under no consideration," and continued, "No human being would that's taken the grief I have over the G-- d--- thing. I've been a policeman for over twenty-four years and this is the first time I ever got my nose burned to amount to anything at all. I've always had good publicity and not bad. Fortunately, I've made a lot of good pinches - a lot of them, and when I got publicity, I got good publicity, and naturally this kind of stuff really got me down. I'll be honest with you, I wouldn't do it under no consideration, although if somebody else came in and gave me a similar story I might get a weak heart and do the same d--- thing over again. Of course, I wouldn't with them, and I'd probably now go into it a little deeper than I did in this case before I did anything, if I did." WHITE then went on and said if it was anybody connected with the motion picture industry he would be mighty skeptical. He said that he would never put himself in another spot like this one as to either taking a girl to the train or even talking to the judge, although he said he might go to the judge and tell him what they had said, and in this connection continued, "You know in a small city it's a lot different than in you gentleman's court. We know the judge like I know one of my men, as well as I know the Chief, and we go in naturally in cases that we think it's necessary, and talk to him. Like for instance, a habitual drunk - we've had him in a number of times. If I figure, I think this guy - it would do him good to send him to Camarillo or to send him to the County Jail, I might go in and speak to the judge and give him his whole past history, all I know about the guy, and tell him that I think something should be done for the guy's own good. Well, naturally, I don't expect the Judge to do what I tell him to do. In fact, I never would expect that, but I might tell him what I think, which I did in this case. I didn't ask the judge to do it - I told him what could be done. We do that. Pretty nearly every court day I have some case that I go in and talk to him about, but not with the intention of going in and fixing it with him, because it couldn't be done."

WHITE was then asked if he thought ARDEN figured that the case might be fixed with the judge, and WHITE replied, "I don't know whether he ever had that thought in mind. I don't think the guy knows much about what could be when he asked me if the girl could be floated out of the state. Any human being ought to know that the judge couldn't do that. A superior court judge could do that, but that would be a little different. They do send them out of the state now and then, I believe, on sentences," and he continued that he was quite sure that the superior court judge could send individuals out of the state on felony cases, stating "I know I've heard of cases that the sentence would be that they leave the state - a portion of their probation or something like that. In cases whether it was the desire of the defendant or not, I don't know. In any where it was the desire of the defendant to go to Kalamazoo, Michigan, if he could leave the state, the judge

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might say, 'Well, okay, that would be a good way to get rid of him.' I've heard of cases where a man was sent out of the State, but not by a city court judge on a misdemeanor case." WHITE said he was sure that BERRY never told him she wanted to leave Beverly Hills, and neither did he ever tell her to leave. He could not recall that ARDEN ever told him that he wanted her to get out of Beverly Hills.

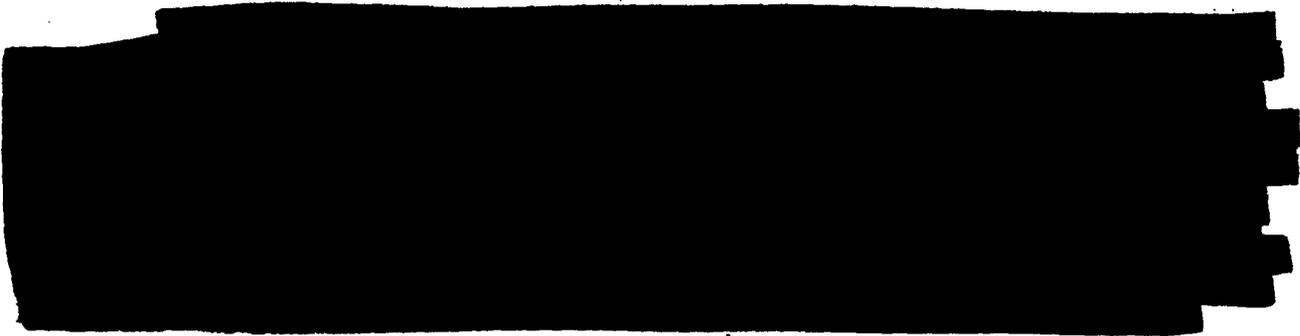
In the District Attorney's files was also noted a memorandum addressed by Captain WHITE to Chief ANDERSON, dated in June, 1943, in which he stated that some time after January 1, 1943, and after JOAN BERRY'S arrest, ROBERT ARDEN had turned over to him a "deutsche werke werkerfert" automatic 6.35 millimeter pistol No. 113031. WHITE therein stated that ARDEN had told him this gun had been in the possession of JOAN BERRY and he, ARDEN, did not want it in his possession. WHITE stated he still had this gun in his desk and at the time he was questioned by the investigators of the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office, he forgot to mention it.

A photograph of Captain W. W. WHITE is being forwarded to the Bureau with this report.

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JUDGE CHARLES J. GRIFFIN, SUBJECT

Background Information



Judge CHARLES J. GRIFFIN

Residence address: 607 North Palm Drive, Beverly Hills, Calif.

Home telephone - CRestview 6-4534

Business address: 330 North Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills, Calif.

Business telephone - CRestview 1-9196

After having made inquiry at the office of the clerk of the City Court of Beverly Hills and learning that Judge CHARLES J. GRIFFIN would be in his chambers at 1:30 p.m. on November 23, 1943, agents returned to the clerk's office at approximately that time. The girl on duty at her request was furnished the names of Agents and their identity. Shortly thereafter the Bailiff of the Court advised Agents that it would be possible to see Judge GRIFFIN. In his chambers with him was the Clerk of the Court who remained during part of the initial interview.

It was explained to the Judge that at the request of the United States Attorney, Los Angeles, the F.B.I. was conducting investigation concerning CHARLES CHAPLIN'S possible violation of the White Slave Traffic Act; that in connection therewith it was necessary to obtain all information which involved Victim as well as Subject. From newspaper stories it was understood that she had been in his court and for that reason the interview with him was desired.

Judge GRIFFIN started reviewing the case as he had read about it and learned from examination of the police records in Beverly Hills, telling of her being picked up as a possible suicide, being detained in the jail and then appearing in his court at approximately 10:00 o'clock on the morning of January 2, 1943. He stated that a police officer, whom he later identified as W. W. WHITE, Chief of Detectives, came into his chambers before court on the morning of January 2, 1943. WHITE told GRIFFIN that there was a girl who was coming up as a vagrant that morning, who had been causing a disturbance at CHAPLIN'S house. WHITE continued that she intended to plead guilty. WHITE also said that if he,

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GRIFFIN, would sentence her to leave the State of California, Mr. CHAPLIN would provide a ticket for her to New York. GRIFFIN said he immediately told WHITE that he wasn't interested in following the directions of Mr. CHAPLIN in disposing of cases in his court, and thereafter thought no more about it.

When BERRY did appear before him that morning, GRIFFIN said sure enough she did plead guilty and he then continued telling the story of how he had given her ninety days, suspended on the condition that she leave Beverly Hills. He stated he sentenced her as a vagrant because she had no clothes, no job, and had admitted sleeping with a man for the last several nights. In this connection, however, GRIFFIN, in discussing the matter, said that she did tell him in open court that she had a job coming up, etc., and so didn't want to be put in jail.

GRIFFIN observed that it looked to him afterwards when he thought about it, and particularly when all the publicity occurred, as if CHAPLIN was trying to use his court to wash his dirty linen, and he further expressed his feelings by stating that he felt personally that if there ever was a Communist in Beverly Hills it was CHAPLIN, and further that he had made a fortune in the United States and yet never taken steps to become a citizen. He expressed these thoughts, as he pointed out, from a personal point of view, and not as those coming from the court.

At this point in the interview with Judge GRIFFIN he was asked what connection S. S. HAHN had with instant case. GRIFFIN said that he only appeared in May of this year when the sentence BERRY received in January was vacated; that he got up as a friend of the court and said that the right thing had been done. GRIFFIN said he didn't know whether he was a friend of CHAPLIN'S or who he was trying to talk for, but pointed out that he was not an attorney of record.

As for Judge CECIL D. HOLLAND, GRIFFIN observed that when he represented BERRY in May of this year when she reappeared in his court in order to be taken to a hospital for the treatment of her pregnancy, that HOLLAND had met GRIFFITH in the hall after court and observed to him "that the baby she is carrying is not CHAPLIN'S, but belongs to someone who is not even connected with the motion picture industry." GRIFFIN continued that it struck him as a little bit strange that after making such a statement HOLLAND a few days later appeared in the newspapers as representing BERRY in a civil suit against CHAPLIN, alleging that he was the father of her child. In this connection it is recalled that information has been received that in the first proposal made to CHAPLIN in behalf of BERRY, same prepared by HOLLAND, BERRY would agree to resign all claims against CHAPLIN as the father of her child.

At this point in the interview it was nearly 2:00 o'clock when Judge GRIFFIN'S court was due to open, and the writer suggested that perhaps it would be best to continue the interview after court was over. GRIFFIN said he had covered all the highlights, but if Agents thought further conversation with him

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As necessary, same could be had at recess period. At the recess Agents again went into Judge GRIFFIN'S office when the Bailiff indicated that that was his desire, and the interview continued for a period of approximately one and one-half hours.

GRIFFIN brought in the file of his court referring to BERRY, which is Beverly Hills City Court File No. D-2445. Same was examined and it reflected that on January 1, 1943, BERRY had committed an offense described as "roaming about from place to place without lawful business," same coming as a violation of Section 647, Subdivision 3 of the Penal Code of California. The complaint was dated January 2, 1943, and signed by C. C. GARRISON, who Judge GRIFFIN explained is a lieutenant in the Beverly Hills Police Department. The records reflected that on the same date on a plea of guilty she was sentenced to ninety days in the County Jail, the same suspended on the condition that she keep out of Beverly Hills.

Next in the file under date of May 8, 1943, appears the record that she came into the city court and her sentence was changed to sixty days suspended on the condition that she keep out of Beverly Hills. She was at that time charged with violation of her probation. Judge GRIFFIN said that neither officer WHITE or any others appeared before him prior to her being brought into court to discuss the case.

Continuing, the Judge said that about the 10th of May this case broke in the newspapers. He said that he had been contacted by FLORABELLE MUIR, West Coast representative for the "Daily News" agency, who apparently was vitally interested in the case. From her he said he obtained a lot of information concerning BERRY'S association with CHAPLIN.

*b7c* The file next reflects a letter under date of May 12, 1943, to CECIL D. HOLLAND from [REDACTED] physician in the County Jail. It reflected that in pursuance of a telephonic communication between HOLLAND and CRAHAN, the latter was as of that date furnishing a report of an examination of BERRY, which reflected that she was pregnant.

In this connection, Judge GRIFFIN said that on the previous day, namely, May 11, 1943, CECIL D. HOLLAND had called him on the 'phone. He said that in his office was a friend of Miss BERRY'S. GRIFFIN understood that it was a woman. Further, that this friend of BERRY'S had asked him, HOLLAND, to represent BERRY. HOLLAND continued by saying that "JOAN BERRY is pregnant and in order to get her out of the County Jail and into a sanitarium where she can be treated for this condition, will you give her a suspended sentence and after she has been treated will you send her out of the State?" The Judge said that he considered this a strange request and told him that he couldn't do it, and further that the following day when BERRY did appear in court represented by HOLLAND, he again told him that he couldn't order her to leave the state after she had been treated for this

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condition. There was no transcript made of the statements of the Judge that day. So on May 12, 1943, the records reflect that her sentence was modified and she was ordered released as of that date.

In discussing this request of HOLLAND, GRIFFIN said that it looked to him as if HOLLAND was representing CHAPLIN and his interests much more than he was BERRY'S.

On June 10, 1943, the records in Judge GRIFFIN'S court reflect the filing of a motion to vacate judgment previously entered against BERRY and to vacate the plea of guilty which she had given in open court. Judge GRIFFIN explained that the type of motion which was made was such that if granted it would be an admission on his part that he had erred in his previous sentence of BERRY on the facts as they appeared to him. He stated that he recalled that HOLLAND and IRWIN came in together at the time the motion was filed, and that IRWIN told him at that time that he had just entered the case and was not too familiar with all the proceedings. Judge GRIFFIN stated that he then called IRWIN into his chambers after the motion had been filed, and told him that inasmuch as he was new in the case he didn't want to surprise him, and he just wanted to let him know that as far as he was concerned there had been no error in his judgment and that he was not going to grant the motion. GRIFFIN stated that he told IRWIN that apparently the public had gotten the wrong impression of his judgment and that in order to clear it up if the motion was pressed, he intended to have Miss BERRY come in on the stand and bring out the whole picture in open court. He stated that he definitely felt that he had been justified in sentencing Miss BERRY on a vagrancy charge on the basis of the facts as presented to him.

The matter was set over until June 18, 1943 and the day before court was to convene, FLORABELLE MUIR came in. He felt that she had probably been sent by BERRY'S attorneys to find out what action he was going to take, and he told her the same thing that he had told IRWIN. He did point out, however, that if a motion was filed under Sections 1203 - .3 and .4, which allow for the change of plea from guilty to not guilty, he would allow it. Such a motion was filed the next day, June 18, 1943, and it was at that time that a transcript was made of the record. It was then that S. S. HAHN made his public appearance which is a matter of record in the Clerk's Office, Beverly Hills City Court. It is noted on reading same that HAHN made the statement that he had made a full investigation of this case and felt that justice was being done. He commended the action of GRIFFIN.

Conversation was again brought around to what WHITE had told him when he came into the Judge's Chambers on January 2, 1943. On this occasion he stated that WHITE had told him that CHAPLIN would pay BERRY'S railroad fare to New York if she was given a suspended sentence. He continued that the thought occurred to him that this was more than the usual type of case where movie struck girls

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were bothering stars, but he said he thought no more about it, and finally in discussing this interview a third time, Judge GRIFFIN said that WHITE told him if BERRY was given a floater out of the state, CHAPLIN would pay her fare to New York, and the Judge said that he told WHITE that this was not the type of a case where such action was warranted.

During this interview after court, the Judge said he had not been able to find the transcript which has been previously mentioned, and was waiting until the Clerk of the Court got back to his office because he didn't want to make inquiry of his employees in there. He placed a call with the Clerk who subsequently brought in another file which concerned this case. The Clerk on coming into the office said that the City Attorney for Beverly Hills asked him why the Judge wanted this file. The Clerk said he gave him no answer and made the statement that he would keep the Bureau's interest and presence that day in Beverly Hills Court confidential. The Judge said he would do likewise.

On examination of this file by the Judge he displayed for Agents' perusal statements taken by the City Attorney of Beverly Hills from various police officers in their department. It appeared that the City Attorney had questioned them probably the same time that GROSSMAN and TOWER from the District Attorney's Office were obtaining their statements. It was noted in the statement taken from Chief of Police Anderson by Attorney RICHARD C. WALTZ that ANDERSON stated ARDEN came in to see him the day after the story broke in the newspapers. ANDERSON placed this date as either Friday or Saturday, June 4th or 5th. ARDEN wanted to discuss this case with the Chief and ANDERSON told him that he was not interested.

Statements were obtained from Officer MARPLE, Policewoman RENO, and WHITE. WHITE in his statement said that ARDEN had called him on the 'phone before he came over to talk to him.

These statements were given to Agents to examine by Judge GRIFFIN, and it was noted that there was a memorandum prepared by Judge GRIFFIN himself directed to the City Council of Beverly Hills. He did not make this memorandum available at this time in fact he made no mention of it, nor was he asked to produce it.

In closing, Judge GRIFFIN suggested that no doubt Agents would desire to talk with the Chief of Police and interested members of the Beverly Hills Police Department. He was told that that would of course be done, but it was understood that WHITE was out of town, and he was requested to keep the Bureau's contact with him confidential, which he again assured Agents he would do.

On January 8, 1944 agents interviewed Judge GRIFFIN in the office of United States Attorney CHARLES H. CARR.

Judge GRIFFIN had previously called Mr. CARR and requested the interview and had advised that Mayor ARTHUR L. ERBE of Beverly Hills would accompany him. Mr. ERBE was present at all times during the interview.

Judge GRIFFIN stated that his first contact with JOAN BERRY was on Saturday, January 2, 1943 when she was brought before their court. He explained that January 2, 1943 was Saturday and was not a regular court day, but that in the case of women prisoners it is usually customary to call a special session of the court when it appears that the women would otherwise be kept in jail over the week end. This is because the matron is paid on an hourly basis and it cuts her time and payments down. GRIFFIN went on to say that before BERRY herself actually appeared he was in his chambers and Captain WHITE, Chief of Detectives at Beverly Hills, came into his chambers and said that there was a girl named JOAN BERRY who was in jail on a vagrancy charge and who had been causing a disturbance at the home of CHARLES CHAPLIN. WHITE said at this time that if BERRY pleaded guilty her fare would be paid to New York, providing Judge GRIFFIN would make it a term of her probation that she leave the state of California. GRIFFIN stated that WHITE also gave him some background information about JOAN BERRY, but GRIFFIN was unable to state specifically what it was that WHITE had told him. He stated that at the time the girl was sentenced he had before him Captain WHITE'S report, which was written up as a result of WHITE'S interrogation of the girl. This report contained quite a bit of information about JOAN BERRY'S background and association with CHAPLIN and the Judge explained that although he knows WHITE told him something of BERRY'S background in his chambers before court, he cannot differentiate between what WHITE told him at this time and what he eventually learned through reading WHITE'S report. GRIFFIN further stated that after WHITE asked him if he could make it a term of the girl's probation that she leave the state of California, he told WHITE he would be less interested in CHAPLIN'S suggestions of how he should run his court than anyone else's. He explained that he had no fondness for CHAPLIN and that he remembers being angry when WHITE made this suggestion to him.

Shortly after this BERRY was brought before him in the court on a charge of vagrancy. At this point during the interview GRIFFIN started to open a file which he had brought with him. This file apparently contained all the records of the Clerk of the Court of Beverly Hills. He withdrew one paper which was the report of Sergeant MARPLE dated January 1, 1943 explaining that he had all police reports and records before him at the time she was sentenced. GRIFFIN pointed specifically to a pencil notation on the back of MARPLE'S report which indicated that BERRY had been arrested in 1938 in Los Angeles for stealing a dress. As GRIFFIN handed this paper to United States Attorney CARR, he said, "I want to call your attention to the notations on the back." He continued, "We are the only ones that see that and no mention of this was made in court that day. This is the first time it has come out." Mr. CARR then spoke up and asked him to explain what was on the back that he was referring to and GRIFFIN read off the notation which he explained was the arrest record of JOAN

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BERRY back in 1938 in Los Angeles for Petty Theft. This he further explained was obtained by the Beverly Hills Identification Division and it is customary to place such notations on the back of the police reports. GRIFFIN implied from the foregoing that when he sentenced the girl, he had in mind this previous arrest record. At this point Mr. CARR spoke up again and said, "Wait a minute, Judge, do you mean to tell me that this notation on the back of this report was there at the time you sentenced the girl?" GRIFFIN did not answer this question directly but appeared to be in great thought over the matter. He first said, "Well, I am not sure whether it was on there", and then he said, "Come to think of it, it was not on there at the time that I sentenced her."

Getting back to the appearance of JOAN BERRY in court, GRIFFIN stated that he recited to her a standard form which he used with all prisoners and which apprises the prisoner of his or her rights. He then read the complaint to her, telling her that she was charged with vagrancy and that she had been loitering from place to place without visible means of support. GRIFFIN then said he asked BERRY if she pleaded guilty or not guilty and at this time she pleaded guilty. He stated that BERRY herself did not say anything more about the sentence at this time. He said that the matron was sitting out in the courtroom and that he doesn't know whether BERRY turned and looked at her or not. GRIFFIN said that he told BERRY at this time that it had been suggested to him that she be sent out of the state and he said that he could not send her out of the state because the nature of her offense did not warrant such punishment as a term of probation. GRIFFIN said that he asked BERRY if she wanted to stay in California and she said yes she did, and he then asked her about possible employment, and she said she had a screen test coming up at Metro and that she thought she was able to support herself. GRIFFIN said he then imposed a sentence on her of ninety days in the County Jail suspended and placed her on probation for one year, on the condition that she keep out of Beverly Hills and pay her hotel bills. He explained that he made the condition that she pay her hotel bills because she had told him that she could get a job and that he therefore felt that she should be obligated to pay her bills. GRIFFIN stated that he learned of her hotel bills by reading the arrest reports of Captain WHITE and Sergeant MARPLE.

In trying to be a little more specific about what actually occurred in the courtroom, GRIFFIN stated he said to her in open court that he understood a friend of CHAPLIN'S would pay her way out of the State and it was at this point that she said that she wanted to stay. GRIFFIN said that he remembered the girl being dressed in prison garb and that he does not remember her being in court dressed in a fur coat. GRIFFIN also said that he never at any time talked to ROBERT ARDEN or CHARLES CHAPLIN. GRIFFIN was then asked if he could remember a little more definitely what JOAN had said in court outside of that which is set out above and he stated that he was not able to remember anything else. He justified his handling of the girl at this time on the basis of her having no money, no place to go and owing hotel bills around Beverly Hills.

GRIFFIN stated that he had no further connection with the case until May 8, 1943, and this was also a Saturday morning and a special session of the court was held for the same reason as previously mentioned. GRIFFIN stated that on this occasion WHITE again came into see him before the girl was brought into court and told him that JOAN BERRY who was on probation was back in Beverly Hills and was up at the CHAPLIN house annoying him and trying to force her way into the house. GRIFFIN said that the girl was then brought before him and he reviewed the terms of her probation with her and told her that she was in violation of her probation by being back in Beverly Hills. GRIFFIN recalled that at this time JOAN asked him if she could talk to him alone and he said that if she had anything to say to say it there. GRIFFIN then explained that after he later found out that the girl was pregnant, he felt in his own mind that this was probably what she wanted to tell him about and said that if he had known at this time that JOAN was pregnant, he would have talked to her, but he said that from her physical appearance it was not evident that she was pregnant. GRIFFIN then said that he held her in violation of her probation and modified her sentence by suspending sixty of the ninety days and giving her thirty days in the County Jail. She was committed to the County Jail on May 8, 1943.

GRIFFIN stated that on Tuesday, May 11, 1943, he received a telephone call from Judge HOLLAND of Beverly Hills. By this time the publicity had already come out in the newspapers. According to GRIFFIN, HOLLAND said over the telephone, "There is a woman client here in my office who is a friend of JOAN BERRY'S and wants me to represent her". HOLLAND went on to say, "The girl is pregnant and I would like for you to consider a motion to modify her probation so that she can be sent to a sanitarium and afterwards out of the state". GRIFFIN replied, "If the girl is pregnant I have no desire to keep her in jail. If you will bring me a statement of her doctor verifying her pregnancy, I will release her." GRIFFIN said that the next day HOLLAND appeared in his court with a letter from a doctor stating that an examination of the girl had reflected that she was five months pregnant. HOLLAND made a motion for modification of probation and this was granted. GRIFFIN, however, still did not allow her to come into Beverly Hills except to see her lawyer. GRIFFIN also stated that in open court when HOLLAND was before him, that he made the statement to HOLLAND that if the girl was pregnant he would release her, but as far as HOLLAND'S recommendation that she be sent to a sanitarium and out of the state was concerned, that he could not so sentence the girl. GRIFFIN remembered at this point that when HOLLAND called him on the telephone and made the statements that he did, that he felt HOLLAND was in cahoots with the CHAPLIN interests.

GRIFFIN went on to say that later in the day following the proceedings, he ran into HOLLAND and a newspaper reporter coming out of the Clerk's office. In the corridor HOLLAND remarked to the reporter and GRIFFIN that the newspapers were wrong that CHAPLIN was not the father of the child and as a matter of fact, the true father was not connected with the motion picture industry in any way. GRIFFIN stated that he thought this was a rather unusual statement for HOLLAND

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to make since he was representing the girl and that this was also another indication in his mind that HOLLAND was working for the CHAPLIN interests.

GRIFFIN recalled that some time after that he remembers talking to HOLLAND over the 'phone and HOLLAND asked him if he, GRIFFIN, was going to make a statement in view of the criticisms that had been running in the editorial columns of several newspapers. GRIFFIN explained that he felt that he had handled the case in a proper manner and as a matter of fact after the publicity started he contacted Mayor ERBE of Beverly Hills and asked for an investigation in order to satisfy the city fathers. GRIFFIN said he also wrote a letter dated May 27, 1943, to FRED HOWSER, Los Angeles District Attorney asking for an investigation and pledging his full cooperation in this respect.

On Friday, June 4, 1943, GRIFFIN stated that HOLLAND, WOODMANSEE, and JACK IRWIN came to his court. HOLLAND had previously called GRIFFIN on the telephone and told him he wanted to file a motion to vacate the judgment in the BERRY case and to enter a plea of not guilty. GRIFFIN told them that they would have to make such a motion through regular channels and get the motion on file. When they finally appeared in court GRIFFIN told them he would not consider such a motion because he felt his judgment had been proper, that he had asked for an investigation and that he was willing to have BERRY come in and have the whole thing aired in court.

On June 11, 1943 GRIFFIN said that JACK IRWIN came up to file the motion to set aside the judgment and GRIFFIN called him into his chambers and told him that he would not want to surprise him in open court and he knew IRWIN had just come into the case, but that he definitely would not grant such a motion since he felt that he had handled the case in a satisfactory manner. IRWIN at this time told GRIFFIN that he intended to change the type of motion previously mentioned. IRWIN subsequently did change the type of motion and at this point GRIFFIN explained that the details of his eventual dismissal of the case are part of the court record and are available exactly as set down.

During the course of the above interview several points were brought to GRIFFIN'S attention. He was asked why in the first place if he knew that BERRY had been a protegee of CHAPLIN'S, had been under contract to him, and apparently had been associating with him for some time, he did not make some attempt to contact CHAPLIN and make further inquiry as to just who the girl was and whether she actually was a vagrant. GRIFFIN said that he could not explain this, that he probably had made a mistake, by not looking into it further, but he had not done it wilfully. GRIFFIN was very prone to bring up the point at various times that he had treated the case as just any ordinary vagrancy case. It was then pointed out to Judge GRIFFIN that the case must have been more than just an ordinary case since so many people were going to so much trouble about the girl: First, that WHITE had come into his chambers before the hearing; secondly, that a representative of CHAPLIN was willing to pay her way out of

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the State and give her \$100.00 besides; Third, she had been under contract to CHAPLIN; Fourth, that she had a screen test coming up at Metro; Fifth, that she was wearing an expensive fur coat when she appeared in the courtroom; Sixth, that the Judge had been asked to send her out of the State. GRIFFIN admitted that all these facts probably would indicate that the case was not just like any other vagrancy case, but he was at a loss to explain why he did not make any further inquiry. He said that he was definitely not paid off by CHAPLIN. He denied that he was influenced by CHAPLIN'S position of prominence and he denied being a part of any conspiracy to get rid of the girl.

During the interview GRIFFIN was apparently refreshing his memory from a statement dated June 14, 1943, addressed to the Honorable City Council, Beverly Hills, California, and signed by Judge GRIFFIN, which statement sets out in detail GRIFFIN'S handling of the JOAN BERRY case. GRIFFIN asked Agents and Mr. CARR if they desired to have a copy of this statement and Mayor ERBE concurred in the offer. The statement was given to the Agents, with the understanding that it would be taken to the Federal Bureau of Investigation Office and copied and returned by mail to Mayor ERBE in Beverly Hills, California, which was done.

The above mentioned statement, dated June 14, 1943 is set out below:

"STATEMENT OF CHARLES J. GRIFFIN, Judge of the City Court  
of Beverly Hills

re: JOAN BERRY - Case #D2445

Beverly Hills, Calif.  
June 14, 1943

"Honorable City Council  
Beverly Hills, California

Gentlemen:

The following is a full and complete statement of all matters relating to the Joan Berry case in the City Court of Beverly Hills insofar as participation therein by the writer, either directly or indirectly.

There appeared for arraignment on the Court Calendar on Saturday morning, January 2, 1943, the case of PEOPLE vs. JOAN BERRY, No. D2445, charging the defendant with violation of Subdivision 3 of the Penal Code, Section 647, to wit: 'Every person who roams about from place to place without any lawful business is a vagrant.'

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"Before Court that morning, the Beverly Police Officer who was to appear in connection with the Court Calendar and submit the arrest reports in respect to the cases on the Calendar, talked with me in Chambers. It is my recollection this was Captain W. W. White, though I cannot so state positively, it being a routine procedure for an officer to be present at all hearings for the aforementioned purposes.

This officer told me that the girl who was to appear before me that morning on a charge of vagrancy had also been creating a disturbance at the Chaplin residence and that if I sentenced her to leave the State, Chaplin would pay her fare to New York. The officer did not state who had given him this information, and I do not know, as this was the only time that this proposal was mentioned to me. I expressed my sentiments to the officer, the gist of which was that the Court in sentencing the girl was only interested in the case before it, and not in Chaplin's problems.

When the case was called in open Court that morning, Joan Berry was informed of her constitutional rights. The complaint was read to her, and she entered a plea of "Guilty". Thereupon the Court read the arrest report. Before sentencing the defendant I discussed the case with her relative to her future plans. I cannot state definitely, but it is my recollection that I even told her of the Chaplin proposition, but I do know definitely that I said to her that there was nothing in the record in connection with the case before the Court which would justify a sentence requiring her to leave the State provided she wished to remain in the State and could procure legitimate employment.

I then asked her if she would desire to remain in the State, to which she replied 'Yes'. I then asked her if she could procure employment, to which she responded, 'Yes, I have a screen test coming up next week'. Thereupon the Court imposed the sentence, to-wit: 'Ninety Days in the County Jail, suspended and placed on probation one year on condition that she keep out of Beverly Hills and pay her hotel bills'.

This latter condition relative to hotel bills was because the statement of the detectives showed that she owed bills of considerable sums at four hotels. I had in mind that if she was to continue a resident of California and secure employment therein, that she should at some future date take care of these obligations.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This Case  
Originated At: LOS ANGELES

File No. 31-5301

Report Made At: LOS ANGELES  
Date When Made: 5/4/44  
Period for which made: 2/25-5/4/44

Report Made By: *[Redacted]*  
HA  
HB  
RD  
LCH

CHANGED

CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN; ROBERT EUGENE ARDEN, was. Rudolph Kiegler, Rudolph Kligler, Raoul R. Kligler, Rudolph Kliegler, Rudolph Klegler; WILLIAM W. WHITE; CHARLES J. GRIFFIN; CLAUDE RAY MARPLE; JESSIE WINIFRED RENO, was.; "Billie" Rene; THOMAS WELLS DURANT, was.; Tim Durant; MARY LOUISE GRIBBLE, was.: Joan Berry, Joan Barry, Mary Louise Berry, Joan Barratt, Mary L. Barrett, Joanne Berry, Jo Anne Berry, Bettie Booker, Joan Spencer, Mrs. Mark Warner, Catherine McLafen, Mary L. Spencer - VICTIM.

Character of Case:  
VIOLATION OF CIVIL LIBERTIES;  
VIOLATION OF CIVIL LIBERTIES (CONSPIRACY)

Snyopsis of Facts: VIOLATION OF CIVIL LIBERTIES, AND CONSPIRACY

Federal Grand Jury, Los Angeles, Calif. on 2/10/44 returned 3 indictments charging CHAPLIN, et al, with violation U.S. Code, Title 18, Sections 51, 52 and 58, conspiracy in violation of civil liberties of JOAN BERRY. Subjects arraigned 2/21/44 and 5/9/44 is date set for arguments on demurrers and motions to quash which were filed 3/9/44. However, on 4/14/44 Federal Judge J.F.T.O'CONNOR sustained plea in bar filed by Subject Judge CHARLES J. GRIFFIN and dismissed him; exception allowed the Government. No appeal taken to date. These indictments based on activities of Subjects subsequent to arrest of BERRY 1/1/43 by Beverly Hills Police in the person of Subject CLAUDE R. MARPLE; the appearance of ROBERT ARDEN, admittedly acting for CHAPLIN, before Capt. W.W. WHITE of that Police Department to request Judge GRIFFIN to send BERRY out of State of Calif. On 1/2/43 BERRY sentenced by GRIFFIN to 90 days in jail, suspended on condition she leave Beverly Hills, Calif. and pay hotel bills. GRIFFIN had been advised

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DATE: 8-13-57

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Special Agent In Charge

31-68496-256

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- 3 - Los Angeles

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by ARDEN that CHAPLIN would pay the bills and her transportation to New York. Capt. WHITE escorted BERRY to train 1/5/43. After BERRY'S return to Calif. in April, 1943, and visit to CHAPLIN'S home 5/7/43 allegedly to advise him that she was pregnant by him, Subject TIM DURANT called Beverly Hills Police to have her re-arrested. Following day GRIFFIN sentenced BERRY to 30 days in jail. 5/11/43 evidence reflects that DURANT, working in CHAPLIN'S interests, had MINNA WALLS obtain services of Judge CECIL D. HOLLAND, who got BERRY out of jail with the original idea of putting her in a sanitarium and thereafter sending her out of state. Results of interview with all Subjects and principal witnesses, excepting CHAPLIN who has never been interviewed, set out. All deny conspiracy. "However, ARDEN and WHITE both admit conversation wherein idea was to "float" BERRY out of the state in Jan., 1943. Question of further prosecution of Subjects under above-mentioned indictments has been referred to the Department by U.S. Attorney CHARLES H. CARR. [REDACTED] Disposition sheet reflecting acquittal of CHAPLIN on Mann Act charges 4/4/44 submitted herewith.

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-P-

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REFERENCE: Reports of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated at Los Angeles, February 25 and April 13, 1944.

"When she appeared in Court that morning, she was clothed in jail garb and not wearing any furs as stated in a recent newspaper article. She was then taken from the Court and this concluded the case at that time.

About two days later, in a conversation with Mayor Arthur L. Erb I mentioned the case to him, only because of the suggestion relative to a sentence requiring the girl to leave the State, and only for the purpose of expressing my opinion concerning the suggestion and the person from whom it was supposed to emanate.

I heard nothing more concerning the defendant, knew nothing as to where she went upon leaving the jail, or how she was removed from the jail, or who accompanied her, or that she was accompanied to a train, or that she left the State, until Saturday morning, May 8, 1943, when she was again brought before me in Court for a hearing to determine whether or not she should be held in violation of probation. At that time the officer's report was presented to me stating that she had caused a disturbance at the Chaplin home where she was taken in custody by the officers. I reviewed the terms of the sentence imposed in January and also my conversation with her relative to employment, and particularly that it was with the understanding that she keep out of the City that the sentence was suspended. I thereupon held her in violation of probation and modified the probationary sentence by suspending sixty of the ninety days, and ordered her to serve thirty days in the County Jail. The Commitment was then signed and she was delivered to the County Jail.

Up to this time the girl had not been represented by counsel, although in stating her constitutional rights I had informed her that she was entitled to counsel at all stages of the proceedings. It is my recollection that in the papers of Monday evening, May 10, or Tuesday morning, May 11, there appeared the first news articles stating that she was in the County Jail, and a protege of Charles Chaplin.

Late Tuesday afternoon, May 11, while I was in Chambers after a Court session, I received a telephone call from Judge Cecil D. Holland. He stated that there was a woman in his office who was a friend of Joan Berry, and that she had asked him to represent Miss Berry. He further stated that he had been informed that Miss Berry was pregnant and under the circumstances would I consider releasing her from jail to be placed in a sanitarium and later to leave the

"State. I told Judge Holland that if a statement from a physician was presented to me, to the effect that the defendant was pregnant, I would most certainly release her.

The following afternoon, Wednesday, May 12, Judge Holland appeared in the Court and presented a letter signed by the jail physician, Los Angeles County Jail, in which it was stated that, based on the physical examination, a condition was disclosed consistent with five-months pregnancy. He then moved the Court to modify the terms of probation so as to allow the defendant's release from the jail due to her physical condition, and that she be placed in a sanitarium. I then stated to Judge Holland, that in accordance with our telephone conversation of the previous afternoon, he having now presented to me a doctor's statement indicating a condition of pregnancy, I would release the girl forthwith, but that I saw no necessity for making it a term of the sentence that she be placed in a sanitarium, or that at a later date she leave the State. The sentence was then modified, and the order for her release signed. Terms of probation were further modified at that time so as to permit her to come into Beverly Hills for the purpose of consulting her attorney.

Because of certain newspaper publicity and comments concerning the case, I spoke to Mayor Arthur L. Erb immediately after the appearance of the first of a series of editorials and asked that he inspect the records and make an investigation relative to the case. Later I talked to Fred N. Howser, District Attorney, and asked that his office make an investigation, and on May 27, 1943, wrote him a letter to that effect, as per Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made a part hereof.

On Friday, June 4, 1943, there appeared in Court Attorneys Cecil Holland, Barry Woodmansee and John Irwin, representing themselves as counsel for Joan Berry. This appearance was made without any notice other than a telephone call from Judge Holland shortly before noon of that day, at which time he stated that they wished to come into Court that afternoon to move for a dismissal of the case.

When they appeared in Court they stated that they desired to present a Motion to set aside the judgment and plea of 'Guilty' and ask for a dismissal of the case. I told them that I had requested an investigation in this case through the District Attorney's office and that, therefore, the

"District Attorney should have an opportunity to be represented at any hearing; that they should file a written notice of motion for a hearing on Friday, June 11, at 2:00 P.M. and that a written notice of said motion should be served upon the District Attorney. They asked if it would be necessary to have the defendant in Court. I stated that I would require her appearance in Court because the first matter that would be considered at the hearing would be that of clearing the record for the purpose of removing from the mind of the public confusion as to the facts surrounding the arrest and sentence; that the public had been lead to believe that the defendant had been arrested originally because she was disturbing Charles Chaplin, that the case had nothing to do with Chaplin, that she was arrested on Olympic Boulevard, and none of the facts in relation to the case before the Court on which she was sentenced involved Chaplin, that there was no connection in any way between this case and any civil act now pending.

On Friday, June 11, the defendant appeared with her Attorney, John Irwin. The District Attorney's office was represented by J. M. Leavy at that time. In open Court John Irwin made a statement that since he had come into the case as counsel he had made a full and complete investigation of all of the facts surrounding the case and had a full discussion of same with his client, and that with this full information it was his opinion as an attorney of considerable years practice that the proceedings were entirely regular and the Court could have imposed no other sentence under the circumstances.

He then asked permission to withdraw the motion theretofore filed, to-wit; Motion to vacate a judgment and plea of 'Guilty'. This motion, if granted, would have been a legal equivalent to an admission of error on the part of the Court. Prior to the Court appearance, Mr. Irwin, while in Chambers, had told me that the first motion filed had been hurriedly prepared without ample opportunity on his part to investigate all the facts of the case, and that he intended to withdraw the motion and substitute another motion. I told Mr. Irwin in Chambers that the motion on the form presented would be denied, because it was in the nature of a petition of error Coram Nobis, which would mean that there was error in the Court proceedings relative to the case; that there had been no error, that the girl had been fully advised of her constitutional rights, that she was calm and collected when she entered her plea, that the sentence was imposed only after fully discussing the case with her.

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"Mr. Irwin's motion for leave to withdraw the aforementioned motion was granted, and he then substituted a motion under the provisions of Penal Code 1203.3 and 1203.4, under which a Court has authority at any time during the term of probation to terminate the period of probation when the ends of justice will be subserved thereby, and when the good conduct and reform of the person so held on probation shall warrant it, and whereby every defendant, upon the termination of probation, if the conditions of probation have been fulfilled, has the right to withdraw the plea of 'Guilty' and enter a plea of 'Not Guilty', and the Court shall thereupon dismiss the case. This motion was then granted, after Mr. Irwin had stated to the Court that he considered it in the interest of justice due to the girl's condition, and also because her mother is now here to furnish her a home.

Mr. S. S. Hahn also spoke to the Court, as Attorney Amicus Curae, in support of the motion. He very kindly made favorable reference to the Court and the City Administration. The Court then terminated the period of probation as of June 11, permitting the defendant to change her plea to 'Not Guilty' and dismissed the case.

Very truly yours,

/s/ CHARLES J. GRIFFIN  
CHARLES J. GRIFFIN  
Judge of the City Court"

CJG/b

Encl: Exhibit "A"

GRIFFIN also had with him a letter addressed to the Honorable Fred N. Howser, District Attorney, Hall of Justice, Los Angeles, California, which he desired to call to the attention of the Agents. This letter is set out below:

"May 27, 1943

"Honorable Fred N. Howser  
District Attorney  
Hall of Justice  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mr. Howser:

A series of editorials are appearing currently in the

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"Hollywood-Citizen News criticizing the City Court and the Police Department of Beverly Hills relative to arrest and disposition of a case involving Joan Berry - being City Court Case No. D-2445.

Immediately upon the appearance of the first of these editorials I invited Arthur L. Erb, Mayor of Beverly Hills to investigate the record, and I should also appreciate and welcome an investigation of same by your office, as it is my desire to remove from the minds of any who are responsible for the proper enforcement of our laws any suspicion relative to the action of this Court in connection with this or any other case.

The records of the Police Department and Court will be available to you, and I personally shall be glad to answer any inquiries of your investigator.

Yours very truly,

Judge of the City Court  
Beverly Hills, California

CJG/b"

CAROL ROY  
c/o Law Offices of JOHN J. IRWIN  
5658 Wilshire Boulevard  
Los Angeles, California  
Telephone WALnut 1605

Miss ROY during the time that IRWIN was BERRY'S attorney, as has been previously reported, was a close friend of JOAN BERRY. On February 11, 1944, she advised the writer that her father, CHARLES ROY, attorney, told her that he had been talking that day with an attorney friend of his, one JOHN OSBORNE; that OSBORNE had said that he knew a girl who was Judge GRIFFIN'S secretary at one time and quit. Apparently this girl, whose first name is DOROTHY, either heard Judge GRIFFIN say, or saw some correspondence reflecting that he had cooperated with the Beverly Hills Police Department in getting JOAN BERRY out of town. ROY later advised that she understood this girl was still working for GRIFFIN, or at least was employed in the Clerk's Office, Beverly Hills, but she was unable to give any further information.

No investigation has been conducted to locate this girl for interview.

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CLAUDE R. MARPLE, SUBJECT

Background Information:

*b7c*  
[REDACTED]

CLAUDE RAY MARPLE  
9049 Nemo Street  
West Los Angeles, California  
Telephone: CRestview 5-6827

MARPLE was interviewed by agents in the Los Angeles Field Office on November 29, 1943. Agents had previously contacted Chief ANDERSON of the Beverly Hills Police Department and asked that MARPLE be made available for interview. ANDERSON agreed to this and accordingly Lieutenant MARPLE appeared at the FBI office.

MARPLE stated that he did not know JOAN BERRY and had never seen her before she came into the Beverly Hills Police Department some time between 1:00 and 2:00 A.M. on the morning of December 31, 1942. He recalled that she walked in the front door and at that time she was wearing an expensive looking fur coat. MARPLE explained that he was in charge at that time and he took her into the Commanding Officer's room, which is just to the left of the booking desk. MARPLE stated there was no one in the room with him at the time, but there was a clerk, MILTON McINTYRE, in the outer office.

MARPLE said "She didn't seem to be very hysterical so I took her back and asked her what was the matter." "Oh, she said, I'm in trouble!" "Well, I says, what is your trouble." "Oh I can't tell you." I said "If you don't tell me and I don't know your trouble how am I going to help you if you are in trouble" and she kept crying and going on. "I kept trying there for over some fifteen or twenty minutes to find out just what her trouble was but I couldn't get anything out of her - - all I could get out of her was her name. I asked her where she lived. She says "I've got no place to live." I asked her where her mother was and she said her mother was back in New York."

MARPLE recalled that BERRY did say something about her father being dead and that she had no relatives or friends around Los Angeles. MARPLE continued "I said why don't you go to a hotel. I said after all, you can't stick around here. We have no place for you. She said she didn't have no money. So it went on that way and she kept from time to time saying Oh, CHARLES! CHARLES! Well, I had no idea who CHARLES WAS - in fact I, if I remember right, I asked her, well, who is CHARLES? And she wouldn't tell me. So I finally got disgusted and told her - Well, I says, I certainly can't help

you if I don't know what is the matter with you but after all, you can't stay around here and you better get to thinking and think of someplace you can go. So after awhile she says, well, she says, if you will let me to a telephone maybe I can find a place to go. So O.K., I told her, if you know the number and she says she did. So I gave her a telephone. She called somebody and talked to them and I didn't pay much attention what she said but she said I have a place to go so I already had a matron on duty - we call a matron there when we need one on duty regularly. I went up and waked her up - we had her on duty - another woman was drunk or something of the kind, I don't remember the circumstances and the matron came down and we went out and got in the police car - the matron and her and I and I said, now where are we going and she says 9709 Olympic. So I took her down on Olympic and I started to get out of the car and she asked me not to go up with her. Well, I says, the matron is going up with you anyway, I want to see that you get in some place. So the matron took her into this apartment house and it was only a minute or two before she came back and I asked her where she went. Well, she said, she went into that back apartment up there on the lefthand and that was Apartment No. 21, if I remember right. I wrote it down this morning - I'll look here for it - No, Apartment No. 23. Apartment No. 23.

MARPLE was asked what the matron said when she took BERRY up in the apartment. MARPLE said that the matron told him that she heard a man's voice when the door of the apartment opened but that she didn't get a very good look at him and BERRY went in and that was the last she saw of her. MARPLE recalled that when she had called this person at 9709 Olympic Boulevard on the telephone that she only talked to him for a minute or two and did not mention his name. MARPLE also recalled that he talked to BERRY in the police station about twenty minutes. She didn't say at that time where she had been or what she had been doing.

MARPLE was asked specifically if she appeared to be drunk or under the influence of liquor or drugs and he replied "She had some liquor on her breath. She wasn't drunk - she had had something to drink." MARPLE said that BERRY, while being interviewed, didn't mention what her job was or whether she was interested in motion pictures, nor did she mention CHAPLIN's name. MARPLE said that while he was gone with BERRY and matron RENO, the clerk was in charge of the station.

MARPLE was asked if when someone comes into the station like BERRY did if it is the usual thing for an officer to take them home. He replied "not in all cases. I wouldn't at all if she had had any money for cab fare, but she said she didn't have a dime, so as a matter of mostly courtesy to her I just called the matron and took her down there."

MARPLE said that he did not look into BERRY's pocket book nor did he examine anything in her purse. MARPLE was again asked if she mentioned anything about CHAPLIN while she was in the station and he said "No,

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not so that I could identify him with her at all, but since then I know she must have meant CHAPLIN when she spoke of CHARLES." MARPLE said that he couldn't recall RENO talking to her that night and added that he was sure she didn't because he was with RENO and BERRY at all times, except when they went up to the apartment.

RENO said that after taking BERRY to the apartment at 9709 Olympic Boulevard, he returned to the police station and made notes on the daily report merely to the effect that she came in and was taken to the Olympic Boulevard address. MARPLE said that he never wrote a full report of the first night but rather incorporated it into the report that he wrote after BERRY came in the following night for the second time.

MARPLE said that he did not contact Captain WHITE that night since he didn't think her visit to the station amounted to very much, but that he did see Captain WHITE the following morning.

MARPLE continued that on the next morning, which was New Year's morning, he was very busy and that at about 2:22A.M. he received a telephone call that there was a woman in a car at 9709 Olympic who had taken poison or was injured. MARPLE said it was a woman's voice and she hung up almost immediately. MARPLE said he did not know who it was that made the call. He said he immediately called for the ambulance to go down to this address and that he himself took a car and went down alone to Olympic Boulevard.

MARPLE continued "That's right. And I looked in this car - I began looking - there were three or four cars parked in front of this apartment on the street. So at about the first car I came to I found this girl stretched out in the seat of this car. So, I took my flash light and looked around to see if there was any bottle of poison or anything like that I could see at the time and I hadn't been there over three or four minutes. I don't believe until the ambulance arrived. I flagged them with my flash light and they came and took this girl out of the seat of this car and lifted her into the ambulance and started back. As soon as they left, remembering the apartment she went to, I thought, well, I will go up to this apartment and see what I can find out about this dame. So I went up to this apartment. The matron had told me which one it was. The lights were on in it. I went to the telephone, or rather I mean the doorbell, and I could get no answer from the apartment. Well, then, I came back downstairs and in the meantime somebody had come up and taken this car away. It was gone. This was a Buick Convertible Coupe. I had taken the license number 5 X 8922, that is registered to R. J. CLEMENS, 858 North Fairfax Avenue, Los Angeles. Well, I stood there and kind of scratched my head then to think they could get away so damn quick and while I was standing there a fellow came running up to me and told me that he was a reporter from the Examiner. He said our office about half an hour or forty minutes ago got a call there was an actress by the name of JOAN BERRY had committed suicide out here somewhere in this neighborhood. I said is that so. That's damn funny. You must have heard

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about it before I did for I haven't been here over ten minutes. So I asked him his name and he gave me the name of CARL McCLUNG and we talked this matter over a little bit.

MARPLE stated that he was around 9709 Olympic Boulevard that night about fifteen minutes and then he went right back to the police station. MARPLE said that he didn't go directly to the hospital but did some work at the station and about an hour after he had received the call he went over to the hospital. He said that there was an intern at the hospital and that he asked him what the doctor said. The intern told him that there appeared to be nothing the matter with BERRY and MARPLE asked the intern what the discoloration was on BERRY's lips. The intern told him it might be iodine or manganese or some kind of stain but that BERRY had not actually taken poison.

MARPLE could not remember whether he talked to the intern in BERRY's presence or not. MARPLE continued "So I went in then and I more or less ripped into her. I said what in hell is the idea in pulling something like this and she more or less sniffled around about it and bawled a little and I said well, there is only just one thing to do with you under the circumstances. I might say too when we picked her up she was dressed in mens pajamas and had on mens carpet slippers or house slippers. That's the second night." MARPLE also recalled that she had on a mans bathrobe too.

MARPLE said that the hospital and police station are both located in the City Hall Building so he just walked her over to the station and told the clerk to book her. He said that she appeared to be perfectly all right but that he seems to remember that she had some liquor on her breath. He admitted, however, that he was not sure of this. MARPLE said that on the way over to the station BERRY didn't mention CHAPLIN's name. He said she came very willingly and answered the questions when she was booked. He also asked what her occupation was and she said actress.

MARPLE recalled, however, that on the arrest report it indicates that she stated her last employer was CHARLES CHAPLIN. MARPLE was asked how extensively he questioned BERRY before he booked her. He replied "I asked her if she had any friends and she said no, and she had no money and no place to go. She didn't know anybody and so forth and so on. So far as I could see she was just more or less a vagrant."

MARPLE said he asked her about the fellow she had been staying with but BERRY told him that she couldn't go back there. MARPLE stated that she did not ask to use the telephone and that she did not protest them being booked. MARPLE said that he called RENO on this occasion and she came over to the police station from her home. MARPLE said that he questioned her very little and that he judged that about an hour and a half had elapsed from the time he got the telephone call until she was booked and taken upstairs.

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MARPLE said that as a rule he leaves the questioning to the Detectives the next day. MARPLE said that RENO took her upstairs and that RENO never mentioned having any trouble with her at the time. MARPLE was asked if he received or made any telephone calls in connection with BERRY's being at the police station. He replied "No, I did not. However, a little later on, it must have been, Oh, I don't know, around - anyway, we had her upstairs about 11:30. I would judge in the morning when I got a telephone call from a watchman up at the, he said he was a watchman, CHAPLIN estate. He wanted to know if I had heard anything of a JOAN BERRY. I said yes, I have got her in jail. He said, Good, that's where the son of a bitch belongs. I said, what do you know about her? Well, he said, she was up here early in the evening - come up in a cab, said she had no money for cab fare, said she had a fur coat on and he said she was going to give the fur coat to the cab driver to secure his cab fare and instead he said he took the fur coat and paid the driver and kept the fur coat for security for myself. He said, I have got the fur coat and I wanted to report it in case she reports it was stolen or something like that. He said, I have got her fur coat up here."

MARPLE said that the night watchman said BERRY had been coming up to the CHAPLIN house raising hell around there on the night of January 1st. He said the watchman didn't say anything about CHAPLIN but just identified himself as being a watchman at CHAPLIN's house. MARPLE said that he neither made or received any other telephone calls in connection with BERRY. MARPLE also said that he did not know ROBERT ARDEN but had just heard his name and read about him in the newspaper, but he does not remember ARDEN coming around the police station that night.

MARPLE stated that he left the police station about 8:00 that morning, and that before he left he mentioned the case to Captain WHITE, who read his report and said "well, so far as I can see this will just go through as a vag - that is all I can see that she is." MARPLE said he wasn't present when Captain WHITE questioned her, inasmuch as he had gone on home. He said that WHITE did not indicate to him whether he knew who JOAN BERRY was.

MARPLE said that the following evening when he came on duty he just took a look at BERRY in jail as part of his routine inspection of the jail. He said that the matron didn't tell him anything about how BERRY had been behaving that night.

Coming down to the night of May 7, 1943, MARPLE was asked if he recalled a telephone call coming to the Beverly Hills Police Station from BERRY on the night of May 6, 1943. He said that he does not recall such a telephone call but suggested that it might have gone to the Detective Bureau. He admitted, however, that any calls coming into the police station at night are usually answered by the clerk or himself when he is on duty, and it is possible that the clerk might have referred the call directly to the Detective Bureau.

MARPLE stated that the first time he heard of BERRY in May of 1963 was on the night of the 7th when Detective JOE GEBHART brought her in and told him to book BERRY for violation of her probation. He said he did this. MARPLE did not know how GEBHART happened to pick BERRY up other than what he might have read in arrest reports later. MARPLE said that he definitely didn't tell GEBHART to go out and pick up BERRY. He pointed out that the detectives are under the orders of Captain HITE but that the department possibly might have heard of BERRY violating her probation and had GEBHART pick her up.

MARPLE recalled that BERRY was brought in around 8:00 or 8:30 P.M. and that she was dressed in a white blouse and some kind of colored slacks and a cloth coat. GEBHART said he couldn't remember much of what was said at the time BERRY was booked but did recall that she kept saying something about being under the doctor's care and was more or less crying and was somewhat hysterical. He said she did not appear to be intoxicated or under the influence of any drug. MARPLE said that she didn't say that she was pregnant and that he was not particularly interested in the reason why she was under a doctor's care and didn't ask her about it any further.

He said that BERRY was booked and was then put in the waiting room to wait for the matron to arrive. He recalled that GEBHART told him that he had better watch BERRY and he said that he did keep an eye on her. MARPLE continued "Well, I kept watching her in there and I seen her doing something that looked to me like - in the first place, she took something out of her purse - she still had her purse and she was monkeying around with it and it looked to me like she was doing something on around her wrist or something like that and I opened the door and went in real quick. She had a compact. Well, she stuck what I thought was something down inside her waist at the time and I said, what are you doing. She bawled and mumbled and went on and I grabbed her arm and looked at it and there were some scratches on her wrist - some red-looking scratches like she had been scratching at her wrist."

MARPLE further said "Not like - yes, like a cat had scratched her or something like that, you know. So then I kept the door open and watched her and the matron came shortly after that and this compact in the meantime had fallen to the floor and I picked that up and took it away from her and then I decided I had better watch her and I said to myself, this fool might do anything and when the matron came I said to her, we want to change her clothes for I think she has something inside her waist and she might try to commit suicide. So she took her upstairs--we have a dressing room up there and I took her in there and I told her, you are going to have to change clothes and she told me she would not do it."

MARPLE described the location of the dressing room as follows: "It is right as you go upstairs. It is right straight on back. Right straight on back past the - there is kind of a desk if you will notice - it is right back of that desk as you are looking down the stairs from the desk, it is on the left hand side where we have the lockers and all that stuff where we put the prisoners clothes."

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MARPLE was asked if he made the comment that BERRY looked pregnant to him and he said "I probably did if she said something about her being pregnant. I probably said she did because she absolutely did look pregnant to me and I think I make such statement in good sense because I have four children of my own."

MARPLE recalled that the matron mentioned something to him about BERRY's fur coat, saying it was very nice and she wished she had one like it. This, however, referred to BERRY's arrest in January of 1943.

In looking back over the May arrest MARPLE recalled that GEBHART only stayed around the station about five minutes after he came in with BERRY and instructed MARPLE to book her. He said he did not know what GEBHART was working on that night. He said he remembers talking to GEBHART later on in the evening about BERRY. MARPLE said that after her arrest in May he did not call the CHAPLIN house about her and no one from the CHAPLIN house called the station to his knowledge.

MARPLE was asked if there was any discussion as to what had gone on the night before between he (MARPLE) and GEBHART or between MARPLE and Captain FITE or anyone. He replied "No, I don't think so. I added a note on to the bottom of GEBHART's arrest report and initialed it - to the fact that when we went to dress her in that she refused to take off her clothes and it was necessary for me to assist the matron in trying to get 'em off. I put that on the bottom of his arrest report and then put my initials after it because he had his name signed on the bottom of it - it was part of his report."

MARPLE was asked if he remembers BERRY mentioning any trips that she took with CHAPLIN. MARPLE replied "No. Not to me she didn't. In fact, I didn't know that she had been living up there with him until after we booked her the first time and I happened to see Captain WHITE's report that he wrote out - what he had found out about her and I know I remarked to him, I'll be damned - I didn't realize anything like that was going on - although I wasn't surprised at the affair - I have known old CHARLIE CHAPLIN for the last twenty years, and, of course, known that he has one gal after the other up there more or less - I can't prove it but it is common knowledge as far as that is concerned."

MARPLE went on to say that he does not know CHAPLIN personally although he has spoken to him a few times and was up to his house a number of years ago in connection with a prowler call. MARPLE further said that GEBHART did not say anything to him about calling CHAPLIN back on the night of May 7th or going up there again.

MARPLE was asked about his discussions with Captain WHITE before hand or afterwards and he replied "No, he didn't. He didn't say anything to me about it in any way. In fact, the two departments like that - we more or less try to keep our nose out of each others business - the detectives more or less

keep their business to themselves and anything that - all felonies and all investigations are automatically turned over to them by the Uniform Detail. If I have - if somebody is brought in there on suspicion of any felony, why, if I have a detective on duty I turn him over to them and in a lot of cases on misdemeanor cases, such as theft - somebody has brought in there for theft or something like that, I turn it over to them and let them interrogate them because so far as an interrogator goes I am rather rotten at being an interrogator. I shouldn't be but I am. They can get more out of them than I can. In a pinch I can get by but I would rather have some one that is better versed in interrogating than myself question them. Even on misdemeanors."

WAPLE was asked if he could think of anything else that might be of interest in connection with the investigation. He replied "No, I don't but if I may make the observation - or I guess from what I know about the case now, it seems to me we were more or less used in order to bring this thing out to a head - the fact that she came in there of her own free will and then didn't want - I think she wanted to get arrested -"

"Well, I think she wanted to get arrested even the second time and then probably the first time she thought maybe she could get arrested - however, I think she kind of lost her nerve the first time and then the second time why I don't think she gave a damn that she was arrested. From what I can remember of her manner and so forth and so on - and then when she was picked up in Bay, I am positive she wanted to be arrested, because I understood from what I heard around there that she called out there - either called somebody or called the Judge and told him she was coming out there to this place. It looked to me from what I know about it that she was asking for it - to be booked in order to bring it out - that is get some kind of a record made of it and get the publicity that she did get. She certainly succeeded."

In accordance with instructions of United States Attorney CHARLES H. CARR, Lieutenant WAPLE was requested to be in Mr. CARR's office at 2:00 P.M. on January 5, 1944. At this time he was interviewed by Mr. CARR and Agents.

WAPLE was asked by Mr. CARR to review his knowledge of this case. He mentioned first BERRY's coming in on the morning of December 31, 1942, and his information concerning that incident was the same as that previously furnished Agents. He still insisted that she did not reveal her boy friend as being CHARLES CHARLIN, although this time he estimated that he talked with her maybe even more than half an hour. Still he got no information out of her, and he and BERRY took her home.

The next morning, he told investigators, a call came into the police station from a woman and he himself answered it. Although he insisted that that morning was very busy in the department, he said he answered the call himself.

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"ARPLE" frequently referred to his notebook, and remarked that he was glad that he had kept notes because of the importance which later became attached to this case.

He told the story again of going back to the station, being busy an hour or so and then going over to the hospital and taking "BERRY" back and booking her. It was pointed out to him that information furnished by others in the Beverly Hills hospital reflected that he came to the hospital on two occasions before he finally booked her. He said that to the best of his recollection he only went over there once and then returned with her; then admitted that maybe he might be wrong and had been there twice.

It was also pointed out to him that according to the records of the hospital, she didn't leave there until after 5:00 o'clock in the morning, and he himself checked with the Beverly Hills police station to see what time records there reflected he had taken her in. According to his word, those records reflect that she was booked into the police station at 5:15 A. . . January 1, 1943. He admitted he might have been wrong in previously stating that he had returned to the station from Olympic Avenue and been there about an hour before he went to the hospital. He insisted that when he did go to the hospital, even though he talked to the girl and talked to "ARPLE" about her, he knew absolutely nothing about her having told anyone of her connections with CHARLES CHAPLIN. He claimed not to know that she or anyone had called the CHAPLIN home from the hospital.

"ARPLE" insisted that when he went from the police station to the hospital his mind was made up to book her as a "vag." When asked what he based this on, he said that she apparently had no means of support; she had had trouble with the department by reporting herself as a suicide; had been in there the night before, causing a disturbance. In connection herewith, however, he told Mr. CAER that when she was in on the morning of December 31, 1942, she was not berating him or causing any unusual disturbance.

He was asked concerning the call he received from Mr. WATT, night watchman at the CHAPLIN home, and his memory was a bit hazy as to what time that call came, but he thought it was after she had been booked at the police station. It was pointed out to him that his previous report reflected this call was around 4:30 A. . . , while the records of the police station reflected that she was not booked in there until 5:15 A. . . . He could not explain this discrepancy.

"ARPLE" insisted that he in his own mind had no fear of this case because he felt he had done nothing wrong. He said that he had not contacted Captain WATT or Chief ANDERSON to seek their advise as to whether or not he should book her. He said it was all made up in his own mind.

During the interview with him he did say that he knew nothing about her association with CHAPLIN, excepting what he had read in Captain WATT's report, which he did not see until the following day when he came on duty.

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MARPLE was requested by Mr. CARR to review any other notes he might have and refresh his recollection as best he could, and perhaps he would be contacted later.

His complete connection with this case was not covered in this interview, that is, he was not requested to tell of his contact with BERRY down to the arrest in May, 1943.

INTERVIEW WITH CLAUDE R. MARPLE BY  
THE LOS ANGELES DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S  
OFFICE

MARPLE was interviewed in the office of Chief C. F. ANDERSON, Beverly Hills Police Department, Beverly Hills, California, by investigators HERBERT GROSSMAN and PHIL TORNER of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office on June 4, 1943. Present at that time were Chief ANDERSON, Police Clerk G.W. Zinn and LORNA ADAMS, stenographer with the District Attorney's Office, who reported the interview. This interview, along with others conducted by the District Attorney's Office in connection with JOAN BERRY was made available to Agents of this office.

With reference to the night of December 31, 1942, MARPLE was asked to relate in his own words what occurred when BERRY came to the Beverly Hills Police Station that night. MARPLE stated "I was in the station at the time - I had a clerk there with me at the time. I went over and asked her what was the matter. She said 'I want to talk to you'. I said all right, we will go back in my office back here, so I took her back in there and asked her what was the matter, and I talked to her for approximately thirty minutes, and during that time I was unable to get anything out of her as to what her trouble was or why she came into the station. I finally told her that we were not getting anywhere 'with you talking here to me about something I can't very well do anything about - have you got anyplace to go, you can't stay here, we have no place for you here', and after so long a time trying to get out of her where she lived and what her trouble was, she said 'maybe I have got a place where I can stay.' So I said will you give me the telephone number and I will call it for you, but she wouldn't give me the telephone number. She said 'I will call it.' So I gave her a telephone that was there and told her how to dial it - she had to dial it to get outside, and she dialed the number, then talked to someone and asked if she could stay there, if she could come down, and I didn't know where the place was at all. He evidently said yes; she said 'I have a place to stay.' I said all right, I will take you down there. The matron was already here on duty. I went up and woke up the matron in her quarters, had her dress - she came down. We took Miss BERRY and I asked her where are you going? She gave me this address on Olympic - I believe it is 9507."

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MARPLE went on to say that when they took her down to the Olympic address he didn't get out of the car, but the matron went into the apartment with her. He said the matron was gone approximately five minutes and when she came back she said "Well, I guess she has a place to stay." She also said "After I opened the door and she went in and closed the door." MARPLE and the matron then returned to the police station and saw no more of BERRY that night.

MARPLE was asked if BERRY gave any reason as to why she came into the police station and he said that he couldn't get any reason out of her. He was asked if she made any statement to the effect that she wanted to be arrested and MARPLE replied "I told her that - I believe I told her, if I remember clearly, that I would have to do something with her, I couldn't exactly shove her out. I think it was sprinkling rain that night -" I said "The only thing I can do with you is to book you for vagrancy. I can't put you in jail without I make a booking on you."

BERRY replied that she didn't want to stay in the station but she did not discuss any person. The only thing she kept repeating was "Oh CHARLES, Oh CHARLES, CHARLES." MARPLE said he asked her who CHARLES was and she wouldn't tell him. MARPLE said that she seemed to be highly excited and hysterical when she came into the station, and although she wasn't acting normally, she did not appear to be drinking and he didn't smell any liquor on her breath. MARPLE said she never mentioned the name of the person to whose apartment she was taken.

MARPLE said that BERRY told him that she was an actress but she did not mention being connected at all with CHAPLIN. Neither did she say anything about being without money.

In describing BERRY's physical appearance when she came into the station, MARPLE said there was no appearance of any marks or scars any place on her body that were visible to him. Her clothes were not disheveled and as he recalled she was wearing an evening dress and a short fur cape. BERRY also told him that her mother was back in New York and that she had no friends or relatives out here.

MARPLE went on to say that the next time he saw BERRY was on New Years morning, January 1, 1943. He said that he had received a telephone call while he was on duty at the station and a woman's voice told him that there was a woman who had taken poison lying in an automobile in front of 9709 Olympic Boulevard.

MARPLE stated "I recognized the same number as the place I had taken the girl the night before. I immediately called for the ambulance to go down there, and while they were getting ready I got in the police car and hurried down there myself ahead of the ambulance. There were four or five cars

parked there on the street in front of this address nearby, and I think I looked in the third one before I found this girl, which I recognized as the same girl lying in the front seat in this car. I took hold of her shoulder and shook her and she just kind of turned over and twisted her head around, so I stepped back then and looked around the floor while the ambulance was coming, to see if I could see anything that looked like a bottle or anything of that type, and in about three or four minutes the ambulance came and took her out of this car and put her in the ambulance and started for the hospital. After they had taken her out of the car I continued to look through the car, lifted up the seat, looked under anyplace I could find to see if I could find any kind of a bottle or something of that type, to find out if she had taken anything, and what it was, if she had. I didn't find anything, so knowing where she had went the night before I went up to this apartment."

MARPLE was asked if she appeared to be unconscious and he said "Well, I don't know. I had an idea at the time that she was more or less putting on an act. She opened her eyes and kind of shut her eyes and rolled her head around a little bit." MARPLE continued "I went up to the apartment and I could see from the outside it was all lit up, the lights were lit. I rang the bell and pounded on the door for approximately five minutes. Nobody came to the door. There was no signs from the apartment. I turned around then and went back downstairs, and when I got back down there a man came up to me, all out of breath, and said "I just got a report that some actress tried to commit suicide out here." I said "Who are you? He said "I am a reporter from the Examiner", so I asked him his name then, which he gave me, and he gave me his name - I don't remember the name now."

MARPLE stated that he believed the reporter's name was CARL McCLUNG. He said McCLUNG showed him his credentials as a reporter. MARPLE recalled that McCLUNG told him that his office had informed him that JOAN BERRY had taken poison and could be found in a car in that neighborhood. MARPLE stated that he doesn't recall this reporter following the ambulance back to the receiving hospital. MARPLE said that he checked the license number on the car in which BERRY was found and that it was No. 5 X 8922, registered to R. J. CAYTON, 858 North Fairfax Avenue, Los Angeles, California.

MARPLE continued that he followed the ambulance to the receiving hospital and that he got there about an hour after the telephone call came in. He said that there was an intern on duty at the hospital and described him as a small fellow who wears glasses. MARPLE said he had the following conversation with the intern: -

"I said what did the doctor find out about this girl?" He said "In the opinion of the doctor she hasn't taken anything, she has a discoloration on her lips, possibly may be iodine, maybe not anything, but he said as far as she is concerned she is all right - I didn't give her any treatment."

MARPLE said that BERRY was in the hospital when he got over there and that she was lying on a table. He said he went over to her and asked her "What are you trying to do and what is the idea of this kind of business." He said BERRY appeared to be very much awake but that all she would reply was something about CHARLES, CHARLES and didn't give him any specific answer. He said he asked her if she had any place to go or if she had any money or any friends and she replied no. MARPLE recalled that she was wearing just some thin underclothing underneath a bathrobe.

MARPLE was asked what the rest of the conversation was that he had with BERRY and he replied "I was rather burned up. I said if you are going to pull this kind of stuff I have a place for you. I said come on. She got off the table and she walked to the station. I booked her on 641 - Penal Code - no viable means of support."

MARPLE further advised that matron RENO was at the station when he brought BERRY over. He said he told BERRY that he was going to book her for vagrancy but she made no reply. He said he did not know at the time he booked her that she was acquainted with CHARLES CHAPLIN and that she made no statement to him while being booked that she was a protegee of CHAPLIN. He also said that prior to the time he booked her she did not ask him to contact anyone for her.

MARPLE was asked if he asked BERRY what apartment it was that he had taken her to the night before. MARPLE replied "No, I wasn't interested in that. All I was interested in was getting rid of her." BERRY told him that she couldn't go back to this apartment. MARPLE said that she also said she didn't have any money and that he did not ask her what had become of the fur coat that she was wearing the night before.

MARPLE said that when he took her over to the station from the receiving hospital, she appeared to be perfectly all right and came along with him willingly. MARPLE was not sure but he said BERRY might have asked him what vagrancy meant when she was booked and he said "I believe I told her as long as she didn't have any money and had no home and no friends or any place to go, that I was going to have to book her for vagrancy." He said that all BERRY did was stand there and "snifle".

MARPLE said RENO was standing beside BERRY when she was booked and that she then took BERRY upstairs to the cell. He said he walked upstairs with them and they put her in a cell and he went away. MARPLE said he went off duty at about 8:00 A.M. that morning. MARPLE could not recall definitely whether RENO said anything to him about BERRY or not that morning. He said at the time he went off duty BERRY appeared to be in very good spirits and was wearing jail clothes.

MARPLE said that he came on duty at midnight the next night that he didn't go up to talk to BERRY. MARPLE was asked if prior to her assignment if he had any idea that she was connected with CHARLES CHAPLIN. He said that the only thing that made him think she might be connected with CHAPLIN was that on the same morning he booked her he got a telephone call from a man who said he was a watchman or a servant at the CHAPLIN estate. MARPLE placed this call as between 4:00 and 5:00 A.M.

MARPLE continued "He asked me if I had seen anything of a girl name JOAN BERRY, and I said Yes, we have her in our jail down here. He said that the place for her. He said I never seen such a fool in my life. I said Why? He said she come up here in a cab and didn't have no money, and he said I paid her cab fare and he said I have a fur cape up here as security for the cab fare for my money, so I remembered the night before she had a fur cape on. I asked him how he happened to call. He said I wanted you to know where the fur cape was in case somebody claims I tried to steal it. He said it is up here. As I remember I put that on my report."

MARPLE said that the watchman didn't tell him that he knew BERRY was in jail. He said he told the watchman that she was in jail. MARPLE said that the watchman didn't tell him why he knew BERRY was in jail nor did he tell him that BERRY was a former girlfriend of CHAPLIN or connected with CHAPLIN.

MARPLE said that he wrote a report on the night's activities and Captain WHITE read it the next morning, and he also recalled talking to Captain WHITE about BERRY the following morning. He said WHITE came on duty at about 8:00 A.M. He said, however, that he did not have a detailed conversation with Captain WHITE. The report that he made out is dated January 1, 1943.

Coming down to May 7, 1943 MARPLE was asked if anything unusual occurred that evening and he replied "Well, I don't know what you would call unusual exactly. In the first place the matron wasn't here. We put her in the waiting room and I called for the matron immediately. I was waiting for the matron - we have a peep hole there we can look through to see what anyone was doing there - she had her wrist up like this (indicating) and she had what looked like a piece of metal \* I thought she might be working on her wrist. I opened the door and went in. She had a compact and had taken it into pieces and she had four or five scratches on her wrist - I think it was her left wrist. I grabbed her hand and took that compact away from her and part of it fell on the floor. She had her hand up like this (indicating) and I thought she put it inside her waist. I still kept an eye on her. She was walking around and crying. The matron come shortly and I told the matron. I said 'I think this girl has still something that she might harm herself with. You will have to search her.' MARPLE was asked at this point if when he took the compact away from BERRY if she said anything. MARPLE replied "I can't remember - she said something. She

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was saying so many things I don't remember any particular thing she said. I got part of this compact and examined it and there was no glass in it. I picked up a couple little pieces of glass on the floor and it still looked to me like there might be some of it still missing, so when Mrs. RENO came I said 'We are going to have to take this girl's clothes away from her and search her thoroughly and find out if she has anything she might harm herself with.' We went ahead and booked her at that time on the charge Sergeant GEBHART told me to book her on violation of probation, and took her upstairs to the dressing room and the matron went in there with her alone and started to, I suppose trying to search her. Anyway she called to me and said 'I am having a lot of trouble with this girl.' - she said 'I don't know whether I will be able to search her or not. She acts like she might faint.' When I went in she was lying on the floor crying. She was letting out big long cries. I knew she hadn't fainted. When I went in her waist was opened. Her breasts were showing, so I tried to talk to her then and asked her if she had anything else on her. She didn't answer me. She had her hand closed. I said 'What have you got in your hand, Joan?' She wouldn't tell me anything. I finally opened her fingers and if I remember right there was a ring in there with a sharp set in the ring, so I says to the matron 'pull that waist out of her slacks and see if there is anything slid down in there.'

MARPLE said that when BERRY was lying down on the floor he picked her up and held her in a sitting position. He said that he was in back of her and when he lifted her up a little piece of metal of some kind fell out of her waist and he said that he was worried that she might have something else concealed on her person. He said he tried to persuade her to let the matron help her change her clothes but she refused.

MARPLE recalled that her shirt waist was open in the front and he said he picked her up around the waist and more or less carried her into the cell. He said that BERRY still had her slacks on and that after he got her inside the door he left her with the matron. He said he tried to get her to stay on the bed but she rolled off of the bed and rolled on the floor. MARPLE at this point recalled that perhaps her waist was off, although he was not sure and she was nude to the waist. He said that BERRY's blouse had been taken off while he was holding her up in the dressing room and that RENO reached around and pulled it out of her slacks. He said at first that he thought she had on a brassier but he found out she didn't. He said that BERRY was fighting like a tiger all the time. MARPLE said that he did not stand around and watch her while she was in a semi-nude condition.

MARPLE also stated that there was no other officer there besides himself.

In about an hour he said RENO came down and told him that she had managed to get BERRY to change into jail clothes. He said RENO also told him that she really believed she had helped the girl. RENO said that she had felt

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sorry for BERRY and had prayed for her. He said that he instructed Mrs. RENO to keep close watch on her and to stop and see her quite often during the night.

The only thing MARPLE could remember that BERRY told him while they were trying to get her to change her clothes was that she had been sick and had been under a doctor's care. He said she did not mention to him that she was pregnant. MARPLE said that he went off duty at 12:00 that night and did not see BERRY after this. He said he did not manhandle BERRY in any way and did only what the situation called for. He said he did not recall that Mrs. RENO told him that BERRY was pregnant and he said he made no report to any of his superior officers that BERRY had been sick or had been under a doctor's care.

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JESSIE WINIFRED RENO - Subject

Background Information

b7c [REDACTED]

JESSIE WINIFRED RENO, alias Billie  
Home Address - 300 North Palm Drive  
Beverly Hills, California  
Telephone CRestview 66586

On December 8, 1943, Agents interviewed Mrs. RENO in her home. Agents had previously contacted Chief of Police ANDERSON that morning and the Chief had told them that Mrs. RENO, who had been off duty for some time was now back on call duty.

b6 [REDACTED]

On arrival at Mrs. RENO's, Agents knocked on the door. She came to the peek-hole in the door and on being advised of Agents' identity, asked if they would excuse her for a few moments in order that she could get dressed. A few minutes later she opened the door and later during the interview mentioned that she had called Chief of Police ANDERSON while Agents were waiting and told him Agents were seeking interview with her.

The investigation presently being conducted by the FBI was explained to Mrs. RENO, and it was suggested that she might like to tell the complete story of her first meeting JOAN BERRY and the incidents that occurred during their association. She said she preferred that Agents ask her questions and then she could answer them specifically. With considerable hesitancy and interjected with numerous "I don't remember's" the following information was elicited:

The first time she saw JOAN BERRY was on the morning of December 31, 1942, when she had been in and was questioned by Sergeant MARPLE. RENO said

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that she passed through the office several times while MARPLE was questioning BERRY, but did not hear any of the conversation. Shortly thereafter MARPLE requested that she accompany him while they escorted Miss BERRY to an address on Olympic Boulevard. RENO said there was no conversation between the two of them en route. She continued that when they got to the address, she got out, accompanied BERRY up to the door of an apartment and left. After it being pointed out that BERRY knocked on the door and someone presumably answered her and opened the door, RENO recalled that she guessed that had taken place. She said, however, she was not even sure it was a man's voice that answered BERRY's knock. After it was suggested that MARPLE related BERRY made a telephone call to an address before they left the police station, RENO said "Yes" she guessed that had taken place. She was positive that at no time in her talking with BERRY or in talking about BERRY with MARPLE on this first meeting, did the identity of her boy friend as CHARLES CHAPLIN come out. She denied that, as BERRY has informed Agents, she told BERRY to go on home and that Mr. CHAPLIN would forget about the fight and everything would be fixed up later.

Regarding January 1, 1943, RENO recalled that she was on duty, however, she did not know what case she had been called in for. She recalled that she accompanied a police officer over to the Beverly Hills Receiving Hospital to bring JOAN BERRY therefrom to the Jail. She at first could not recall anything that she and BERRY had discussed while they were together in jail. When questioned specifically concerning the following matters, she remembered that those had been discussed.

With reference to BERRY's fur coat, RENO said that BERRY told her she needed some money to pay her bills at various hotels and offered her, RENO, the coat in pawn for \$200. RENO denied that she had tried to buy it from BERRY for \$300 or any other sum. She was asked at this point if she discussed this fur coat matter with Captain WHITE, and RENO admitted that she had. She does not recall, however, that WHITE told her, but anyway the matter was settled because BERRY did not need to pawn her coat, the money being put up by some outside party.

It was RENO's recollection that BERRY had been questioned in the office of Captain WHITE; also she guessed that Chief ANDERSON was in there during the questioning, but she was not sure. She did not know on first questioning what WHITE and BERRY and the Chief had talked about, but then admitted as it was suggested to her, that BERRY had told the officers about her association with CHAPLIN, about living there for some time, about going to Mexico, about knowing GETTY, and the man in whose apartment she had stayed on Olympic Boulevard. She recalled later that BERRY told her CHAPLIN gave her \$1,000 a month for spending money and gave her a car for her own use and that she was under contract to the studio; that she had seen him every night for a year; that CHAPLIN had decorated her room in his home with ivory colored satin.

or anyone else concerning trying to get CHAPLIN to help the girl and when he refused or they were not able to locate him, PICKFORD and KELLY were going to put up the money themselves. It is recalled that is the story ROBERT ARDEN told.

HOPPER said that on Saturday, May 8, 1943, she called the CHAPLIN house on numerous occasions trying to get hold of CHAPLIN, but he would not come to the phone. Later that day HOPPER said CHAPLIN did call her but then she would not talk to him. HOPPER then told of a phone call from the Los Angeles County Jail and she told JOAN BERRY that she did not send MINNA WALLIS down to see her.

The next contact HOPPER had with BERRY was on Decoration Day when she was brought down to her house by CHANEY. This was the occasion when Mrs. BERRY, the District Attorney's officers and BERRY were trying to discuss the logical solution to BERRY's problem.

It is of interest to note that HOPPER stated that both DAVID SELZNIK and SAM GOLDWYN at the time the story broke in the papers in June, 1943, tried to get her to lay off publicizing the case and taking a stand against CHAPLIN. They said it would be bad for the industry. GOLDWYN, HOPPER said, pointed out that if they ever got to investigating the rest of the industry it would be just too bad for all of them.

On the afternoon of January 14, 1944, when Agents returned from a conference with United States Attorney CARR, he showed agents a note which had been prepared for him by his stenographer. This note advised that at 12:40 P.M. this day the Business Manager for HEDDA HOPPER had called, stating that that morning HEDDA HOPPER'S maid had received a telephone call from a man who had a voice with a foreign accent. This man told the maid that he was "Murder, Inc." and that HEDDA HOPPER should "keep her G--- d--- mouth shut." It was Mr. CARR's thought that the message was probably from some crank; however he suggested that the matter be checked into.

Agents accordingly contacted HEDDA HOPPER'S business office and talked with GERTRUDE SHANKLAND, her secretary. SHANKLAND advised substantially the same information as contained in the original information. However, she did say that MOLLIE REDELL, HOPPER'S maid, had added that the day before the telephone call, which would be January 13, 1944, a foreign looking man had come to HOPPER'S house at about 11:00 A.M., ostensibly to show Miss HOPPER some linens. HOPPER was not home at the time and the man came again around 10:15 A.M. on January 14, 1944.

On this occasion MOLLIE only opened the peep hole in the door and in answer to his questions concerning HOPPER, said she wasn't there. SHANKLAND said MOLLIE felt it was the same man who had telephoned fifteen or twenty minutes later and had made the alleged threat. MOLLIE REDELL was telephonically contacted and she stated substantially the same information.

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With reference to ARDEN's being in the police station, Mrs. RENO stated that she had talked with him when he brought BERRY's clothes to the station before she left. However, this conversation was only for a few moments and RENO recalled that ARDEN appeared to take a friendly interest in the girl; that he was nice to her. However, RENO said it was her impression and conclusion that CHAPLIN thought ARDEN was trying to get rid of BERRY; that JOAN was a young girl whom CHAPLIN had had for a while and then wanted to get rid of, having become tired of her. RENO observed that she had lived in Beverly Hills for many years and that CHAPLIN always picks on young girls. Mrs. RENO said that she had actually felt sorry for JOAN BERRY, since she had a daughter of her own. Mrs. RENO said that she did not tell JOAN BERRY how to plead when taken into court, though she said perhaps BERRY had asked her that because nine out of ten of those she comes in contact with do ask her that question. RENO said she told BERRY to use her own judgment. She was asked if BERRY endeavored to use the telephone while she was in her custody on this occasion in January. RENO said she did not use the phone.

When BERRY was in jail in May of 1943, Mrs. RENO recalled being called to the station and taking BERRY upstairs, and she said after a period of about half an hour BERRY was changed from her own clothes into jail clothes. She would have had Agents believe that there was no difficulty encountered in accomplishing that fact, but when it was pointed out that she had told the District Attorney's Office and that MARPLE had also so informed regarding the objections of BERRY and the screaming, etc. that went on, Mrs. RENO said "Yes," that that had happened. However, she at first indicated that she herself had convinced BERRY that she should change her clothes. Again it was pointed out that according to the previous statements Sergeant MARPLE had been in the locker room assisting her. She guessed that that had happened. On the second occasion when BERRY was in her custody, Mrs. RENO said that she asked to use the phone, that she called HEDDA HOPPER; if not Miss HOPPER, then some other movie columnist, possibly FLORABEL MUIR. It was Mrs. RENO's recollection that the following morning, May 8, 1943, BERRY was questioned by Captain WHITE before she went into court. That was the last time Mrs. RENO said, she had ever seen BERRY, however, she said that several days after BERRY had been released in January of 1943, BERRY called her on the phone at her house, telling her that she appreciated the kindnesses shown her when in jail and that she was going to leave town. Mrs. RENO was asked if she had given BERRY her phone number, and replied in the negative. She could not see how she had gotten the number.

Mrs. RENO was asked what she thought of BERRY as to her intelligence, actions, etc. while in her care, as to whether she was a psychopathic case or insane. Mrs. RENO replied that she did not think there was anything mentally wrong with BERRY, simply that she was nervous, distraught, etc., because of the treatment she had received by CHAPLIN. She said that BERRY was a poor young girl who had come to Hollywood with ideas of getting into pictures and had been kicked out by CHAPLIN after associating with her for a period of time, and then becoming tired of her.

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RENO inquired as to whether she would have to testify as to her statements, and emphasized repeatedly that she didn't want to go to court. She was told that that was a matter over which Agents had no control, it being entirely up to the United States Attorney as to whether her testimony would be necessary.

As an example of the attitude shown by Mrs. RENO, it was suggested that at the event she later recalled any other incidents or facts which she thought would be of interest, she get in touch with Agents. She said, "No," that she wouldn't get in touch with them; that she only wished they had endeavored to contact her a couple of weeks ago when she was sick in bed and couldn't be interviewed. It was pointed out that we are all police officers engaged in protecting the public interest and welfare and that any assistance fellow officers could render would be appreciated. She agreed that that was the case.

In accordance with instructions of United States Attorney CHARLES H. CARR, Mrs. RENO was requested to be in Mr. CARR's office at 4:00 p. m. on January 5, 1944. At that time she was interviewed by Mr. CARR and Agents.

In line with Agents' previous interview with Mrs. RENO, when Mr. CARR began asking her questions about her connections with this case and knowledge of BERRY, her answer was "I don't remember." She admitted that on the morning of December 31, 1942, she was probably in the police station when BERRY was there and being interviewed by MARPLE. She said, however, she was in and out of the room and did not hear what was being said.

She was asked as to the conversation between BERRY and Captain WHITE on the morning of January 1, 1943, and said she didn't know anything about it. When asked specifically by Mr. CARR if she recalled their discussing BERRY's contract with CHAPLIN, his purchasing a play for her, her affair with GETTY, etc., she admitted that she guessed they had talked about that. She would frequently defend herself for not having any information by saying that she was not supposed to talk or listen, merely to be around.

With reference to negotiating with BERRY concerning her fur coat, she said this time that BERRY would not sell it to her, but offered it to her in pawn for \$250.

Mr. CARR asked Mrs. RENO if she recalled the conversation in court between Judge GRIFFIN and BERRY on the morning of January 2, 1943, and she replied that she knew nothing about it because she sat in the back of the room. She denied that BERRY had turned to her when the judge asked her how she pled. When asked if she had counselled BERRY as to how to plead before she went into court, she vehemently denied that she had said anything about that.

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The one new fact which did develop from this interview with RENO is her statement that on the morning of January 1, 1943, she had accompanied MARPLE to the hospital from the Beverly Hills Jail to bring BERRY back to the police station. She admitted that she might have gone over there twice with MARPLE, but said she couldn't definitely say that.

In conclusion, Mrs. RENO was sorry that she couldn't remember any more. She said that just prior to Agents' interview with her, which took place on December 8, 1943, she had fallen in the police station, cracked the base of her skull, and had been in the hospital for some time thereafter. She stated she found difficulty in spelling words - she would get to the last letters and then couldn't remember any more, and generally found difficulty in concentrating. For that reason she said she didn't like to concentrate on things.

INTERVIEW WITH JESSIE WINIFRED RENO  
BY THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

On June 4, 1943, Mrs. RENO was interviewed by HERBERT GROSSMAN, Investigator for the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office. This interview was conducted in the office of Chief of Police C. H. ANDERSON, Beverly Hills Police Department, Beverly Hills, California. Present during the interview were PHIL TOWER, another investigator; G. W. ZINN, Police Clerk; Chief of Police ANDERSON; and LORNA ADAMS, a stenographer of the District Attorney's Office.

At this time Mrs. RENO advised after having her memory refreshed as to dates, that on December 31, 1942, at approximately 2:30 p. m., JOAN BERRY presented herself at the Beverly Hills Police Station and stated she had had a fight with her boyfriend. She was hysterical at the time and after being questioned by Sergeant MARPLE she was taken to Sulgrove Manor, 9709 Olympic, Los Angeles. Mrs. RENO said when BERRY came into the station that she, BERRY, was very excited; that she could not remember much of anything she was talking about and she seemed to be trying to quiet herself down. Mrs. RENO stated that BERRY did not appear to be under the influence of intoxicating liquors. RENO did not recall the desk sergeant asking her any questions that she, RENO, heard. Neither did Mrs. RENO recall that she mentioned CHAPLIN's name that evening. She said that she really couldn't talk to BERRY because she was so excited. Mrs. RENO estimated that they took her from the station about 3:00 or 3:30 on the same night.

Mrs. RENO said she didn't believe she told them what her purpose was in being there and she said that Sergeant MARPLE did not tell her what her purpose was in being there. RENO went on to say that MARPLE took BERRY to this apartment on Olympic Avenue and that she, RENO, took BERRY upstairs. She went

the door with her and BERRY knocked on the door. At this point RENO was asked "did someone open the door"? She replied "I didn't see him. It sounded like a man's voice - I didn't see him. I only know someone opened the door and that was all." RENO continued that BERRY appeared to be quieted down at the time she took her upstairs to the apartment. She said that BERRY did not tell her who lived there but recalled that BERRY asked to be taken to that particular address.

Mrs. RENO stated after again having her memory refreshed as to date that the next time she saw BERRY was on New Year's Day, 1943. RENO recalled that on that night something was said to her about BERRY having taken poison and attempting suicide. She said the first time she saw BERRY was at the Receiving Hospital that morning. RENO did not know with whom she, RENO, went to the Receiving Hospital. She said that BERRY was excited and crying at that time but she couldn't say that BERRY was under the influence of liquor. When asked what she did with BERRY, whether she took her back to the jail or not, RENO replied "I don't think she came back with us. I think they brought her over later."

RENO continued that she was there when BERRY was brought from the Receiving Hospital to the Jail and stated that she put BERRY into her cell. RENO at first could not remember how BERRY was dressed but when asked if she had on a bathrobe and men's slippers, she replied "I believe so, Chief ANDERSON, because I think she had that on. She was here two or three times. She had the robe and the pajamas on. RENO described these pajamas as blue sleeping pajamas covered by a bathrobe.

RENO continued that on this occasion BERRY was very nice while she was there and was quiet and calm. RENO said that after BERRY was booked she went in and talked to BERRY several times and she appeared to be all right. RENO was asked whether she remembered what she discussed with BERRY at that time and she said she didn't remember exactly the different things they talked about. RENO said she did not question BERRY regarding her finances. She further said she didn't recall BERRY asking her to contact someone at the CHAPLIN home for her. RENO said she did not call anyone at the CHAPLIN home.

RENO stated she did not recall BERRY asking her what she was being charged with. She said she did not give her this information, stating "I believe they told her that at the desk."

At this point during the interview Captain ANDERSON stated "Detective Captain WHITE did interrogate her the following day in the daytime and I remember you, RENO, were present and I came into the room during the short period of time on that occasion. RENO replied "Yes - that's right." When asked if she, RENO, took any part in the interrogation, RENO replied "We talked very little."

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At this point in the interview Mr. GROSSMAN again refreshed RENO's memory from the Beverly Hills police records, reading to her the charge and disposition of the case, which reflected that BERRY was charged with vagrancy; that she appeared before Judge GRIFFEN and that the sentence was ninety days in jail suspended on condition that she pay her bills and stay out of Beverly Hills. RENO was asked if BERRY at any time asked her what the charge of vagrancy meant. RENO replied "No." RENO was asked if at any time BERRY asked why she was being held in jail. RENO replied "No, she didn't ask me." Chief ANDERSON at this point added "An important question - and at this time while she was in jail, did she take it lightly or was she depressed?" Mrs. RENO replied, "Well, I would say she was very much upset. That is the reason she was here in the first place. She was terribly upset - and did I answer that correctly?"

RENO continued that she didn't recall BERRY asking her to contact anyone while she was in jail. Further, that she did not contact anyone. RENO said she could not remember whether BERRY used the telephone herself. RENO was asked if ROBERT ARDEN had ever contacted her, RENO, in BERRY's behalf at any time. RENO replied "No." RENO was asked if she, RENO, had ever talked to ROBERT ARDEN while BERRY was in jail. She replied "I don't know who he was - some man called here. I don't know his name." RENO said that this man did not speak to her at all and she was then asked how she knew that a man called. RENO replied, "Didn't he bring some clothes over, Chief ANDERSON?" ANDERSON replied, "I will explain it this way. At the time she came in she had no other clothes. The way I recall it - I might say this is only from what impression I had - she came in here with a bathrobe and a pajama suit and slippers and they were not street clothes, and before they could release her they had to put some clothes on her." ANDERSON asked, "Is that correct?" "That's it."

Mrs. RENO said she did not discuss with BERRY the plea that she should enter to the charge nor did she advise her to plead guilty. RENO was asked if she thought BERRY was either a psychopathic case or bordering on a psychopathic case and she replied "That would be for a doctor to answer." But she further said "I think she was a very normal girl so far as I could see."

RENO stated she appeared in the court room with BERRY on January 2, but she said she couldn't remember much about the proceedings because she didn't pay a lot of attention. RENO remembered the Judge reading the complaint to BERRY and arraigning her. She also recalled that the Judge asked her how she pleaded - guilty or not guilty. RENO was also asked if at this time BERRY turned to her and asked her any questions. She said "No. I was sitting back in the court room." RENO stated that she remembered GRIFFEN pronouncing a sentence of ninety days in the county jail suspended on the condition that BERRY pay her hotel bills, but she said she did not remember BERRY saying anything to her about it after the sentence was passed. She said that BERRY did not act unusual

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After the sentence. RENO recalled BERRY saying she would have to have some street clothes in order to leave but she said that she, RENO, called no one for BERRY.

At this point RENO's memory was again refreshed as to dates regarding BERRY's arrest on May 7, 1943, when she was arrested for violation of her probation. RENO stated that she was called down to the jail and that the first time she saw BERRY she was sitting in the waiting room alone. She described BERRY's condition as very nervous but said that BERRY told her nothing regarding the facts of her arrest. She said she did not recall BERRY discussing anything about CHARLES CHAPLIN at this time.

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b7C  
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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

With regard to BERRY's sentence for violation of her probation, RENO said she went into court with her but she did not recall any statements that BERRY made to the Judge at that time. She said that while BERRY was in jail, just prior to being sentenced, she told RENO that she was pregnant but

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RENO was unable to remember any conversation regarding BERRY's pregnancy. Neither did RENO remember whether BERRY said that CHAPLIN or anyone else was the father of her child. RENO said she didn't remember telling anyone in the jail that BERRY was pregnant and that she did not advise BERRY to tell Judge GRIFFEN of her pregnancy. RENO was asked if she believed BERRY when BERRY said she was pregnant and she replied "Yes. I thought she was pregnant. What I think means very little." RENO stated that she based her opinion on BERRY's physical appearance when she was undressed.

RENO was asked several times if she remembered discussing it with any of her superiors and any of the police officers. She replied twice that she did not remember and finally said "I just didn't do anything about it. If it was mentioned at all I believe it was mentioned to Captain WHITE."

RENO was asked if BERRY told Judge GRIFFEN in open court that she was pregnant. RENO said "I was sitting too far back. I didn't hear the proceedings. Not all of it. She spoke in a very low voice." RENO also said she did not recall BERRY asking Judge GRIFFEN to talk with him in his chambers.

It is to be noted that Mrs. RENO was subpoenaed by the defense and testified in the White Slave Traffic Act trial in Federal Court, Los Angeles, California, on March 30, 1944.

RENO testified previously regarding BERRY's physical appearance on the early morning of December 31, 1942. Her testimony was to the effect that BERRY was not in a disheveled condition but was merely hysterical at all times that RENO saw her on this date.

THOMAS WELLS DURANT, SUBJECT

Background Information

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About five years ago DURANT said he met CHARLES CHAPLIN through KING VIDOR, a producer at MGM Studios. After working with VIDOR for about a year CHAPLIN offered him a job and he said he was with him for about eight months as a writer and an assistant. They started to write "The Great Dictator."

[REDACTED]

b7c  
b7D

DURANT made a point to explain his financial standing, prefacing it with the statement he had been accused of being kept by CHARLES CHAPLIN and also had been accused of being a procurer for CHAPLIN. He said neither of those statements were true

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b7c [REDACTED]

Investigation has also reflected that since commencement of instant matter DURANT has been in touch with A. C. BLUMENTHAL, Hotel Reforma, Mexico City. From Source B It was learned that on January 24, 1944, DURANT communicated with BLUMENTHAL from his home here in Los Angeles. At that time DURANT told BLUMENTHAL that the matter had been presented to the Federal Grand Jury in Los Angeles because of pressure from Washington. He stated further he understood both J. EDGAR HOOVER, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and FRANCIS BIDDLE, Attorney General, were responsible. DURANT went on to explain that his part in the case was based on the fact that he introduced BERRY to CHAPLIN. Then he went on to say that when interviewed "I told them truthfully that a friend of CHAPLIN and mine in Mexico City sent me a letter stating that Miss BERRY would call me when she arrived from there and that she was interested in meeting Mr. CHAPLIN with an idea of getting into pictures. Accordingly, I received a call from her and after meeting her I arranged a dinner party with CHARLIE and another friend of hers. This is all you know about the situation, of course, except I suppose you were aware that PAUL GETTY was keeping her at the time and she was his guest in Mexico City.

"In case there is ever a question as to whether you actually did write me this particular letter would you be willing to confirm this in a letter to me now? I would only use it if my word was questioned, which it hasn't been to date.

"I can't tell you, Junior, what trouble that girl has caused us, though certainly it is not your fault. CHAPLIN knew very well what he had gotten into and in spite of the advice and entreaties of everyone he continued to see her. This makes me one hundred per cent responsible. He has tried to pass the buck both to you and to me but this is unfair.

"I guess it will cost him about \$100,000 in attorney's fees alone before he gets through as the paternity case comes up in a few weeks."

DURANT indicated he would like to have a letter from BLUMENTHAL confirming the matter mentioned above.

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THOMAS WELLS DURANT  
1151 1/2 Sunset Boulevard  
West Los Angeles, California  
Telephone ARizona 32449

INTERVIEW WITH SUBJECT DURANT  
BY LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTOR-  
NEY'S INVESTIGATORS

On June 6, 1943, DURANT was interviewed by HERBERT GROSSMAN and PHILIP T. TOWER, Investigators for the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office at his home on Sunset Boulevard. The matter was reported by LORNA ADAMS. At that time he told these men that A. C. BLUMENTHAL wrote him a letter saying that JOAN BERRY was coming to Hollywood and interested in getting into pictures and requested that he introduce her to CHAPLIN. DURANT pointed out that at that time he was working for CHAPLIN. He said she came a week or so later, called him up and came over to his house. He thought she looked all right, so made a date with her for dinner with CHAPLIN and himself and a friend of hers. He did not recall the name of this woman. He stated they went to Ferrino's for dinner. DURANT recalled he had a sore throat that night and this woman took him to a drug store for a gargle.

DURANT said that CHAPLIN liked BERRY and he liked her. In fact she made a very good impression on them both. In talking with CHAPLIN about BERRY subsequently, DURANT said CHAPLIN thought she was a good type for pictures and wanted to give her a chance to do something. He said CHAPLIN got BERRY to read some lines, got very much interested in her, made a test of her and thought she was the greatest potential material he had ever handled. He was sold on her, told everybody in Hollywood he thought she had the makings of a Garbo. Then DURANT said BERRY started to get very "sort of irrational and peculiar". He said this fellow GETTY kept coming back into her life and told how BERRY had related to him that GETTY wanted to marry her as soon as he got a divorce. DURANT said she would disappear at times. In the meantime CHAPLIN had put her under contract. DURANT did not recall the amount paid her but remembered that she continually was asking him, DURANT, to get her more money.

From her actions DURANT said he came to the conclusion that she was not reliable and that CHAPLIN should "get rid of her." Apparently BERRY found this out because DURANT said she took a violent dislike to him, accused him of trying to stop her career. In spite of that CHAPLIN went on seeing her.

The above facts, DURANT said, pretty clearly described his understanding of the picture up to about a year ago, at which time he said he went to work

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for EDDY SMALL. During that time he said he didn't see very much of either CHAPLIN or BERRY. He remembered CHAPLIN had told him that BERRY had broken her contract with the CHAPLIN STUDIOS; that SAM MARX, Producer at Metro, wanted her over there. On other occasions CHAPLIN told him he was having trouble with BERRY, although he never told him the details. He mentioned going to New York with CHAPLIN in October of 1942, at which time CHAPLIN made a speech. He told them he saw BERRY in New York. She stayed at the Pierre Hotel. Shortly after that they came back to Hollywood and DURANT said that he had not seen her since their return from New York except one night. On that occasion he was having dinner at CHAPLIN's home. She came to the house and wanted to see him. "He couldn't see her. That is the only time I have seen her since October."

After DURANT had given the investigators this general story, they questioned him particularly as to parts of it. In answer to the question of whether BERRY had contacted him first on her arrival in Hollywood, DURANT replied "Yes, she did. She called me up at my home." At that time he said she told him that she was the girl that BLUMENTHAL had written him about and that thereafter he arranged the dinner party at Ferrino's.

When asked if BERRY lived at CHAPLIN's home, DURANT said "Not to my knowledge." However, he admitted that she was at CHAPLIN's home a good deal. As to what she did when she was at his home, DURANT said she had dinner there several times; worked with him, and he would see her about the place when he was playing tennis with CHAPLIN. He understood too that she was doing a great deal of rehearsing for her part in the contemplated picture and observed too that "CHAPLIN saw quite a bit of her socially as well."

DURANT was asked whether in September or October of 1941 he knew anything about BERRY becoming pregnant. To this question he replied "I never knew Miss BERRY became pregnant until she told me, or until CHAPLIN told me she told him she was pregnant about three weeks ago--that is the first time I ever knew." DURANT insisted that he knew nothing about her being pregnant in September of 1941 nor did he ever arrange for the performance of an abortion upon her nor did he know a Doctor TWEEDY nor did he ever make any arrangements with anyone who represented Dr. TWEEDY nor did he ever ask anyone to go there and make arrangements with TWEEDY for the performance of an abortion.

He gave the same replies to questions put to him by the investigators relative to an abortion on BERRY in January of 1942. He was asked also whether CHAPLIN had arranged for such an abortion. To this question he replied "I am sure he didn't or I am pretty sure he would have discussed it with me."

Referring again to the play CHAPLIN purchased for BERRY, DURANT said "CHAPLIN thought it was written for her--absolutely for her" and continued that the reason the picture was never produced was because "Miss BERRY showed by her

actions she was completely unreliable, an inveterate liar, and CHAPLIN did not feel she had the stamina to sustain a performance for a complete screen play. He didn't want to risk his money on her delivering the goods. Those were the reasons DURANT said that CHAPLIN told him he didn't go ahead with the production.

He was asked if around September or October, 1941, he had presented a letter to BERRY in which she recited that she was resigning from her contract to the CHARLES CHAPLIN STUDIOS because of her pregnant condition and that CHAPLIN had done all he could for her and that she appreciated everything he had done. DURANT replied that he had not. He also denied that such a letter after the performance of an abortion was destroyed by CHAPLIN in the presence of himself and BERRY.

He was also asked if it was not true that when BERRY became pregnant in September or October of 1941 "--- it Mr. CHAPLIN's wish to allow her to have her baby but you were the one who insisted she couldn't go on with it, and have an abortion?" DURANT replied "I know nothing about any abortions regarding BERRY or CHAPLIN.

DURANT was also asked if, when he and CHAPLIN went back to New York in October, 1942, CHAPLIN had furnished funds for BERRY to make the trip back to New York. DURANT said he knew nothing about whether this was true or not.

DURANT was asked if he knew why BERRY had broken her contract with CHAPLIN STUDIOS and he replied she had told him it was because CHAPLIN took so long in preparation for a picture - "it had been proven that he has taken sometimes two or three years to make a picture. She was getting impatient about it, and she had this opportunity to go over to Metro and make this picture and felt it was good experience for her and would keep her busy in the meantime, and she was getting sick of sitting around waiting." He was asked if he knew what was behind the offer she had been made by MGM and DURANT related he once talked to SAM MARX about it and MARX told him he was very much interested in her. As to why it didn't go through DURANT said he didn't know but he was positive that MARX thought as did CHAPLIN, that BERRY had great ability.

DURANT said that BERRY was very bitter against him "she hated my guts." When asked if she ever expressed herself in his presence to that effect DURANT replied "I couldn't be around with her - she resented me so I had to keep out of the way most of the time."

DURANT was asked if it was not true that during the month of December, 1942, CHAPLIN and BERRY were having a little difficulty. He admitted that he knew that but as to what that difficulty was he preferred not to discuss it, stating that it was simply a matter that he had heard about. He went on then to say that the only thing CHAPLIN had told him about that difficulty in December

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of 1942 was that BERRY had been coming up to the house "had come up there once or twice and he was away - he had heard about that - then he told me one day she had come up the night before with a gun and forced her way in and went upstairs and he couldn't get her out and couldn't get the gun away from her, and he had a hell of a time, and that --" DURANT estimated that the incident occurred about Christmastime or shortly before and said that CHAPLIN told him no more of what occurred that night except he had a difficult time quieting BERRY but he finally got the gun away from her and she went away. DURANT said he didn't know whether CHAPLIN and BERRY had intimate relations that night.

DURANT said he knew nothing about an event the night before New Year's Eve when BERRY and CHAPLIN had a quarrel and BERRY had got out of CHAPLIN's car and gone into the Police Station. He knew nothing about the arrest in January, 1943, until a week after it happened. He denied that CHAPLIN had told him of BERRY being in jail on or about January 1 or 2 and asking what they could do about it.

With reference to BERRY's arrest on May 7, 1943, DURANT remembered that she was at CHAPLIN's house that night. He said he had not seen her since the time in New York in October of 1942, until that night. With reference to the incidents that evening he said she came up about eight o'clock when they were having dinner. EDWARD the butler came in and said "Miss BERRY is here." Whereupon, CHAPLIN said, "I can't see her now." As DURANT later got the story, he understands EDWARD went back out, told BERRY CHAPLIN could not see her, whereupon BERRY told EDWARD "I am going to sit here, I am going to stay here." DURANT explained she was out on the porch. After which EDWARD asked DURANT if he would go out and talk with her. DURANT said he went out and told her "JOAN, we are having dinner, will you please leave?" Whereupon BERRY said "No, I won't. I am going to stay right here."

DURANT said BERRY appeared to be quite excited and upset, after which CHAPLIN went out and said "JOAN, this is no time to come--I will talk to you later. I am having dinner." To this BERRY replied "I am not going to go, I am going to stay right here." Thereupon, DURANT said that they all went back into the house and CHAPLIN told EDWARD to call the police, to get a squad, not have her arrested, but have somebody take her off the premises. DURANT continued that "the squad car came and JOAN went away with them. CHAPLIN's idea was not to have her arrested but to have her removed because with the gun situation he didn't know what could happen. She might have had a gun with her again." DURANT was asked if CHAPLIN was afraid and he replied "Definitely afraid of what she might do." He estimated that she was in the house approximately ten minutes. He was asked if he overheard the instructions CHAPLIN gave the officers who were removing her. To this question he replied "No. There was no instructions." A fellow came up the stairs and said "JOAN, I think we might as well move on."

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"He knew her. She went with him. I left right after dinner. As far as I know, he didn't discuss anything with the officers."

DURANT was asked if the arresting officer was Sergeant GEBHART. He said he didn't know and doubted if he would recognize him. He was asked if when GEBHART came to the house he asked what was wrong. DURANT replied "No, not a thing. Evidently they had told him over the phone."

It was then asked if EDWARD the butler had made the call and he replied "No, he had." When asked what he told the officers, DURANT replied "I told them Miss BERRY was here and it looked like she might create a nuisance." "CHAPLIN asked me to do this. He said 'Will you call and get a squad car.' So I called and said 'Will you please send for her and get her off the premises?' They came up. The J. flows knew her and she knew him evidently. I left and that's all I know about the police angle."

DURANT said that after BERRY had left there was some discussion between EUGENE O'NEILL, CHAPLIN and himself. At that time he said the tenor of that talk was how completely open everybody was to this woman who was liable to do anything and the danger to have her at large. Of course it was terribly upsetting to CHARLIE, thinking this girl would come back any time and shoot him.

DURANT was asked if CHAPLIN had at any time expressed himself as being in love with BERRY or if BERRY had ever told him that CHAPLIN was in love with her. To both of these questions he replied in the negative. When asked if BERRY had ever said that she was in love with CHAPLIN, DURANT replied "She certainly intimated it." He did admit, however, that CHAPLIN was "very fond of BERRY."

DURANT said that on the night of May 7, 1943, when BERRY was arrested at CHAPLIN's house so far as he knew she had not been there previously that day. He said he got there about five o'clock in the afternoon. They played some tennis and then had dinner and that BERRY was not there at that time. CHAPLIN did not tell him whether she had been there before and at the time he arrived at five o'clock CHAPLIN was with his secretary, Miss CATHERINE HUNTER. He said Miss O'NEILL arrived about 6:30 that evening, coming alone.

DURANT said he did not know whether BERRY was at CHAPLIN's home the day before her arrest. Nor did CHAPLIN give him any details of a discussion he had had with BERRY just prior to her arrest when BERRY had been loitering about the place and bothering him for several days. DURANT said CHAPLIN did mention she was in town but said nothing more. He recalled that this discussion took place just before dinner that night, at which time he said something like "BERRY is back." DURANT did remember though that CHAPLIN had told him about some telephone calls and continued "She had been calling up. He may have said something about

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her coming up, I don't remember her particularly. I hadn't seen him for a couple of days."

The District Attorney's Investigators asked him if he knew anything about the time BERRY came up to CHAPLIN's house just before the time she was arrested in May, 1943, went up to his bedroom and found Mr. CHAPLIN and OONA O'NEILL there together and left, going down to the pool, telling CHAPLIN she would wait for him there. DURANT said he had heard something about that actually happening but he didn't think it was May 7, 1943. He knew that there was a scene when BERRY saw O'NEILL and that there were some words between the girls but said he did not know actually what was said.

When the officers came to get BERRY DURANT described her as being upset but not hysterical. He thought she was acting irrationally because she came up there at that time. He admitted though that he didn't see enough of her to be able to realize whether she was irrational. He denied that he heard BERRY tell CHAPLIN that she had something important to tell him.

When asked if he, DURANT, hadn't told BERRY to leave the place "and get the hell out of there", DURANT said he had not talked to her in that tone of voice but admitted he had told her to leave the premises.

When asked if CHAPLIN at that time was aware BERRY was pregnant, DURANT replied "No, he wasn't, absolutely." He said neither did he know whether she was pregnant.

DURANT said he knew of no telephone calls made to the Beverly Hills Police Station after she was taken down there on the night of May 7, 1943, nor did he know of any calls coming from that station to the CHAPLIN home. Nor from the time she was arrested until the time she was sentenced did he know of any discussion between CHAPLIN or any representatives of his and the Beverly Hills Police Department.

DURANT denied that when GEBHART took BERRY away he requested GEBHART "when you are finished come back here. I want to talk to you." Nor did he hear anyone else say that. He said he didn't know whether GEBHART did come back that night.

With reference to ROBERT ARDEN, DURANT said he had known him about two years but not well; that he had first met him at CHAPLIN's but he did not believe ARDEN was a frequent visitor at CHAPLIN's; that he was friendly with CHAPLIN and he knew nothing about any arrangements ARDEN may have made to Captain W. W. WHITE of the Beverly Hills Police Department except what he read in the newspaper. He said he never discussed the matter with ARDEN. Nor had he ever discussed with ARDEN his, the latter's attitude toward JOAN BERRY.

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Following BERRY's arrest on May 7, 1943, DURANT said the first thing he heard about it was when he read of it in the newspapers and then changed his statement to say that "No, the first time MINNA WALLIS told she was in jail - called me up, that was it." He thought this occurred some time the next day after her arrest. He said that MINNA WALLIS in her call to him said that BERRY was in jail and that "I think I should go down and see her." He asked the news writers if they wanted the story on that and when they replied "Yes" DURANT said that WALLIS said "Do you want to go down?" I said definitely not. She said "Well, I will go down and see if there is anything I could do." I was sorry for her. I said "I don't blame you, MINNA, but I am poison to her and there is no point in my going down". MINNA went down there and called me up and said that she was very much upset and said she thought she would feel better about it if she could help her get out, that she was pregnant, what did I think about it. I said "It is up to you, MINNA, whatever you want to do." I said "I feel sorry for her too, but there is nothing I can do." She said, and then later she made some arrangements, and she told me the story later, she saw the matron and asked her if there was any way of her getting out and the matron said there is only one way and that is to get the judge that sentenced her to give her a transfer, because of the condition she is in, so the matron told her it was Judge Holland, so MINNA went to see Judge HOLLAND and HOLLAND said it wasn't him, it was Judge GRIFFIN, but he said "I think I can get it for you if you want to", and MINNA said "Yes, I would like to do it." So they went over to HOLLAND's office, I think it was, and MINNA called me up and said - they explained the situation to me and said that she was going to try and get her out and what did I think about it, and how did CHARLIE feel, and I said "I am sure he feels sorry for her", and knowing her condition, which was a new angle, I called him up and he said "There is nothing really I feel I can do." I told MINNA, "If you want to do it I think it is a decent thing to do if you want to do it go ahead, but you will have to do it on your own", so she, from what she told me - I wasn't there, she with the writ or whatever it was, went down with HOLLAND to see Miss BERRY, and during the course of conversation he asked Miss BERRY, having no lawyer "Do you want me to represent you?" and Miss BERRY said "Yes, I do", and that was all there was to it. They got her out and put her in a sanitarium.

When asked if WALLIS had explained to him how the financial arrangements were going to be taken care of, DURANT said she had not. He admitted that WALLIS told him that BERRY wanted to get out of jail and into a sanitarium. He was asked if he had inquired of WALLIS how BERRY was going to stay in a sanitarium. He replied "No, she told Miss WALLIS that she had some money. I think she said it was \$1,000. That GETTY's lawyer or GETTY had given her, so I guess MINNA thought she had some money.

DURANT was then asked if BERRY had a thousand dollars why she, WALLIS, had asked him, DURANT, to see if CHAPLIN wanted to do anything about it. To this

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question DURANT replied "To see how he felt about the thing, he being the one that got her committed - he would be the one who naturally would sign the release."

He was specifically asked what WALLIS asked him to ask CHAPLIN to do. He replied "How he felt about her. She thought that he had to have something to do with okaying her release." DURANT admitted that it was through that MINNA WALLIS had told him that Judge HOLLAND had thought he could get BERRY out of jail and continued "Yes, assuming it would have to come from the Plaintiff or the man who had her arrested so she called me to ask if CHAPLIN was interested in having her get out, assuming he would have to sign something because he was the one who had her committed."

DURANT denied that WALLIS had asked him to ask CHAPLIN whether or not he would be willing to "foot the bill." He said there was no talk about money at all nor was there any discussion as to who was going to pay Judge HOLLAND's fee. He said he did not ask Miss WALLIS who was going to pay HOLLAND.

DURANT admitted that he called WALLIS back and told her CHAPLIN was not interested in anything BERRY did. He said CHAPLIN told him later that evening that BERRY had told him she was pregnant.

This conversation DURANT said took place on the evening BERRY was arrested, May 7, 1943. In other words, CHAPLIN had been told by BERRY before her arrest that she was pregnant. DURANT admitted he was not present all the time CHAPLIN was talking with BERRY out in front of the house. He said CHAPLIN discussed this in front of CONA O'NEILL that night and made the statement "I don't believe it" and further "if she is, I had nothing to do with it".

DURANT said that CHAPLIN did not "Particularly" say that BERRY accused him, CHAPLIN, of being the father of her child. However, with a little more thought he admitted that "Yes, he (meaning CHAPLIN) gave me the impression that she (BERRY) thought that he was the father--that impression - you see what I mean--and he said 'If she is pregnant I had nothing to do with it' so it made me think she said she was pregnant. Of course, Miss O'NEILL being there, nothing much was said but that was the first I knew of it."

DURANT was asked if, during the time that BERRY was associated with CHAPLIN she had any mental disturbances. To this question DURANT replied that he did not know but he would like a more specific definition of mental disturbances. He was then asked if she became very nervous and would go into hysterics and appeared to be emotionally unstable. He replied "Yes, she would become emotionally unstable several times. That was particularly in the MARX episode, when she came to CHARLIE and said she wanted to go to Metro and he said 'You are under contract to me and I am not going to let you go.' She got upset and said he was taking advantage of her and I think on one other occasion I think Mr. CHAPLIN had gone out with a party without her there. That upset her very much."

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During this time DURANT said he knew nothing of her being under treatment of a doctor. He said that neither himself nor CHAPLIN ever arranged to have her interviewed by a psychiatrist.

The rest of the statement given by DURANT to the District Attorney's Investigators covered questions concerning CONA O'NEILL and CHAPLIN, which are not pertinent to this investigation and which are not being mentioned here.

INTERVIEW WITH THOMAS WELLS DURANT  
BY BUREAU AGENTS

Reference report, Pages 50 to 59, set forth some details of the interview with DURANT held in the Bureau Office on January 5, 1944. The circumstances of taking the statement from him are explained in that report and there is set forth from his statement the details which were concerned primarily with the Mann Act violation involved in this investigation. The original statement, unsigned, was forwarded to the United States Attorney with that report. The statement taken at that time is being set forth herein in its complete form, which has not been set forth heretofore. It is as follows:

"Los Angeles, California

*lrc*  
"I, THOMAS WELLS DURANT, residing at 13151 $\frac{1}{2}$  Sunset Boulevard, West Los Angeles, California, telephone ARizona 3-2449, make the following voluntary statement to Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] whom I know to be Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice. It has been explained to me that I do not have to make a statement and that anything I say herein can be used in a court of law against me. No promises or threats have been made to induce this statement.

"I came to California approximately six years ago and a year later I met CHARLES CHAPLIN and was employed by him for eight months as a screen writer and assistant. About a year and a half after I left his employ, I received a letter from A. C. BLUMENTHAL from Mexico City, saying that a young lady by the name of JOAN BERRY, a protege of his friend, Mr. PAUL GETTY, was coming to Los Angeles; he had given her my address; she was interested in going into motion pictures and would I introduce her to Mr. CHAPLIN. Miss BERRY called me, I invited her to my house and we arranged a dinner party a few days later at Perino's, composed of Mr. CHAPLIN, myself, Miss BERRY and another lady friend of Miss BERRY'S. I do not recall the name of this lady. Subsequently Mr. CHAPLIN became very much interested in Miss BERRY, particularly as a potential actress and also romantically.

"Miss BERRY had early demonstrated to me her emotional instability

"having come to my house early in the morning in a hysterical condition, and told me of an involvement with Mr. PAUL GETTY. This was approximately a month after she met CHAPLIN. It was about 3:00 or 4:00 o'clock in the morning that she came over to my house. I was then living at 709 North Bedford Drive. She explained to me that she had earlier that evening been with PAUL GETTY; they had gotten into a fight and as a result of these circumstances she was in this hysterical condition. She had also been drinking at the time. There was very little conversation on this occasion concerning CHAPLIN, inasmuch as she had not known him long enough to be romantically interested at that time. I quieted her down and took her home. She was at that time living in an apartment near Perino's.

"Through my friendship with CHAPLIN I had a good many occasions to see Miss BERRY and Mr. CHAPLIN together. He became very much interested in her as a potential actress. He bought a play for her called 'Shadow and Substance,' made numerous tests and sent her to school to prepare herself to play the leading part. He also placed her under contract. During this time there were several instances of emotional upsets and disturbances between the two. I tried to advise Miss BERRY to control herself and work hard for the picture, and also as CHAPLIN'S friend, advised him not to form too great an emotional attachment for her. She was very irrational and for that reason, very dangerous. I told him about the instance concerning Mr. GETTY, which he repeated to Miss BERRY, which alienated her feelings towards me. She resented what influence I might have had on Mr. CHAPLIN. However, he continued to see her in spite of my advice, and his interest in her at this time was still intensely romantic until the spring of 1942.

"In October of 1942 the 'Second Front' group invited CHAPLIN to come to New York and speak at a rally at Carnegie Hall, and offered him two round-trip tickets, and he asked me to accompany him. CHAPLIN, EDWARD CHANEY and myself went to New York, where we stayed at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. CHAPLIN told me either on the train or after we got to New York that JOAN BERRY and her mother had gone east to New York City and I specifically remember his mentioning that he didn't want to see her in New York. I attended the Second Front speech at Carnegie Hall made by Mr. CHAPLIN.

"Miss BERRY continually kept calling the apartment and asked to speak to Mr. CHAPLIN, and CHAPLIN had given instructions to EDWARD that he didn't want to talk to her. She then later asked for me and I talked to her. She said she wanted to see CHARLIE and couldn't we get together. EDWARD had told me that she sounded rather belligerent over the phone. I was worried about her possibly creating a scene and I was also rather sorry for her, and I suggested to Mr. CHAPLIN that we see her at least once, which he reluctantly agreed to. I never called her at the Pierre for either myself or for Mr. CHAPLIN.

"We met Miss BERRY at '21' for dinner and went out to a night club and then came back to the Waldorf-Astoria. While we were at the '21' club having dinner, we met PHILLIP BARRY, the playwright, and sat and talked with him for a short time. When I say that we went back to the Waldorf-Astoria, I mean Mr. CHAPLIN, JOAN BERRY and myself. After we arrived at Mr. CHAPLIN'S apartment, I sat in the living room with them. He said that he was going to take Miss BERRY to the Pierre. I went in my room and went to bed. I did not hear them leave Mr. CHAPLIN'S apartment, but I do know that the following morning Miss BERRY wasn't there. As I recall, Mr. CHAPLIN was in his bedroom the next morning.

"I did not see Miss BERRY again while we were in New York. To my knowledge, she did not come back to Mr. CHAPLIN'S apartment that next day or later that same morning. Mr. CHAPLIN did not tell me anything that occurred while he and Miss BERRY were together, nor did he tell me anything about giving her any money on this occasion when we were in New York together.

"After we returned to the West Coast, specifically Los Angeles, I did not see BERRY again until May of 1943 when she came up to Mr. CHAPLIN'S house when I was having dinner with CHAPLIN and OONA O'NEILL. He had told me previously that Miss BERRY had been around, stirring up trouble. As I recall, she had come up and threatened him with a gun. During or after dinner on this night in May of 1943, EDWARD announced that Miss BERRY wanted to see CHAPLIN outside. CHAPLIN told EDWARD to tell Miss BERRY he did not wish to see her and to go away. EDWARD evidently delivered the message, because he came back and said that Miss BERRY refused to go. CHAPLIN told me that he was afraid to see Miss BERRY and would I try to ask her to leave. I went out and spoke to her and asked her to leave. This she refused to do. Then Mr. CHAPLIN asked me to phone the Beverly Hills Police, which I did. Either before dinner or prior to that time I recall that Mr. CHAPLIN had told me that JOAN BERRY had said she was pregnant.

"Within about five minutes after my call to the police, a squad car came up. An officer in plain clothes came to the door and I spoke to him briefly and told him that this was Miss BERRY and that she was causing a disturbance. It was my impression that the officer already knew of Miss BERRY and that she had been causing trouble around Mr. CHAPLIN'S house.

"During the time that JOAN BERRY was at Mr. CHAPLIN'S door, he spoke to her briefly through the vestibule. I don't specifically recall what he said, except that she should go away. I am not completely clear on this matter, but it is possible that Mr. CHAPLIN may have told

"her that if she did not go, he would call the police. After the police had taken her away, I recall that we had some conversation at dinner about her being there, and then I left and went home. I do not remember giving any instructions to the police officer to return after he had booked Miss BERRY.

"I heard nothing further from Mr. CHAPLIN or Miss BERRY, or about the jail, until Miss WALLIS told me she had been down to see Miss BERRY at the jail. I did not discuss MINNA'S going down to jail until she told me that she had been down there. The first time I had heard about the situation was when she came back from seeing JOAN. MINNA said that she felt very sorry for her, that she was in with some other prisoners and she wanted to try to help her. Miss WALLIS also told me that JOAN BERRY said that she was pregnant.

"Later Miss WALLIS explained to me what happened the next time she had gone to the jail. As I understand it, this was on another day from Miss WALLIS' first visit to the County Jail to see BERRY. After this second visit Miss WALLIS told me that she had found out from the matron that the only way to get Miss BERRY out of jail was to go to the judge who had sentenced her and the judge was a Judge HOLLAND. Miss WALLIS had gone to Judge HOLLAND and he had said that Judge GRIFFIN had sentenced Miss BERRY and that he had nothing to do with it, and Miss WALLIS went down with Judge HOLLAND to the jail, and Miss WALLIS said that Judge HOLLAND asked Miss BERRY if she wanted him to represent her, and Miss BERRY said she did, and when Miss WALLIS asked her if she had any money, she said she had \$1,000.00 and was living at the Chateau Elysee.

"I discussed this matter with Mr. CHAPLIN as a friend, and thought that there was being a great deal of publicity which would involve everybody connected with Miss BERRY, either rightly or wrongly, and suggested he try to do something about the case. Mr. CHAPLIN refused to have anything to do with Miss BERRY.

"The one and only time I talked to Judge HOLLAND was when I was at Miss WALLIS' house and she called him to see what had happened to Miss BERRY, and I asked him also what was going on. To the best of my knowledge, this was after she had been released from jail. Judge HOLLAND said that Miss BERRY was resting and there was nothing new, and that he was going to get in touch with LOYD WRIGHT. I told Mr. CHAPLIN and I called LOYD WRIGHT.

"This interest of Miss WALLIS and myself in calling Judge HOLLAND was solely for our personal benefit and not in the interest of Mr. CHAPLIN. Any activity of Miss WALLIS and myself in connection with JOAN

"BERRY in May of 1943 was solely to protect ourselves from any further publicity in the case. I do not recall any conversation with Miss WALLIS calling me from Judge HOLLAND'S office with reference to JOAN BERRY being in jail, and a fee of Judge HOLLAND in the sum of \$500.00 to get her out of jail, nor did I get in touch with Mr. CHAPLIN to see if he would okay spending \$500.00 as an attorney's fee for Judge HOLLAND'S activity in behalf of JOAN BERRY.

"Following her release from jail in May of 1943, I have neither seen nor had any contact with JOAN BERRY, directly or indirectly.

"I do not recall, and to my knowledge Mr. ARDEN never telephonically communicated with Mr. CHAPLIN in May of 1943 with reference to BERRY'S being in the County Jail, after which Mr. CHAPLIN gave me the telephone and I talked with Mr. ARDEN about any activity on the part of any of us in getting her out of jail.

"I would like to explain my relationship with Mr. ROBERT ARDEN. When I first met Mr. ARDEN I developed a personal antipathy for him, which I probably showed him on occasions and of which I informed Mr. CHAPLIN. I warned him against his association with Mr. ARDEN, ARDEN in my opinion being a person lacking in any fundamental qualifications of friendship and loyalty. On one occasion I had a personal encounter with Mr. ARDEN and I feel that any of his testimony regarding me might be influenced by his personal feelings toward me.

"With reference to BERRY'S arrest in January of 1943 I knew nothing, until the matter came out in the newspapers later in the year, and subsequent conversation with Mr. CHAPLIN. Mr. CHAPLIN discussed superficially Mr. ARDEN'S activities in his behalf during that period in January, and I of course read the newspaper comments and have heard considerable gossip about what happened at that time. However, I was not seeing Mr. CHAPLIN or Mr. ARDEN at that particular time so I had no personal knowledge of it.

"During my association with CHAPLIN and JOAN BERRY I on one occasion recall having an argument with JOAN BERRY when she slapped me for some remark I made. Thereafter I shook her up, but have never struck or beaten her. To my knowledge Mr. CHAPLIN has never done the same.

"With reference to the abortions which JOAN BERRY, I have been told, alleges were performed on her, I have only the following knowledge. On one or two occasions Mr. CHAPLIN told me that JOAN BERRY said that she had had an abortion. On several occasions also Miss BERRY told me too that she had had one or two abortions. She said at one time that CHAPLIN was the father, and later denied it. I personally had no part

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"in arranging for those two alleged abortions. I do not know, nor have I ever had any contact with a Dr. IMMERMAN, nor do I know or have I ever had any contact with a Dr. TWEDDIE. I do recall, however, that on one occasion I took JOAN BERRY to a sanitarium near Sunset and Alvarado, but a. I recall, this was because she had taken an overdose of sleeping tablets and not for the purpose of an abortion. It is my recollection that this sanitarium was operated by a friend of MINNA WALLIS and that it was at her suggestion that JOAN BERRY was taken there. I do not recall the name of this place, but believe I could locate it if I drove in that area.

I do recall that at a time which could be January of 1942 JOAN BERRY was ill and in CHAPLIN'S house for a period of several days. I do not know the cause of her illness at that time.

"Over a period of years I have become personally very devoted to Mr. CHAPLIN. On all occasions my motives for trying to help him have been based on personal friendship. At no time have I ever received any money, directly or indirectly from him, except in 1939 when I was employed by him for a period of seven months. I have an independent income of my own, amounting to approximately \$18,000.00 a year, and at no time have I been dependent on Mr. CHAPLIN. In my opinion he is a great artist and has the faults of being one. On some occasions I have endeavored to help him because of these faults.

"In reviewing the relationship between Mr. CHAPLIN and Miss BERRY, I sincerely believe that he was genuinely fond of Miss BERRY and sincerely interested in her career as an actress. After she gave numerous demonstrations that she was an extremely irrational, unreliable person he sought, frankly, to discontinue these relations. Miss BERRY cancelled her contract, but still she sought Mr. CHAPLIN. Instead of him taking a firm stand, both because of his former interest and because of the danger to his name, he often saw her against his friends' better judgment. This precipitated some of these unfortunate experiences.

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"I have read this statement, consisting of eight and one-fourth typewritten pages, which has been dictated by myself and Agents [redacted] and [redacted] and it is all true to the best of my knowledge and recollection.

"Dated this \_\_\_\_ day of January, 1944."

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In addition to the information set forth in DURANT'S statement, considerable other information was developed at that time which is being set forth here. DURANT told of his having received a letter from A. C. BLUMENTHAL about BERRY coming to Los Angeles, the same requesting that he introduce her to CHAPLIN. He said a few days later she called him, he invited her over to the house and then arranged a meeting for her with CHAPLIN. After this initial meeting, DURANT said "CHARLIE liked her right away; she was a different type than the average moving picture glamour girl. He got very much interested in her. He saw a great deal of her after that. Sometimes I was with him, sometimes I wasn't. That's how it started." DURANT denied that he himself was ever intimate with BERRY. He said that while he had never seen CHAPLIN and BERRY in intimate relations, he assumed that they were intimate because BERRY was there in the CHAPLIN home a great deal. DURANT said he believed that she had stayed there all night on occasions.

DURANT made the statement during the interview that he believed BERRY was a psychopathic liar; she was very emotional, almost bordering on insanity, saying that she used to get emotionally upset, come to him and talk various things over with him, during which time she told tales that were preposterous. DURANT was asked to explain that statement and said, "Well, one incident particularly. She came over to my house, that is, she called up - my mother was there at the time. It was about 2:00 o'clock in the morning, and she was crying on the phone, very hysterically, and said, 'I've got to see you right away.' So, she came over and I let her in and she told me she had had this terrific fight with PAUL GETTY. This was about two or three months after CHARLIE started to go with her - and that he had walked out on her and she was terribly upset and had hysterics there. So I tried to straighten her out - she had been drinking a bit, and I talked to her a bit and tried to calm her down, and got her back in the car and took her home. So as CHARLIE became attached to her and sincerely was interested in her from the point of view of an actress, because she had certainly at least drawing room talent; she was marvelous, and he bought this play for her and wanted to go ahead and do it and seemed to be getting more and more involved, I told him on several occasions that he ought to stop seeing her, that she was too difficult and unreliable a person, which he told her, which embittered her against me and she would have nothing to do with me and blamed me for breaking her relationship with CHARLIE. That was one of the contributing factors. But CHARLIE, for some reason or other, I think because he was fond of her and because he was sorry for her and because he really believed she had great ability, kept seeing her, continued to see her, and that was about all. Then there was this trip to New York and the situation there, and of course there were several scenes later. I mean, you know all about her breaking in the house and that sort of thing. So that was the highlights. She's just a very difficult person."

DURANT was asked when as to point of time he noted that BERRY was showing herself to be irrational and a person with whom CHAPLIN could not get along. To this he replied, "Well, when I first met JOAN - then came this situation with

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GETTY, which was before CHARLIE I think got very much involved with her, I mean that was even before that - she showed that she was a very emotional girl, and then it seemed to develop more the more she saw of him, the more she became involved with him emotionally, and I think it was partly because she felt that she was in a position to be a great actress and she didn't have the stability to cope with it. I mean, she had no self-discipline at all. She used to come out with the craziest ideas and thoughts and stories on many occasions, and I think it was partly accentuated by her relationship with CHARLIE. I don't think there was any doubt about it. I don't think it was his fault altogether, but I think it was during that period of time that she steadily became worse. Now, maybe she was just as bad before - I don't know, I didn't know her before and I hadn't heard anything about her, but she was definitely a frantic, very irrational girl." DURANT was asked how her association with CHAPLIN would accentuate her emotional state, and he replied, "Extreme jealousy was one of the manifestations of it. Anybody that he had anything to do with she resented it, and would talk about it publicly and say that she wasn't going to see him and was going off and get married. On one occasion we had a dinner we gave for her - she was going the next day to marry somebody. I've forgotten who it was; I think it was GETTY'S lawyer. We gave this dinner for her." By "we" DURANT stated he meant "CHAPLIN, myself and I think there was CHARLIE'S son and a couple of other girls. It was a sort of a goodbye dinner, and suddenly she didn't go - she stayed in town and wanted to work and, you know, settle down. I mean, there were always scenes like that as time went on. Always very embarrassing and very disturbing." DURANT explained that the farewell dinner was before CHAPLIN made his trip to New York in October, 1942. He said it was probably two or three months before.

Reference report sets forth some of DURANT'S statements about the animosity which existed between himself and BERRY. In explaining the basis for this, DURANT said that BERRY had told CHAPLIN that "I was on the make for her. That was one of the reasons, and he asked me about it and I, of course, denied it, and she once or twice tried to put herself in a position to make it look that way to obviously get CHARLIE jealous. She did it I know once, particularly." Asked what happened on that occasion, DURANT stated, "Well, I mean, not that I'm any superior person morally, but I mean I had no interest in her and it just didn't come off, that's all. I mean, she came out to my house once when I was living on Canonview Drive, and put on this act, which was obviously an act, and nothing happened, and I told her about it and she heard about that of course, and that widened the breach, so for a period of two or three months I didn't see her at all. Didn't want to see her. She didn't want to see me, either." In reply to the question as to what kind of an "act" BERRY had put on, DURANT stated, "Well, it wasn't exactly a seduction scene, but it was an obvious opportunity to have relations with me, and she was definitely interested and practically propositioned me. I always liked JOAN, I mean, I was affectionate with her, just normally so. I really liked her, and it got into something else. She told me what she thought of me, you know - built this thing up. She's full of those things. I knew her well enough to know she

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wasn't on the level. I wasn't interested anyway."

After he and CHAPLIN returned from New York following their trip there in October, 1942, DURANT said he never saw BERRY again until the time she came up to CHAPLIN'S house in May of 1943. He said he of his own knowledge had no information about her arrest in January of 1943, but he did recall that CHAPLIN had told him that she had been arrested and that there was quite a scene about it - "She was naked on somebody's lawn and there was quite a story about that. I think I read about it too. There was something in the paper about it. I wasn't even seeing much of CHARLIE at that time." DURANT said he also understood "Somebody had called up, as I understand it. The police had arrested her and I think she had given his name or something. I don't know the details of that, I really don't. I mean, he discussed it with me, told me something about it, but not all the details, and I wasn't with him or had I seen JOAN, or really knew nothing directly about it."

As to the part that ARDEN played following BERRY'S arrest in January, 1943, DURANT said he only knew that which CHAPLIN had told him. When asked specifically what CHAPLIN had told him about ARDEN'S part in that affair, DURANT said, "Well, now, look, do you think I should answer that? I mean, after all, I wasn't involved in it and he just told me about that. Do you think I should really tell you that?" He was not questioned any further along this line.

With reference to what occurred on the evening of May 7, 1943, DURANT said he was at CHAPLIN'S home with OONA O'NEILL and CHAPLIN. He said CHAPLIN told him earlier in the evening that BERRY had been around, but did not give any details also he said that they had had a scene there at the place. DURANT was asked if CHAPLIN told him that the police were looking for her, to which question he replied, "No, he did not. I don't know what time it was - I think it was either during dinner or just after dinner. EDWARD came in and said that JOAN BERRY was outside and CHARLIE said, 'Tell her that I won't see her.' So EDWARD went back and said that CHARLIE wouldn't see her and she refused to leave. So he came back and he said, 'TIM, I don't dare go out there. Will you go out and see her?' So I went out there and I talked to her and said, 'There's no point in waiting around for CHARLIE because he won't see you,' and I said, 'Why don't you - you'd better go.' She said, 'No, I'm going to stay right here.' She sat on the wall just as you go out of the door, so I went back to CHARLIE and told him and he said, 'Call the police, I'm scared that she'll shoot me.' He said, 'That's the only thing to do.'"

DURANT was asked if on that night she had a gun, and he said he didn't think so, at least it didn't look that way to him. After CHAPLIN told him to call the police DURANT said he went back and told EDWARD, the butler, to call, but he didn't, and DURANT said he then called them. He stated he went to the phone, called them and said, "Miss BERRY is up here creating a disturbance." DURANT said he did not know whom he talked to, but that he just dialed the phone and a short time later a squad car came up. He guessed it was only about five or six minutes

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after his call, and in the meantime EDWARD was standing near the door. DURANT was asked if CHAPLIN talked to BERRY while she was there at the house and he said that CHAPLIN did, stating, "You'd better go, and there's no point in staying around here - you're just trying to create a lot of trouble." DURANT said that as he remembered it, CHAPLIN said that through the door. He didn't recall that CHAPLIN went out and directly talked with her. DURANT was asked if he heard everything that was said, and he thought that he did, stating that he noticed that CHAPLIN was upset and he was going to call the police. DURANT continued that the police came, a man came up the stairs and that BERRY went with him in the car. DURANT said he didn't know who the police officer was and didn't believe he would even recognize him if he saw him again. DURANT said it was dark, he didn't get a good look at the man. He didn't believe, however, that he had on a uniform.

DURANT was asked if he had any conversation with this police officer. He said he couldn't remember. He was asked if there was any conversation between this officer and CHAPLIN or EDWARD, the butler. To this question he replied in the negative. DURANT was asked if the officer just walked up to the house and grabbed the girl and left. He said, "Well, I think he knew the situation. I think he knew that JOAN had been up and making a disturbance. I might have said that - I mean, I may have said, 'This is JOAN BERRY,' I don't know. I don't know what I did say, but it was just a few words." Asked if he handled the situation himself for CHAPLIN, DURANT replied, "Well, I mean to the extent of calling the police, that's all." DURANT denied that he asked the police officer to come back up to the house and tell what happened.

After BERRY left, DURANT said there was some discussion between himself, CHAPLIN and OONA O'NEILL during which time CHAPLIN only said that she had been causing a lot of trouble around there and that he was scared to death. DURANT denied that CHAPLIN asked him to get in touch with anybody to find what went on at the police station after BERRY got there, and continued, "I had told him sometime before that I had washed my hands of JOAN BERRY; that I would have nothing to do with her directly or indirectly. I said that he was making a fool out of himself and I didn't want any part of it. She was a dangerous girl. He knew that and I think he would have been embarrassed to ask me to do anything. I know on occasions he was ashamed to tell me that he had seen her. I mean, sometime back. That was his attitude. So I just happened to be there at that particular time when she was out there and it looks as though, I mean, from what I heard, that she might have done anything. So I did the only thing that it seemed natural to do to prevent anything possibly tragic from happening, which it might have."

Asked if he had anything to do with the securing of Judge HOLLAND as BERRY'S attorney, or had had any conversation with CHAPLIN or MINNA WALLIS about same, DURANT replied in the negative. He said the only thing he knew about it was what he read in the papers and what MINNA WALLIS told him. Asked the information furnished him by her, DURANT said that she had gone down to see JOAN BERRY

when she was first put in jail in May, 1943. DURANT said that he didn't know how quickly MINNA WALLIS did go down to the jail, whether she went down the next day after BERRY was arrested or a few days later. Asked his conversation with WALLIS on this matter, he could only recall that "just the fact that she was in jail and MINNA told me that she felt sorry for her and I said, 'do too. I don't know what you can do about it.' You know, she's a girl that's very unreliable and anything can happen to her. I said, 'Everybody's tried to help her and nobody can do any good - nobody can do anything with her.'"

DURANT denied that he had suggested that MINNA WALLIS visit BERRY in jail, knowing anything about it before she went down there. DURANT insisted that it was afterwards that she told him about it. He continued that MINNA WALLIS had visited JOHN BERRY in jail, came back and then told him about having gone down there. He was aware that she had gone down the second time with Judge HOLLAND. In this connection he continued, "She went down twice, she told me, and of course MINNA and I are very good friends, and she told me the story and that's another thing that she can tell you very honestly. I don't want to tell you her story because I may have it wrong, but I can tell you this - I had nothing to do with her going down, did not advise her to go down, did not know she had gone down until she came back and told me about it, and I had nothing to do with it from any point of view as far as CHARLIE was concerned. Not in the least."

DURANT was asked if he didn't recall that MINNA WALLIS called him from Judge HOLLAND'S office after she had first visited BERRY in jail and that there was some discussion about what HOLLAND'S fee would be, and that thereafter he checked with CHAPLIN to find out if CHAPLIN would pay it. This DURANT emphatically denied, saying that there was no such discussion at all. He did admit, however, that he had once talked to Judge HOLLAND, but that was later.

He said, though, that he did go "to see CHARLIE and told him about her being down there and MINNA'S telling me about it and how pathetic she was, and how she was doing a lot of talking, and I thought it was unfortunate all along and something should be done about it if possible; if she was in a family way." He continued, "In fact, when I discussed it with CHARLIE about her being down there and tried to get him to do something about it, he said, 'No, this woman has black-mailed me for two years. I'm perfectly willing and glad to have a showdown with her. I've done everything in the world for her - I've tried to straighten her out. I've been very generous with her, and this is the last straw. She's given out all this publicity. There's no point in trying to prevent any more. Let her go through with it, do anything she wants.'" This conversation with CHAPLIN he said took place after the matter had been given publicity in the newspapers.

Denying any conversation with MINNA WALLIS about HOLLAND'S fee, he was asked when she had told him that Judge HOLLAND had been retained by her. He stated "She told me about it when she came back. She told me the story that she went down

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there and they said - that she tried to get her out and that there had been some publicity and JOAN had been talking to the papers. She tried to get her out and the matron or somebody said the only way to get her out is to go to the judge who sentenced her, and it was Judge HOLLAND. So she went to Judge HOLLAND and Judge HOLLAND told her that Judge GRIFFIN had sentenced her and so MINNA brought her down there. Now CHARLIE had nothing to do with it and neither did I because he was completely washed up with the thing."

Asked who was to pay Judge HOLLAND'S fee, DURANT said he did not know, continuing that WALLIS told him that BERRY said she had \$1,000, and that when Judge HOLLAND asked her (BERRY) if she wanted him to represent her, she said yes. That DURANT said was how Judge HOLLAND was engaged. With reference to when he did talk with Judge HOLLAND, DURANT said that that was "once when I was in MINNA'S house and she discussed the thing with Judge HOLLAND about representing her, and I asked Judge HOLLAND, 'What's doing - am I involved in the thing in any way?'" When asked why he had made such a query of HOLLAND, DURANT replied, "Well, I was there when she was arrested and I wanted to know whether I was going to be involved in it, naturally."

In trying to reconstruct why he had been at MINNA'S house calling Judge HOLLAND, DURANT continued, "Well, I think MINNA was trying to find out what was going on - where JOAN was, and what was developing and what was the story on it. I think she had gotten out of jail at that time, as I remember. I'm not completely clear on it, but I know that CHARLIE had nothing to do with it. I'm not trying to protect him at all, but he had nothing to do with it. He resented it very much. In fact, he blamed MINNA for having anything to do with it. He said, 'Let her do what she wants. We've got to face it sooner or later. Let her do it.' He was perfectly willing to face the situation. In fact, he was too willing to do it. That's why everybody got involved in it. He had no consideration of anybody. He wanted to make an issue of it."

Asked how MINNA WALLIS found out JOAN BERRY was in jail - if he had told her, DURANT replied, "I think she read about it, or maybe I told her. I don't know, I'm not sure." It was then pointed out that she couldn't have read about it because the matter had not yet reached the newspapers, and DURANT replied, "Well, probably I told her then." He was sure that he had not asked MINNA WALLIS to go down to jail and through her friend, Judge HOLLAND, get BERRY out of jail so she wouldn't talk. He said that he actually had told WALLIS that "We were all going to be involved and naturally the less said the better. I mean, that was only self-protection. I didn't tell her to try to arrange anything so that she wouldn't say anything because I think that the damage had been done."

DURANT was also asked if he recalled any conversation on the part of MINNA WALLIS or himself with Judge HOLLAND wherein HOLLAND was asked to get out of the state. He denied any such conversation. Asked why he thought

be involved and would therefore have to talk to HOLLAND along those lines, DURANT replied, "Just because I was there when she was arrested." It was pointed out that each would probably not involve him in anything, so he continued, "No, not except what I had the responsibility of introducing her to CHAPLIN. I mean to say, anybody that has anything to do with CHAPLIN and JOAN BERRY and their trouble, directly or indirectly, are somewhat involved. They can't help it - involuntarily involved. I mean they do not have any connotation of any guilt, by that, but I mean there is a connection, there's bound to be."

Agents then asked DURANT if he recalled any conversations with ROBERT ARDEN concerning BERRY'S arrest in May, 1943. He replied by saying that he never saw ARDEN, didn't like him and had very little to do with him. It was pointed out that he had been asked if he had had any conversation either personal or on the phone, and he replied in the negative.

Asked if CHAPLIN had told him that he had sent ARDEN down to jail in connection with BERRY'S arrest, DURANT replied that CHAPLIN had never made such a statement to him. Asked if he recalled ARDEN calling CHAPLIN'S home one afternoon concerning BERRY being out of jail and talking to CHAPLIN and then CHAPLIN turning the phone over to him, DURANT said no such incident took place. Questioned further concerning whether he had talked to MINNA WALLIS in Judge HOLLAND'S Office, DURANT finally admitted that "If she were in HOLLAND'S office I didn't know it, if I talked to her." It was pointed out to him that when he was questioned by the District Attorney's Office he made the statement to investigators that MINNA WALLIS and HOLLAND went over to the latter's office and she called him from there to explain the situation. DURANT said he didn't remember making that statement, and continued, "I don't remember MINNA being with HOLLAND and calling me from HOLLAND'S office and calling me from HOLLAND'S office, whether I said it before or not. I know that I had nothing to do with HOLLAND and MINNA going down there or the arrangements made with JOAN BERRY or anything about it. The only thing I had to do with the case - that particular phase of it - was to be there when JOAN came up that night."

Referring again to what MINNA WALLIS had told him, he was asked if she had said she was going down to jail to see JOAN BERRY. To this DURANT replied, "Yes, well, she didn't tell me directly, but she told me by implication that something was doing. She didn't tell me directly. I did not discuss it with her. I mean, we did not."

DURANT was told that when MINNA WALLIS was interviewed by Agents her recollection of what took place that day was even more uncertain than his. DURANT admitted that perhaps because she loved him she was trying to protect him. He was told that she apparently had no recollection at all of any phone calls from Judge HOLLAND'S office to him, or vice versa, or even talking with him. With reference to this, DURANT stated, "I've never discussed it with her since. It was a long time ago and there was a hell of a lot of pressure and publicity. You know, it

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was an almost hysterical period there. We were all spread out all over the papers and nervous as the devil and it's quite possible that there's some conflict there. If you want to get MINNA down here now, maybe we can straighten it out. I can't remember everything completely and accurately. I admit that, but I mean to say, this is not an attempt to try to dodge it. What I tell you is absolutely true. I had nothing to do with any arrangement, directly or indirectly, about BERRY during that situation. I was in it at the start when she was arrested, that's all. There were discussions and MINNA was in it. Naturally, I saw that she had made a mistake to go down there. She went down there - on my word - simply because of sympathy for this girl. I mean, any girl that wasn't a well person mentally, and knowing her, and MINNA'S that kind of a person. She went down there on her own and got into this thing, and naturally I discussed it with her and discussed it with CHARLIE, and that was his reaction. 'To h--- with it. I've done everything I can - it's going to blow off sooner or later - let it blow.' I tried to tell him that we were all going to be involved. By involved, I mean the publicity. I mean his children, myself and everybody, and tried to straighten it out some way or another. But he's a very stubborn Englishman. He said, 'Nothing doing. I've suffered enough with this dame.' That was his attitude. The other thing - regarding ARDEN'S knowledge of it, I don't know. He's a very - well, this is personal - he's a very unreliable sort of a guy. I never liked him. I've always told CHARLIE that and I wouldn't trust any testimony of his about me. I can't say anything against him other than my personal opinion of him, but I don't trust him and I'm sure that if he could, he'd hurt me. He's given that impression to people I know who have told me and I know that is his general attitude towards me. As regards his relationship with CHARLIE whenever there was any, I had nothing to do with it because of two reasons: one was that I told CHARLIE I was through with anything to do with BERRY, and, two, is that I want nothing to do with ARDEN, and he seemed to be seeing CHARLIE a lot at that time, and I was not seeing CHARLIE.

"Now, as regards this particular thing, I'm very anxious to get it straight and if you want to call MINNA or give me some time to think it over, or let me talk to MINNA about it. I haven't discussed it with MINNA. She simply implied that something was going on, and for me to be careful, and I deduced that this was it because she was in the thing too, you know."

The possibility of this matter going to the Grand Jury was mentioned to DURANT and he was advised that it would be well to tell the truth at all times because there might be prosecution for perjury. To this observation he stated that in the interests of truth and fairness he would like to be accurate about it, and thought that up to that point in the discussion he was, and continued, 'That's the only thing - there were two or three hectic days and me worried to death because of myself and MINNA and this whole thing opening up. I can't remember just the dates and what happened. I mean, I really can't and I would suggest if you let me talk to MINNA and look at my testimony that I gave the District Attorney, maybe

we could get something definite. It isn't a question of getting together on a story. It's a question of getting together on the truth. If you want to call her down here now. As I say, I have not, on my word, discussed any details with her at all, because she - I saw that she didn't want to talk about her trip down here so I never questioned her.

To refresh his recollection it was pointed out that it was Agents' understanding that he was at CHAPLIN'S house when he got the call from MINNA WALLIS who was in HOLLAND'S office. To this he replied, "No, that's not true. On that I don't need any refreshing because he was very adamant about the whole thing, about his position in the thing, and how he'd been through h--- and this gunplay and he was interested in this girl and everything. He said, 'Nothing's worth it any more. Let anything happen that does.' He said, 'I'm not going to do anything. I've done everything I could for her,' and there was no question of him doing anything. That's absolutely true."

The writer then asked him if it was true that MINNA WALLIS asked JOAN BERRY not to tell the newspapers anything simply to protect herself and himself, not to protect CHAPLIN. To this question he replied, "Incidentally CHARLIE, yes, but I think much more for herself and myself. She's much more interested in me than CHARLIE - but naturally, everybody in the thing. I mean, if JOAN told something about some, she'd have to tell about everybody because we were connected with the thing. I mean, I saw CHARLIE frequently over a period of years and I saw MINNA and we used to see JOAN and we knew her pretty well, and knew, you know, what we were up against with her. She was just hot all the time. We really tried very hard to break away all the time and CHARLIE - this is a little off the record - his indiscretion was that he, through I think partly his feeling sorry for her, and really feeling that she was a h--- of a potential actress, and being scared - the combination - kept seeing her and even when I didn't see him and refused to see him partly because of that and because of the relationship with ARDEN - the thing seemed to keep going on all the time, and MINNA and I tried to keep out of it as much as possible. And that trip down there - MINNA is just that kind of a person. If anybody's in trouble, and especially she was, you know - had known JOAN and she felt that her name would be mentioned too - I mean, the combination - sort of self-protection. I think most anybody would have reacted that way. But as far as any conspiracy or getting together to do anything to JOAN, it isn't true, it isn't true. CHARLIE never felt that way. He was resigned by then to whatever was going to happen and everything did happen in spite of the advice of LLOYD WRIGHT and everybody to try to straighten this thing out before it gets any worse. I mean, they were hammering him in the papers every day, and myself. I was a procurer in every paper in the country practically, and it was a lousy experience for me, and naturally I wanted to soft-pedal the thing if possible. But it had gone so far that there was nothing to do about it, so it just got worse and worse, and finally when they did make some kind of an arrangement it was really too late as far as any of us were concerned. We were in it then, I mean as far as publicity was concerned."

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DURANT was asked CHAPLIN'S reputation for truth and honesty, and in reply to this question stated, "If you talk to the United Artists, they will tell you that he's the most honest man in the company. I have heard even his enemies say that. PICKFORD will tell you that. As far as his truth with women, I think he's still an actor. I think he is not 100 per cent reliable. Not that he wants to deceive anyone, but I think he puts himself into it. He projects himself into being a great lover. I think that's the role he always plays with everybody. I think he does that, and realizes it's an act, and always other people don't."

DURANT was asked if he had ever struck BERRY. It is recalled that SAM MARK told Agents of an occasion when BERRY had apparently been beaten up. DURANT said that he had shaken her up once, and continued, "It was one occasion when she came in when I was there with CHARLIE, and I told her to let him alone. He was very much upset, and she turned on me and socked me right in the face, and I shook her - gave her a good shaking, that was all. That's the only thing I ever had to do with her - I've wanted to many times." He was asked what occasioned this, and said, "Well, it was a question of, I believe, of raising her salary. She wanted more money and she called CHARLIE a cheapskate and everything, and she was putting on one of these scenes. So I tried to calm her a bit, and she said, 'You're just like him,' etc., and lashed out at me, and I shook her. I would have shaken her anyway, it wasn't because she hit me, but that touched it off."

With reference to abortions allegedly performed on BERRY, DURANT said that he knew nothing directly about them. However, he said she had told him about them, in fact, told everybody. DURANT professed not to know when they were supposed to have taken place and admitted that she on one occasion told him that it was somebody else who had arranged for them, and then again in rather vague terms she had told him that it was CHAPLIN who had arranged for same. DURANT denied that he ever put her in touch with any doctors and in fact denied even knowing Dr. IMMERMANN or Dr. TAEEDIE.

DURANT was asked if he recalled any conversation with EDWARD, CHAPLIN'S butler, about these abortions, and he said no. He was asked specifically if he didn't recall EDWARD having told him that he had just been with JOAN BERRY and she had mentioned the abortions that DURANT had arranged for. He was further asked if he didn't recall that he himself had told EDWARD she couldn't prove those abortions because they had been paid for in cash. DURANT said those allegations were absolutely untrue.

He was then asked if he recalled taking BERRY to a sanitarium located near the corner of Sunset and Alvarado Streets in Los Angeles after she had come back from San Francisco and he had met her at the train. DURANT said that he did remember that incident and stated, "I took her over to a sanitarium. She was hysterical and had been - at the time had, I think, taken an overdose of sleeping tablets. That used to be one of her favorite stunts." Asked what happened after

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she got to the sanitarium, DURANT said he only took her over there and "that was all." He denied there was anybody with him, nor could he recall where he had actually met her. DURANT also recalled that on one occasion BERRY was in the CHAPLIN home for several days at which time she was ill. He did not remember particularly any occasion when he talked with her while she was in bed.

Near the close of the interview with DURANT it was pointed out to him that the only interest of the FBI was to get the true facts and he was asked if there was anything that he had discussed so far which he desired to clarify, or if the actual facts were any different than those previously expressed by him. At this point he said, "Well, the only thing is whether MINNA called me or whether I called her or just what it was. That's not completely clear to me. The thing that I'm trying to explain and impress on you is the more or less intent on the thing and the actual relation was not any idea of trying to do anything to hurt JOAN, or conspire against her, or that CHARLIE had influenced me or MINNA to do anything. In fact, it was just the opposite. That's true. Now, these details - if I can talk to MINNA about it I think we can probably refresh each other's memory." To clarify this matter DURANT asked if he could get in touch with MINNA WALLIS by phone. Consent was readily given and he called her at her business office, Crestview 1-5222. He asked her over the phone if there was any conversation between themselves when she was at Judge HOLLAND'S office in May of 1943. WALLIS replied that it seemed to her that she called him and he, DURANT, said that CHAPLIN did not want to have anything to do with her. DURANT then asked her if she was at HOLLAND'S office when he talked to her that day, and continued that he remembered being at her home and talking with HOLLAND from there over the telephone. DURANT finished that line of thought by stating that that was the only time that he remembered talking to HOLLAND. After this WALLIS said that she didn't think he talked to HOLLAND, continuing that as she remembered she asked him, DURANT, about it, and DURANT said that CHAPLIN did not want to have anything to do with it and that was as far as it went. DURANT then stated that he had told Agents about CHAPLIN'S attitude, and asked WALLIS if she remembered some conversation that they had in January about the case during that time. DURANT mentioned in asking this question that of course he had seen her and they had discussed the thing generally because it was a matter of interest. WALLIS admitted that they had discussed it, naturally; that it was the paramount topic of conversation, but she couldn't recall anything that they talked about that WALLIS herself had not told Agents when she was interviewed. Thereupon DURANT asked her if she remembered anything about a \$500 fee for Judge HOLLAND, about their discussing that. To this question WALLIS replied in the negative, stating that "the only time I can clearly remember a discussion of fee was when I told her, 'It will cost you some money,' and she said, 'Well, I have it,' in Judge HOLLAND'S presence with BERRY - and that was up there. I don't remember anything else. WALLIS' mention of "up there" in this last statement has reference to when she and HOLLAND were talking to BERRY in the County Jail.

DURANT then made the flat statement to WALLIS that the only time the fee

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was discussed was when she and HOLLAND were together with BERRY and BERRY engaged him. WALLIS later in the conversation said that "I don't remember actually, I don't remember any other discussion of fees." Agent then asked DURANT if WALLIS remembered any conversation between DURANT and HOLLAND when DURANT was with her in her home. So DURANT asked WALLIS, "Do you recall, MINNA, one time I was at your house HOLLAND called you and wanted to know, I think, what to do, wanted to ask you about BERRY or something, and I talked to him and I asked him what was going on and I asked him about me, etc., do you remember?" WALLIS thought she remembered this, but said it was a very vague discussion and as she recalled, DURANT told HOLLAND that he had nothing more to do with the case. They both thought that this conversation took place after MARY was out of the County Jail and in a sanitarium. The writer then asked DURANT if HOLLAND was representing himself and MINNA WALLIS. He replied that no, HOLLAND was representing JOAN BERRY at that time and asked MINNA if that was not true. She replied that HOLLAND never represented anybody else but JOAN BERRY. DURANT was also asked why he and MINNA WALLIS were calling HOLLAND on that occasion and WALLIS thought that it was because they were so worried at the time, wondering what was happening. DURANT then asked her if it was not just curiosity, and WALLIS said that it was "just out of curiosity, wanting to know what was happening, whether she was in or out. He was representing her. He never represented you nor me. I certainly never paid him any fee."



On mention of SAM MARX, DURANT was asked if he knew him, and he replied in the affirmative. Asked what MARX had told him about BERRY, DURANT replied, "She is a distant relative of his, I believe, and she came over to see him. He's got a story about her. She came over and saw him and told him that she was interested in, I think, getting away from CHARLIE. She was under contract to CHARLIE and getting money from him, but she was interested and wanted to get away from him and do something independently. I think it was just to sort of stir CHARLIE up. I had dinner with him before I left this last time, about something else completely - the first and only time I have spoken to him about it in detail. He said that later she came over and - this is a favorite trick of hers - she was drunk, hysterical, and laid down on the front lawn and he and his wife went out and got her and tried to straighten things out, and I think she mentioned some other man. I don't think it was CHARLIE. He didn't tell me who it was. He didn't tell me all the details, but

he said, 'I had a h--- of an experience with her.' He said, 'Up to that time I thought she had possibilities. I was going to make a test of her. She told me she was going to give up CHAPLIN'S contract and that she would be available, would be free, so I was very much interested in her.' Anybody that CHARLIE picks had potentialities, anyway, so he was ready to do something with her. We both discussed how she had sort of ruined herself and every opportunity. That was all. SAM could tell you about it, I'm sure, if it's important to you. Let's see if there anybody else." DURANT was asked if he considered MARX' interest in BERRY anything more than professional, and he replied, "No, I think he was - he told me he thought she was very attractive, he didn't actually imply anything, but it might have been; I don't know. She used to put on an act with most everybody to sort of get them interested. I never thought it was anything more than an act; maybe it was, I don't know. She told me a lot about GETTY. I can't think of anybody else. I never saw her with anybody else, I don't think. I saw her at the races once with somebody else. She told MINNA once she was going to get married."

Concerning ROBERT ARDEN, DURANT stated that he believed he was a "terrific opportunist. He's a guy who has, of course, this radio program, and anybody with any name that he can involve in it and use he is very much interested, and I suppose you can't blame him for that. But he has more or less promoted CHARLIE to get prestige. He has used CHARLIE to get him publicity and has used CHARLIE on the program, and he's used him in a social way, and when I say used, I mean used in every possible way.

As an example of this, DURANT stated, "I think just lately this girl that CHARLIE signed - ARDEN called up the reporters and said that CHAPLIN had signed her and he volunteered the information. You know, putting himself in as a sort of a friend of CHARLIE'S. I notice also when he was arrested - not that CHARLIE is a very good name at the moment, but at least he is well known, a notorious name - when he was arrested he said he just came from CHAPLIN'S house. Every time he does anything he always brings CHARLIE'S name in. If he has a party or anything he always wants to get CHARLIE, and I know he tried to get him about this doctor he represents - he tried to get CHARLIE to meet COWAN and is generally using CHARLIE to help him. I mean, you can't blame him in a way, but he's sort of pointed about it. I told CHARLIE about it, but it didn't seem to make much difference."

Asked for CHAPLIN'S opinion of ARDEN, DURANT stated, "Well, CHARLIE sort of tolerated ARDEN. He never admitted to me that he liked him and yet - ARDEN is an aggressive guy, without any sensitivity or feeling. He used to barge up there to CHARLIE'S of a Sunday, and CHARLIE couldn't throw him out. He's a guy that won't take no for an answer. I have heard CHARLIE bawl him out for coming up there without ringing or anything, and taking advantage of his hospitality, and yet ARDEN still comes around, or did come around. And then I think he refused to talk to him just lately because of this girl that he signed and the way ARDEN handled it. I don't know anything about his actual character. I really don't, but I just

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[REDACTED]

On February 13, 1944, the writer had occasion to talk with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c  
b7D

She told Agent that CHAPLIN, DURANT, et al, were telling the story that it was HEDDA HOPPER, the columnist, who had instigated the entire affair by telling BERRY to go up to CHAPLIN'S house and get herself arrested; that HEDDA HOPPER had taken this action because she was working for the Patterson newspapers and that they had wanted to "get" CHAPLIN. This source got the feeling that possibly CHAPLIN or his attorneys learned that on one occasion BERRY made the statement to somebody, the identity of this person unknown, that HEDDA HOPPER told her to do it. DURANT told this source that as far as he and MINNA WALLIS were concerned, Judge HOLLAND asked JOHN BERRY if she wanted him to represent her, and she said yes; that thereafter MINNA WALLIS and HOLLAND went back to his office and HOLLAND told MINNA WALLIS that he was worried about his fee and said that his fee would be more than \$1,000, whereupon, DURANT continued, MINNA WALLIS from HOLLAND'S office called the CHAPLIN home

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to ask CHAPLIN if he would stand for the fee. DURANT said that he answered the phone and relayed her question to CHAPLIN, at which time CHAPLIN said that he didn't want anything to do with being responsible for the fee. Whereupon DURANT said that he gave this message to MINNA WALLIS in HOLLAND'S office and also told her that he himself didn't want anything to do with paying for HOLLAND'S attorney's fees and flatly made the statement that he and CHAPLIN would not help. DURANT told Source C that he then instructed WALLIS not to bother with it. Attention is directed to the fact that the above disclosure of DURANT to Source C is at variance with what both he and MINNA WALLIS told Agents. This source said that DURANT "swears on his child" that the above facts are true, and that is all he and MINNA WALLIS had to do with the hiring of Judge HOLLAND.

DURANT in his conversation with this source also told her that when the police came up to the CHAPLIN home on the night of May 7, 1943, to arrest JOAN BERRY, CHAPLIN told the police officer to come back afterwards. DURANT told her that he overheard CHAPLIN make this request of the police officer, and, not wanting anything more to do with it, DURANT told her that he "beat it."

A snapshot of DURANT, together with subject CHAPLIN is being forwarded to the Bureau with this report, and another copy is being retained in the Los Angeles file of this case. Likewise, another snapshot of DURANT with his arms around an unknown woman, together with an unknown man on DURANT'S right and an unknown woman on his left, is being forwarded to the Bureau with this report, and another copy of this snapshot is being retained in the Los Angeles files.

INVESTIGATION AT BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF..  
INCLUDING RECEIVING HOSPITAL, POLICE  
DEPARTMENT AND CITY COURT

B. J. FIRMINER, City Clerk  
Beverly Hills City Hall  
Beverly Hills, California  
Telephone: BRadshaw 2-2113, Ext. 79

At the request of United States Attorney CHARLES H. CARR, FIRMINER was interviewed in his offices on January 28, 1944 by Agents. He explained that Beverly Hills is a municipal corporation of the sixth class; that it operates under the Municipal Corporation Act of the State of California. This Corporation Act is known as the "Municipal Corporation Bill of 1883, as Amended," and is also known as "Act 5233 Deering" and it is the state law from which the City of Beverly Hills obtains its powers. Section 880, Article 4 of that Act designates the duties of the Police Department, setting forth its powers, etc. Section 882 of Article 5 of that Act sets forth the jurisdiction of the City Court, and Section 883 of Article 5 provides for the appointment of a city judge. It is Article 2 of Section 851 of the Municipal Corporation Act which sets forth that the government of such a town is vested in the various offices which follow, among them the Council. Those of interest to this matter reflect that five councilmen are to be elected. The Council selects a mayor, who is presently ARTHUR L. ERB. The Council appoints a Chief of Police, who in turn has authority to appoint his officers. The Chief and any officers appointed hold their job at the pleasure of the Council. There is no specified tenure of office for these officers and, in this instance, Captain W. W. WHITE.

WHITE was appointed Captain of Detectives on August 1, 1935 by the Chief of Police, Beverly Hills, and same was approved by the Council. FIRMINER explained that this appointment took place a few months before civil service was adopted by the City of Beverly Hills, and now in order to remove an officer or to displace him from his connection with the department the matter would come before the Civil Service Commission.

With further reference to WHITE, [REDACTED]

b7c [REDACTED]

With reference to Judge CHARLES H. GRIFFIN, FIRMINER explained that under the Corporation Act referred to, the Council has the power to appoint a City Judge, which is the position held by GRIFFIN. There is no definite tenure of office and his position there is at the pleasure of the Council. GRIFFIN has been a city judge in Beverly Hills since February 1, 1937. [REDACTED]

b7c [REDACTED] FIRMINER, by way of explanation, stated that Judge GRIFFIN presides over the City Court,

has jurisdiction over offenses which are committed within the corporate limits of Beverly Hills. Unless this offense is within the city, GRIFFIN has no jurisdiction. Judge HOLLAND, he pointed out, being a Justice of the township, secures his position by election. The township includes Beverly Hills and an unincorporated area. His salary is fixed by the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County.

FIRMINGER was furnishing the information concerning the Government as he understood it from a manual in his office. He was requested to contact RICHARD C. WALTZ, City Attorney, who has offices at 331 North Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills, to obtain further information as to the exact state law under which the city operates. Of the information set forth above, FIRMINGER had only obtained from his manual the fact that it is under the Municipal Corporation Act of the State of California, Article 2, Section 851, that the City of Beverly Hills obtained its powers. The rest of the information FIRMINGER furnished by telephone the following day.

DALE Y. KIBBY,  
Clerk of the City Court of Beverly Hills  
Home Address - 209 North Elm Drive  
Home Telephone: CRestview 5-6738

On January 31, 1944 KIBBY was interviewed by Agents in a small room in back of the Beverly Hills Court Room.

KIBBY stated that he was in the courtroom at the time JOAN BERRY was sentenced on January 2, 1943. He stated that he recalls that she came into the court with the matron and the bailiff, a police officer whose name he was unable to recall. KIBBY stated that to the best of his recollection, Miss BERRY was wearing jail clothes with a fur-trimmed cloth coat thrown over her. He commented that it was rather chilly that morning in the court room since it was Saturday and was not a regular court day. KIBBY also recalled that there was a man in the court room who was to appear on some type of charge. He could not remember his name off-hand, but upon consulting the court record which the Agents brought with them, it was ascertained that this individual was [REDACTED]

87c  
Regarding the sentencing of JOAN BERRY, KIBBY stated that Judge Griffin recited to her a standard speech that he usually makes to all defendants, advising them of their constitutional rights and which advises them that they have the right to counsel and are entitled to bail. KIBBY could not recall exactly what the Judge's words were.

He stated that after Judge GRIFFIN concluded with advising her of her rights, he asked her how she pleaded. At this point Miss BERRY did not answer, but just started to cry and gave the impression that she did not understand. Judge GRIFFIN then read the charge to her and told her that she must

plead either guilty or not guilty. Miss BERRY did not plead right away, but turned and looked back at the matron, who was sitting in one of the front rows of the courtroom. KIBBY could not recall that the matron made any motion towards the girl at all. In fact, he denied that she would do such a thing. Since the girl did not plead, Judge GRIFFIN then went into some detail with her, regarding the vagrancy charge, explaining it so that she understood it fully. KIBBY was asked to state just what it was the Judge said to the girl, but he was unable to recall and stated that he only remembers that Judge GRIFFIN went into some detail. Miss BERRY then pleaded guilty and, according to KIBBY, Judge GRIFFIN asked her if she was ready to be sentenced and she said she was. However, before he sentenced her, he asked her if she was employed and she said that she expected to have a screen test at one of the major studios. Some place in the conversation the question of the hotel bills that she owed was brought up and she stated that she felt she could get a job at the studios and pay off these bills. KIBBY also recalls that it was mentioned that Miss BERRY had some friends who would pay her hotel bills, but he was unable to recall whether JOAN or the Judge brought this up. KIBBY also recalled that the Judge asked JOAN if she wanted to go back to New York and she said no, that she didn't. KIBBY stated that he couldn't recall whether the Judge made it a condition of her probation that she pay her hotel bills.

KIBBY also recalled that while JOAN was talking to the Judge the name of CHARLIE CHAPLIN came up. As he remembers, she either stated that she had been under contract to CHAPLIN or that he had promised to give her a contract. KIBBY advised that JOAN didn't talk very much about CHAPLIN because she appeared to be embarrassed when his name was mentioned. KIBBY stated that Judge GRIFFIN also asked JOAN if she lived in Beverly Hills, and she said no, and he then asked her if she had any reason to be in Beverly Hills, and she mentioned something about wanting to see CHAPLIN. At the conclusion of Judge GRIFFIN's talk with JOAN in the court, he gave her a suspended sentence on the condition that she stay out of Beverly Hills.

Going back to the time that Captain WHITE came into Judge GRIFFIN'S chambers before the court session, KIBBY recalled that he was with Judge GRIFFIN at this time and that WHITE came into the chambers, told Judge GRIFFIN that JOAN BERRY had been arrested on a vagrancy charge and that she had been annoying CHARLIE CHAPLIN. KIBBY also definitely stated that he recalls that WHITE had the arrest report with him and at this time let Judge GRIFFIN read it. KIBBY also stated definitely that Judge GRIFFIN had the arrest report before him at all times when the girl was sentenced.

WHITE then told Judge GRIFFIN that the suggestion had been made that if the girl were given a suspended sentence and one of the terms of the probation was that she leave the state, that she had friends who would pay her way back to her home in the East. KIBBY recalled that Judge GRIFFIN was very

emphatic in saying that he was not interested in such a suggestion. As near as KIBBY could remember, WHITE was only in Judge GRIFFIN's chambers a few minutes.

KIBBY was asked if he could remember anything else that occurred during the January episode, and he stated that to the best of his recollection the above information was all he could think of at that time.

Regarding the arrest of JOAN BERRY in May of 1943, KIBBY stated that he cannot recall WHITE coming into the Judge's chambers before the court session. He pointed out that he probably would have been in the chambers with the Judge if this had occurred. When the girl came up for sentencing for violation of her probation, KIBBY stated that Judge GRIFFIN referred back to her previous sentence, pointed out to the girl that she had been ordered to stay out of Beverly Hills, and asked her if she was aware of this. JOAN replied that she was, and KIBBY could not recall what reason she gave for returning to Beverly Hills, but was under the impression that she said something about CRAPLIN promising to give her a contract. KIBBY stated that while the girl was talking to Judge GRIFFIN at this time she asked him if she could talk to him privately in his chambers. Judge GRIFFIN replied that that was not the proper thing to do and that as long as there was a matron present, she could speak freely. He then sentenced her to thirty days in the County Jail.

KIBBY advised that he was somewhat vague as to details of JOAN BERRY'S sentencing in May and said that the above information was all that he could remember.

It is to be noted that Agents asked KIBBY on numerous occasions if the above information was all that he could remember, and after meditating for some time, he advised that that was all.

On checking the records at the Police Department on the same date it was also determined that one [redacted] of [redacted] had been booked into the Beverly Hills Police Station at 3:46 A.M. on January 1, 1943. Her booking number is [redacted]. She was described as being [redacted] married, husband [redacted] and as being [redacted] years old, 5' 5", with blond hair. She was released at 10:26 that morning on \$50 bail. This would be the woman who was in jail at the same time JOAN BERRY was booked in later that morning, at 5:36 A.M.

It is believed of importance to note that Agents have from the beginning been advised that it is unusual to have court on Saturday morning in Beverly Hills unless some special reasons exists. It has been pointed out that BERRY was brought int court that day in order that it would not be necessary to keep a matron on duty at 75 cents an hour.

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CYRUS C. GARRISON, Captain  
Beverly Hills Police Department  
Home Address: 404 Maple  
Beverly Hills, California  
Home telephone CRestview 1-4200

Agents having previously contacted Chief of Police ANDERSON in his office following their interview with KIBBY, and having ascertained that the police officer who was acting as bailiff on January 2, 1943 was Captain GARRISON, Agents then proceeded to GARRISON's home, where he was interviewed. This interview was conducted in Agents' car in front of GARRISON's house, since he stated that he had company and would prefer the interview outside. This interview was conducted in Agents' car on January 31, 1944.

GARRISON verified that he had accompanied the girl to the courtroom with the matron on January 2, 1943, however he said that all he did was walk in the door with them and then stand to one side. He said he did not hear any conversation between the girl and the matron, nor did he hear any of the conversation between the Judge and the girl at the time she was sentenced. He said his only function was to see that no prisoner got away and that he made himself comfortable in another part of the courtroom and paid no particular attention to the proceedings.

The only thing that GARRISON said that he can remember definitely is that JOAN BERRY was wearing a fur coat at the time she was sentenced by Judge GRIFFIN. GARRISON pointed out that he thought it was funny that she should be wearing a fur coat at that time of day.

Captain GARRISON stated that the above information was all that he could remember regarding the incident of JOAN BERRY'S sentencing that day.

*bnc*  
[REDACTED]  
On February 4, 1944 Agents interviewed [REDACTED] in her home. [REDACTED] is the woman who was in jail at the Beverly Hills Police Station on January 1, 1943 when JOAN BERRY was brought in. [REDACTED] is a heavy set, middle aged woman, who appears to be living in slightly better than average circumstances.

*bnc*  
[REDACTED] stated that on the morning of January 1, 1943, she and her husband were living at [REDACTED] Beverly Hills, California. They had been having some trouble with the neighbors who lived upstairs and upon their return that morning after having a few drinks in celebration of the New

b7c  
Year, they noticed one of their vases had been broken and the New Year's wreath torn off the door. [redacted] went up to speak to the woman upstairs, but she would not let her in, and called the police. The police came over shortly thereafter and, according to [redacted] one of them persuaded her to get in the police car while the other officer was talking to her husband in another room. [redacted] stated that she does not know the police officers' names, but that they were both big, rough fellows who manhandled her, and she thought one of them tried to seal a pin that she was wearing on her bosom.

b7c  
[redacted] was taken to the Beverly Hills Police Station where she was booked on a charge of drunk and disturbing the peace. She was taken upstairs to the jail where she remained until about 10:00 o'clock A.M. at which time her husband arranged for her bond.

b7c  
[redacted] stated that shortly after she had been incarcerated in the jail she recalls that the matron brought a young girl in. [redacted] could only describe the girl as having beautiful red hair and being rather pretty. She recalled that the girl was wearing a bathrobe and pajamas. [redacted] stated that the girl was crying, appeared to be emotionally upset and definitely did not give the appearance that she wanted to be put in jail. [redacted] also told Agents that it had never occurred to her until Agents had talked to her that this girl was JOAN BERRY. [redacted] further said that she did not talk to the girl, or if she did, she does not recall what was said. When [redacted] was released the girl was still in the jail.

b7c  
It was [redacted] recollection that she was only in the Beverly Hills Jail until about 6:00 A.M. in the morning and that at this time she was brought downstairs to the waiting room where she remained until her husband came over and got her out at about 10:00 o'clock A.M.

[redacted] said that the ultimate disposition of her case was that she finally pleaded guilty to a charge of disturbing the peace and was fined \$20 in Judge GRIFFIN's court.

b7c  
[redacted]  
It is to be noted that the court records of the Beverly Hills City Court reflect that one [redacted] Los Angeles, was arrested on January 1, 1943 on a drunk charge and was in the court on January 2, 1943 at the same time that JOAN BERRY's case came up before Judge GRIFFIN.

b7c  
[redacted] was interviewed on February 4, 1944 and advised that he is the brother of [redacted] that [redacted] formerly resided at that address, but has been gone for the past three or four months. [redacted] was of the

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b7c  
opinion that he is presently some place in San Francisco, but could not say this for sure. According to [REDACTED], his brother [REDACTED] has had quite a bit of trouble with the police and is constantly being arrested on one charge or another. He advised that the reason [REDACTED] left was at his request and that he had no interest in him, and stated that it was doubtful if he would ever hear from him.

b7c  
At the time of the interview with [REDACTED] there were several of [REDACTED] children around the house, ranging in years from about three or four to about thirty. [REDACTED] was unable to speak English very well, however, some of his children could do so. The family at first appeared to think that the Agents were looking for [REDACTED] to arrest him. However, it was finally explained to them that Agents only wanted to question [REDACTED] and Agents left their names and the address and phone number of the local office, and the family stated that if [REDACTED] did get in touch with them they would have him call the office. The family, however, pointed out that [REDACTED] can hardly speak a word of English and that it would be necessary to have a translator present to talk to him.

LOCAL BOA 200  
2834 Whittier Boulevard  
Los Angeles, California

b7c  
The records of Local Board 200 reflect the registration of one [REDACTED] born at Parral, Chihuahua, Mexico, [REDACTED]

He was described as follows:

Height	5' 5"
Weight	148
Hair	Black
Eyes	Brown
Complexion	Dark

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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W. E. ANDERSON,  
Chief of Police  
Beverly Hills, California  
Home Address: 152 North Clark Drive  
Beverly Hills, California  
Home Telephone: CRestview 5-4718

On November 26, 1943 Agents interviewed CHIEF ANDERSON in his office at the Beverly Hills Police Department. Special Agent in Charge, R. B. HOOD, had previously called ANDERSON on the telephone to tell him this office was conducting an investigation in the course of which it was desirous to contact him. It was explained to Mr. ANDERSON that at the request of the United States Attorney in Los Angeles, it was necessary to interview him, as well as some members of his department in connection with a current investigation of CHARLIE CHAPLIN for possible violation of the White Slave Traffic Act in connection with his activities with JOAN BERRY. It was further explained to ANDERSON that from newspaper stories it appeared that his Department had had some contact with the Victim in this case and to obtain full facts concerning same, the United States Attorney requested the interviews mentioned.

Chief ANDERSON at this point called attention to the fact that JOSEPH E. P. DUNN, who had some connection with JOAN BERRY, used to be Special Agent in Charge of the FBI and that her attorney, JACK IRWIN, was a former United States Attorney. Agent explained to him that those facts had nothing to do with the current investigation - that same was started upon an ordinary complaint. ANDERSON then proceeded to review from memory and by checking a folder which contained various complaint forms, etc. on BERRY, what connection his department had had with her. He mentioned that a Dr. [REDACTED] had examined her on November 9, 1942, at the Beverly Hills Hotel. He said that Dr. [REDACTED] was associated with [REDACTED] telephone [REDACTED]. He said that at that time she had taken an overdose of sleeping tablets and/or was drunk. He didn't explain how his office would have a record of such an examination when it had no connection with the Police Department. He said that another doctor had examined her when she was at the Beverly Hills Receiving Hospital.

He mentioned ROBERT ARDEN having come into the station on the morning of January 1, 1943, and that he had talked with victim for a short time. He said that Sergeant P. R. SMITH was on duty up to midnight on December 31, 1942. A check was made of the blotter but there was no record of any calls from CHAPLIN's house for a police car or of anyone coming into the station inquiring about BERRY on the evening of December 31, 1942 or the following morning. There was, however, notice of the call from the apartment on Olympic for an ambulance and CHAPLIN's notation of having answered it.

Chief ANDERSON explained that he was glad to cooperate in any way and that if there was anything which had not come to light reflecting proper actions on the part of his men, he would be glad to know it.

With reference to Captain W. W. WHITE and his connections with this case, ANDERSON said WHITE pulled a dumb trick in unofficially taking her back to the station. Further, that he knew nothing about it until the case broke in the newspapers. ANDERSON said he gave him hell and would have fired him but for WHITE's lengthy term of service with the department.

ANDERSON described the girl as no good, an opportunist. He said when his Department first handled the case it was an ordinary "Vag" case; that thereafter when they found out she had been bothering CHAPLIN by breaking into his house, coming into the police station, calling up on a fake suicide which necessitated an ambulance going out, they figured the best thing to do was to float her out of town.

ANDERSON personally searched the records for any calls to or from the station with reference to BERRY, which, as previously noted, resulted negatively.

He said he would be glad to arrange the work of the Officers so that they could be available for interview in the Bureau office. This he did.

On December 29, 1943, Chief ANDERSON was interviewed in the office of the United States Attorney CHARLES H. CARR by Agents and Mr. CARR. This interview was personally arranged for by Mr. CARR.

It was explained to Chief ANDERSON by United States Attorney CARR that the Federal Government was conducting an investigation which now concerned the Beverly Hills Police Department. His legal rights were pointed out to him and ANDERSON replied that he would be glad to tell all he knew without counsel because he felt that he was entirely innocent of any conspiracy to violate the civil rights of JOAN BERRY. On numerous occasions during the interview, which lasted from about 3:40 P.M. until 5:30 P.M., he said that he had never conspired with anybody, that he had never been paid anything, and if there was any conspiracy existing in his police department it was unknown to him.

He stated that the first time he had ever seen and talked with JOAN BERRY was about 10:00 A.M. on the morning of January 1, 1943, when he saw her in the office of Captain of Detectives W. W. WHITE. He estimated that he was in WHITE's office for about fifteen minutes while WHITE was questioning BERRY. He stated that he had asked her some questions himself, but he didn't recall of what nature. He said that at no time did he advise her how she should plead to the charge against her. From the picture given him by WHITE, ANDERSON said that it was his understanding that BERRY was a fairly high class prostitute,

who had been around the movie people, who had the night before stayed with some man on Olympic Boulevard, who was without any money and had no home, and for those reasons she was a vagrant. Mr. CARR asked him if he was not aware that she had been under contract to CHARLES CHAPLIN. He said he didn't know anything about that. It was then called to Mr. ANDERSON'S attention that the report of Captain W. W. WHITE set forth the fact that she had been under contract to CHAPLIN and it was only a couple of days before that CHAPLIN had thrown her out and said she couldn't have any more money. ANDERSON then admitted he knew that, but still insisted that to him she was a vagrant.

Mr. CARR asked ANDERSON if he made any recommendation as to the handling of BERRY and he said that he might have told WHITE to go ahead and charge her as a vagrant. He said he did not instruct WHITE to confer with Judge GRIFFIN before she came up in court the following day, but he admitted that such things were done by the police department and the fact that WHITE did talk to GRIFFIN was not a surprise to him. He also admitted that probably this should not be done.

ANDERSON also stated that he was aware that WHITE was in contact with some body from the CHAPLIN residence during January 1, 1943. He said he did not know that ARDEN was in the police station that day. He said the only time he ever saw ARDEN or talked with him was on an occasion after BERRY's re-arrest in May of 1943, when ARDEN came to his office one day and tried to talk to him. ANDERSON said he told him he didn't want to see him or have anything to do with him. He explained that it appeared to him that ARDEN was seeking interview with him to explain and take the heat off Captain WHITE. This occurred after the newspapers were riding WHITE for his actions in connection with BERRY, and after it had also come out that ARDEN had given WHITE a gun which had been taken away from JOAN BERRY when she was in CHAPLIN'S house. ANDERSON said he thought that maybe this gun was a part of the pay-off to WHITE because he noted that WHITE did not tell the District Attorney's Office about the gun when they interviewed him. He said he had requested WHITE to write a letter to the District Attorney explaining the fact that he did have it and that he had forgotten to mention it when he was questioned previously by their representatives.

ANDERSON advised that after it had come out that WHITE had taken BERRY to the train that he had given WHITE hell; that he had placed in his personnel file a notation that he had acted in a manner unbecoming an officer. But for the fact that WHITE had had so many years' experience in the police department, he would have fired him. He also explained that he had only been appointed temporary acting chief of police in December of 1942, and he still didn't have his feet on the ground so he had hesitated for that reason as well to fire WHITE. ANDERSON said that although he couldn't prove it, he believed there must have been a pay-off to WHITE. It was clear to him that ARDEN had asked WHITE to take BERRY to the train in order to impress on her that she should stay on that train and not get off and come back to Los Angeles.

Mr. CARR asked ANDERSON concerning the statements which had appeared in the press to the effect that WHITE had taken BERRY to the train when he wasn't on duty and asked him if it was not true that the state laws were such that police officers were on duty twenty-four hours a day. ANDERSON admitted this was true, but tried to explain it away by saying that he was not on his regular shift at that time. He admitted, however, that if he had placed a call for WHITE during that evening and he had not been available, that he would have been reprimanded.

With reference to MARPLE and RENO, ANDERSON stated that he did not believe that MARPLE had been a part of any conspiracy

b7c [REDACTED]

ANDERSON described RENO as not the usual type of police matron, but as a very feminine woman who had only recently been appointed matron. He said he had instructed her not to become familiar or severe with females in jail, and he did not believe that she would have instructed BERRY to plead guilty unless she had been so requested to do by WHITE.

During the course of conversation, ANDERSON explained the trouble which has been brewing in the Beverly Hills Police Department. He said that WHITE was leading the opposition to his position and he could well understand that WHITE might try to put the blame on him if the Beverly Hills Police Department had done anything wrong in connection with BERRY. In this connection ANDERSON said that when the vacancy occurred he and WHITE had both been candidates for the position of chief; that after he, ANDERSON, had been appointed, WHITE gathered a group of officers about him and led opposition to the changes which ANDERSON instituted. In about mid-summer of this year when his temporary appointment came up for being made permanent, WHITE led the group which went to the Council and tried to keep ANDERSON from being given the position. He maintained, however, that this attitude on the part of WHITE was not swaying in any way his statements in connection with this case.

ANDERSON said that in the past it was true that the Detective Bureau investigated cases and conducted ostensible official activity of which he had no knowledge. He said he was trying to change this and he, himself, is conducting some of the investigations. As of January 1, 1944, he is going to institute a report form for the detectives whereby he can follow their activities. It was clear in conversation with ANDERSON that he was not aware of some of the activities of his officers with reference to BERRY. He said he had not questioned MARPLE concerning his knowledge of what went on when BERRY was in the Beverly Hills Receiving Hospital. He did recall, however, when it was brought up that someone had made a phone call from the hospital to the CAPLIN home on that morning of January 1, 1943.

At the conclusion of the interview, Mr. CARR said it was entirely up to ANDERSON, but if it was agreeable to him it would be just as well if he did not advise any of the other police officers of his being questioned on this date. This he said he would not do, and specifically requested Mr. CARR to get in touch with the other officers of that department with whom it was desired to have interview, and not clear it through himself.

ANDERSON was again contacted on January 19, 1944 by Agents at the Beverly Hills Police Department. At this time they pointed out that United States Attorney CARR had asked them to see if there were any more records regarding Miss BERRY's case in the files of the Beverly Hills Police Department, and also to ascertain which exhibits the Chief had brought with him to the Grand Jury and which exhibits had been brought by Mr. FIRMINER, Clerk of the Beverly Hills Court. Chief ANDERSON expressed a willingness to cooperate in every respect and called one of the clerks who went upstairs to the Identification Division and finally brought down the entire packet containing the report and identification data on Miss BERRY. It was noted that this packet contained several other copies of material which had been furnished by the Chief and also one or two reports which Agents had not seen before. One of these in particular was an explanation by Sergeant GEBHART of his efforts to locate a blotter stamp recording Miss BERRY's phone call to the station on May 6, 1943. There was also a copy of Sergeant MARPLE's report dated January 1, 1943, which had additional notations on the back besides Miss BERRY's arrest record at the LAPD. This appeared to be in different handwriting, and Captain WHITE subsequently identified this writing as his. There was also a notation on the front "50525" and "Arden." It is to be noted that CHAPLIN'S phone number is CRestview 5-0525.

Chief ANDERSON explained that this material had not been taken to the Grand Jury because it was merely copies of other material which was taken. Agents, however, requested that they be allowed to take this material with them for the information of the United States Attorney, and Chief ANDERSON agreed. One of the clerks made a notation of all the material that the Agents took with them.

Captain WHITE was subsequently called to the Chief's office while the Agents were there and he identified the handwriting on the back of Sergeant MARPLE's report dated January 1, 1943, as his. He explained that this was the work sheet which he had before him at the time he questioned Miss BERRY. He said that the numbers 50525 were not in his handwriting, neither was the notation "Arden". He could not explain how these were placed on the report. Captain WHITE was also asked if he could state definitely that Miss BERRY's criminal record for petty theft with the LAPD was on the report at the time he questioned her. He stated that he could not say definitely, but it was his belief that it was on there. It was then pointed out to Captain WHITE that he had told the Agents at the time he was interviewed in November, 1943, that he

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had just found out about Miss BERRY's criminal record. Captain WHITE said he still thought it was on there in January, even though he had previously told Agents it had just come to his attention in November.

Lieutenant GEBHART was also subsequently called to the Chief's office and asked if there were any other reports that he had made regarding Miss BERRY's arrest in longhand. This question was occasioned by the fact that the District Attorney's office records showed a report written in longhand apparently signed by Sergeant GEBHART. GEBHART emphatically denied that he had made any reports in longhand and after some reflection suggested that possibly the District Attorney's Office had copied the typewritten report in longhand themselves.

A. J. GEBHART, with alias JOE GEBHART  
Sergeant, Beverly Hills Police  
Department Detective Bureau  
Home Address - 138 B.S. Peck Drive  
Beverly Hills, California  
Home Telephone: CRestview 6-1413

Having previously arranged the appointment with Chief ANDERSON of the Beverly Hills Police Department, Agents interviewed Sergeant GEBHART in the FBI offices on November 29, 1943.

GEBHART started out by saying "Ya, well, the only thing that came to my attention in the JOAN BERRY case, having not known anything about the case, I mean, so far as her first arrest around in December 31, 1942, I mean, it was just a case that went through the Courts of the Uniform Division, and Sergeant MARPLE had something to do with it, and it never did register with me at all. Except one night. Now, I can't recall the particular date of her arrest. I mean, in so far as the time she went to Court to file in the morning and the Judge revoked her probation and sentenced her to the County Jail. I arrested her that night. You probably have the date of that arrest."

"If I arrested her on May 7th, she went to Court on May 8th, and I didn't see her after I arrested her, but as I said, not knowing anything about the case, CHARLIE CHAPLIN'S connection and whatnot-- there was a call received-- I was working nights, you see -- there was a call received on the 6th which would be the night before the arrest, see. A woman representing herself to me that called the (?) Detective Bureau and was a phone conversation. You see. She tells me over the phone -- she appeared to be crying -- she said that her name was JOAN BERRY and that she was in Beverly Hills and she was in violation of probation and wanted me to come over and arrest her.

GEBHART stated that BERRY said that she was at CEAPLIN's house when she called on May 6, 1943. He was asked what time the call came in and he stated "Oh, it was possibly about 8:00 P.M. I would say approximately 8:00 P.M. in the evening, and so, hell, Christ, we have had screwy calls in here before, and so, not knowing anything about the case at all, I couldn't figure it out and so I talked to her on the phone, and I didn't say whether I would come or I wouldn't come. I had to make some check to see whether or not we had such a case as JOAN BERRY."

"So I looked in the file to see whether or not there was a Bench Warrant issued in our office. I could find no Bench Warrant, see. And then I went to the Record Bureau and checked the record Bureau and found out that a JOAN BERRY had been arrested in December and that she was sentenced to so much time, as I remember 90 days or whatever it is, suspended and placed on probation with the idea of keeping out -- whatever the Court records show, see. I took no action on it at all. See? I took no action whatsoever on it. See? So then the following night we got -- I got a call about JOAN BERRY's being at CEAPLIN's home."

GEBHART went on to say that the call came to the desk at the Police Department first, and after giving some consideration to the time thought that it was around 8:20 when he went up to CHAPLIN's house. He said BERRY was standing on the porch. He asked her if she was JOAN BERRY and she said that she was. GEBHART said that he then asked BERRY if she was on probation to the court to keep out of Beverly Hills and she said that was true, so he told her that she was under arrest and took her to the station. GEBHART said there was a man standing in front of the house who appeared to be the butler, but that he had no conversation with him. GEBHART said that he had no conversation with anyone while he was at the door of the house, other than BERRY.

He went on to say "I just took JOAN BERRY and on her way down she tells me about how much she was in love with this man, what a great artist he was and so on, and that's about all on the way down. I took her to the station, and she didn't appear to be in no broken spirit or anything like that. I was so darn surprised when I heard afterward that she was pregnant. She had her coat on, and as I remember she had slacks. If I remember right. She didn't appear to be pregnant, because two or three days later, when the thing broke in the press, you know, it said she was pregnant four months. I mean, she appears so flat to me, you know, as I looked at her. I remember looking at her."

In looking back over the events that transpired that night, GEBHART stated that BERRY did not mention being pregnant and he said that when he talked to her on the telephone before arresting her, the conversation lasted not over a minute. She was crying, and she simply said she was at CEAPLIN's house, her name was JOAN BERRY, that she was on probation to the city court, that she had violated her probation and she wanted him to arrest her.

GEBHART did not recall who was on duty at the police station on the night of the 7th, but thought perhaps it was Sergeant MARPLE. He suggested that there would be a blotter stamp showing the call from the particular address. In trying to explain what the set-up was at the Beverly Hills Police Station on the nights of May 6th and 7th, GEBHART stated "At times there have been such a thing as -- the thing is worked this way. The Uniform -- there is a Uniform Sergeant, and he might be the Shift Commander, and he also may at different times have a Field Sergeant. There may be two Sergeants on duty. See what I mean. One to be designated as the Commanding Officer of that particular shift, and the other man in the Field. Well, I mean, I don't remember -- the Shift Commander don't stay at the station at all times, you see. He goes out in the Field himself at different times of his shift and supervises his men in the Field; however, if a person is brought into the station for booking, you see, or if a uniform man brings a man in for some interrogation of a suspicious character, which they have a right to bring in, the Shift Commander, if he's in the Field, is called into the Station, you see?"

"He's the one naturally that passes on it, so when I brought this girl in to book her, the Shift Commander -- I don't recall whether he was in the station or whether he was called into the station -- anyway he was the one that placed her in jail with the matron. You see, the matron was called immediately upon my bringing her in. She was brought in, and the matron was called."

GEBHART explained that the matron was called before BERRY was booked and that the booking was done in the presence of the matron. GEBHART said that he did not stay while BERRY was being booked and that he just turned her over to the Sergeant on duty and then he left.

GEBHART recalled at the time of BERRY's arrest he was working on an extortion case and was covering the house of one JACK YOUNG, a Beverly Hills citizen. He said that he had never seen BERRY before and after she was booked he did not see her again. He said that he had never heard of BERRY being arrested in January, 1943 and explained as follows:

"I never saw her before in my life. I didn't know anything about the case as I started to tell you. See? Because when I received the call that night, had I known all about the case, you see, I would have gone up there; but I don't, I mean, a thing like that, I'm not going to barge into a home because I get a telephone conversation. Christ no. We get - lots of times we get these crazy phone calls which no doubt your office gets the same thing. When I got the phone call I made a check myself to ascertain whether or not we had a Bench Warrant for such an individual. See?"

GEBHART also denied that he had known in May that Captain WHITE had taken JOAN to the railroad station in January of 1943.

GEBHART was asked if he saw CHAPLIN at the CHAPLIN house on the night JOAN was arrested. He said that CHAPLIN wasn't on the porch where BERRY was but that he could see him in the doorway. GEBHART said that he knows CHAPLIN and has seen him many times. GEBHART was asked specifically if he ever had any conversation with CHAPLIN personally in connection with JOAN BERRY. GEBHART replied "No, no." GEBHART further denied knowing TIM DURANT.

GEBHART was asked if BERRY told him why she came back to Beverly Hills. He replied "Well, I don't think I did. She began to talk about CHAPLIN, and she tells me what a great man he was and everything. In other words, he was a great artist. He's a genius in his work, and she cared so much for him. She didn't say how long she had known him. She didn't say anything about living up there. In fact, when all that thing came out in the paper and afterwards, it was all news to me, except that I did read the report on the prior arrest, but what the hell, a particular case like that -- it didn't register very much with me until it came out in the paper with all this other scandal. Naturally then you begin to see that when I read that report on the 6th, then the thing began to make -- you know what I mean -- make sense to me."

GEBHART went on to say that he was not actually at the police station when the call came in for him to go up and arrest BERRY on the night of May 7, 1943. He was, however, at the station on the night of the 6th when he talked to her on the telephone. GEBHART explained that someone at the police station called him at JACK YOUNG's house and told him to go up to CHAPLIN'S house. GEBHART thought there were some other officers at YOUNG's house at the time, but he could not remember who they were.

GEBHART was asked specifically if he went back to CHAPLIN'S house after booking her. GEBHART replied "No, no, no. I didn't go back to CHAPLIN'S at all. That was the end. The only part I had in it." GEBHART also denied that he went back to CHAPLIN'S within the next few days and he said he did not call CHAPLIN after that.

It is to be noted here that later when GEBHART was interviewed on January 5, 1943, that he admitted going back to CHAPLIN'S house and talking to CHAPLIN after he left the police station after booking BERRY.

With respect to this interview on November 29, 1943, it was pointed out to GEBHART that Agents had information that somebody from the Beverly Hills Police Department was up at the CHAPLIN house soon after she was arrested. He was asked if he was sure that that wasn't him. He replied "No, I don't remember being up there at all." GEBHART said that he had been on CHAPLIN'S grounds several times since he has been connected with the Beverly Hills Police Department, but this was in connection with other cases.

GEBHART was asked if, after he received a telephone call on the night of May 6, 1943, he did not think that it was enough to go up and look for BERRY considering he had checked the records and seen that she was sentenced in a Beverly Hills court and also, inasmuch as she had called him up and asked to be arrested.

GEBHART replied "Well, no. You see, there was no -- here's the situation. There was no Bench Warrant having been issued in this particular case, and because I received the phone call wouldn't warrant me -- I mean, after all I said and done, you stop to think in the course of years how many people that's barred from a Court, I mean, in so far as living in a place. Now, for instance, had I known the girl, you see, and met her down the street and knew she was on probation to the Court to keep out of the City of Beverly Hills, naturally I would make an arrest. See. But this phone conversation, I mean, no. I mean, how did I know she was at the CHAPLIN'S home. No, I took no action on it at all, except for the fact that for my own information to check to see whether or not such a person had been arrested."

GEBHART denied knowing ROBERT ARDEN other than hearing his name, and stated that he had never talked to him. At this point GEBHART was again told that it was agents information that he had either gone back up to CHAPLIN'S the night after he picked BERRY up or called them and told them what had happened. GEBHART replied "I don't remember that. I can go back and check my records and find out whether or not I did. I can't remember no conversation at this particular time. I don't."

GEBHART went on to say "Well, I won't say definitely that I didn't have a telephone conversation with Mr. CHAPLIN. I don't recall no conversation, but in so far as seeing TIM DURANT or any -- or ARNOLD, what's his name -- ARNOLD or whatever it is -- ARDEN -- I have NEVER seen those men. I could have had a telephone conversation with Mr. CHAPLIN, but I don't remember it."

GEBHART was also asked if he remembered any conversation with CHAPLIN in connection with JOAN BERRY or his arresting her. He replied "That's right. I don't remember. I could have been possible, as I said, I came in this morning and nobody told me to refresh my memory about this thing, and I have had so darn little to do with the case that it has never registered with me at all. See. I have never kept tab on -- I know those two occasions, and I could have talked to CHAPLIN on the phone -- I'm not saying that I didn't -- but I don't remember talking to CHAPLIN."

GEBHART was asked if he was ever offered any money for his services in connection with JOAN BERRY. He replied "Heck no, not in any way, shape or form whatsoever."

GEBHART was again asked if he checked with the CHAPLIN residence on the night of May 7, 1943 at all. He replied "No, no. Absolutely no I didn't. There wouldn't be no reason for me to do it. I mean, there wouldn't be no reason in the world for me to do it. If she was -- unless now, for instance, if I would have handled that girl in the first place, like when she was arrested in January, now she -- if I had arrested her, and I saw her in the Court and I knew something about the case, I would have; but here was a call that came to me, and it was a Greek call to me. It made no sense to me. The girl appeared to be crying on the phone and telling how sorry she was that she was in Beverly Hills and in violation of probation and wanted me to come over and arrest her."

"Well, in these times even an officer is not going to go down and pull a stunt like that, only to get a false arrest thrown at him or something. Well, what the heck? I mean, Jesus, I got to use a little better judgment than that. So I naturally did check it. See? I checked the records to see and the next day I checked further on it, and then made sure and went to the Court and checked. Our record wasn't any too complete upstairs. Our Record Bureau wasn't any too complete upstairs as to the probation sentence, you see. So I checked it the next day and dismissed it completely out of my mind entirely, and that night I get the call from the office."

"Well, then I was more familiar -- it was a violation of probation -- so I go up there and get the girl. She tells me a lot of hokum coming down. I'm all alone in this car with her, and so I bring her in and I (?). Then I go on my way. Now, even the next day, when the girl goes into Court, I have never even discussed this thing until it broke into press. See? I can't tell you right now when it broke into press - whether it was the next day or a week later. I can't tell you, but I do know it broke into press."

At the request of United States Attorney CHARLES H. CARR, GEBHART was again interviewed in CARR's office by Agents and Mr. CARR on January 5, 1943. At this time GEBHART stated substantially the same information as he previously furnished, except that he now recalled that he had gone back to CHAPLIN's house after arresting and having JOAN BERRY booked.

At the conclusion of the interview GEBHART was asked if he cared to give a signed statement. He said that he did and accordingly this statement was dictated by Agents and GEBHART to Stenographer LORRAINE C. HEIBERG of the Los Angeles office of the FBI. This statement is herein set out, and inasmuch as it was not signed, it is being forwarded to the United States Attorney's Office, and a copy thereof is being retained in the files of the Los Angeles Field Division.

At the conclusion of the dictation of this statement to Stenographer HEIBERG, Mr. CARR advised GEBHART that an appointment would be made for him to

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come back and sign the statement after the stenographer's notes were transcribed. However, subsequent to this, Mr. CARR advised that it would not be necessary for GEBHART to sign the statement and accordingly he has not been asked to sign it:

Los Angeles, California  
1-5-44

*b7c*  
I, A. J. GEBHART, better known as JOE GEBHART, 138-B South Peck Drive, Beverly Hills, California, telephone CRestview 6-1413, a sergeant, Beverly Hills Police Department, Detective Bureau, make the following voluntary statement to Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] whom I know to be Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice. It has been explained to me that I do not have to make a statement; that anything I say can be used in a court of law against me. No promises or threats have been made to induce the making of this statement.

The first information that I have ever had concerning JOAN BERRY's relations with CHARLES CHAPLIN came to me in May of 1943. On the 6th of May, 1943, while I was on duty at the Detective Bureau, Beverly Hills, a phone call was relayed in to me. To the best of my recollection this phone call came sometime between 8:00 and 10:00 P.M. I am sure it was after dark. It was a woman on the phone, and she said "I am JOAN BERRY. I am up at Mr. CHAPLIN'S home. I am on probation to the Beverly Hills Court and I'm in violation of my probation. Come up and get me." My answer might have been "all right." I took no action that night. I took no action as I was not familiar at the time with this case.

The next day when I came on duty in the afternoon sometime after 2:00 P.M., I checked our record bureau for the name of JOAN BERRY and located information reflecting that she had been in custody of the Beverly Hills Police Department in January of 1943. I read the arrest report and the special report attached, which was an interview had with the girl by Captain WHITE, and from that record I found where she had pled guilty in city court to the charge of vagrancy and had received a suspended sentence and was placed on probation, the probation directing her to stay out of Beverly Hills for a certain specified period. While I do not recall the exact period that she was supposed to stay out of Beverly Hills, I do know that that period had not expired in May of 1943.

On returning to the Detective Bureau, there was discussion among the members of the Bureau about JOAN BERRY, and I recall one member, possibly Detective Sergeant A. H. McBAIN, saying, "That's the girl that was picked up for vagrancy and was almost nude, and she is the

daughter of JOHN EDWARD BERRY, the notorious check artist whom you have seen in numerous bulletins and who at one time was supposed to live with his daughter on Shirley Place." That is the statement as I recall.

I had no direct conversation with Captain W. W. WHITE on this day, May 7, 1943, concerning my phone conversation with JOAN BERRY the previous night. I did not directly advise him that she was in Beverly Hills. Whether Captain WHITE was in and out of the room in which we were discussing JOAN BERRY being back in Beverly Hills, I do not know. No further action was taken by me looking towards locating BERRY.

During my tour of duty that day I was assigned to the residence of JACK YOUNG, 517 or 519 North Bedford Drive, Beverly Hills, in connection with an extortion case our department was working on. While at his house I received a phone call from the desk in the Beverly Hills Police Department. Whether it was the desk clerk or Sergeant MARPLE who called me, I do not recall. Anyway, I was told that they had received a call that JOAN BERRY was at the CHARLES CHAPLIN residence, 1085 Summit Drive, Beverly Hills. This call from the Police Department to JACK YOUNG'S house came at approximately 8:00 P.M. The blotter at the police station should reflect the telephone call received there from CHAPLIN'S residence.

Inasmuch as I was now aware that the girl was on probation, I went up to the CHAPLIN residence, and on arrival I parked the car adjacent to the residence and on walking up a short flight of stairs, I saw a young woman standing on the porch adjacent to what I believe to be the front door to the residence. I informed her that I was a police officer, showing her my credential, asked her her name and she stated her name was JOAN BERRY. I said, "You are on probation to the city court, aren't you?" and she said, "I am." I said, "What are you doing here?" She said, "I want to see Mr. CHAPLIN." I then informed her that she would have to go to the police station with me as she was definitely in violation of probation.

At the time of this conversation a man, whom I took to be a butler from the way he was dressed, was standing next to the door on the porch. This man was a middle-aged man, as I recall, approximately 5' 11" tall, had grey hair and was slender in build. Words might have been spoken by this man to me, but I don't recall what was said by him. I do not recall that he asked me to come back up to CHAPLIN'S after I booked her, but he might have. I saw no other individuals while I was at CHAPLIN'S at this time, except a man who appeared to be a chauffeur who was in the yard.

On the way to the police station, JOAN did mostly all of the talking. She stated that she had known Mr. CHAPLIN for a long period of time and that he was a great artist and a genius in his work, and I also remember her saying that she was very much in love with him and that she had gone to the house that night to talk to him, but they would not let her see him. There was no conversation about her being pregnant and I did not observe it, either in the car or at the station. As I remember, the clothing JOAN BERRY was wearing that night consisted of slacks and a loose coat, no hat.

After we got to the police station, I turned her over to Sergeant MARPLE, the officer in charge and who also acts as a jailer. She was booked for violation of probation by me. I was not in the police station very long, and left.

When I was previously interviewed by the aforementioned Agents, I did not recall that I went back to Mr. CHAPLIN, but on checking my records and discussing this matter with other members of the Detective Bureau, I now recall that I had been to Mr. CHAPLIN'S residence a second time on the night of the arrest. In my notebook appears a notation with reference to this particular arrest of JOAN BERRY that I interviewed CHARLES CHAPLIN regarding the arrest of JOAN BERRY.

When I left the police station I went back to CHAPLIN'S house. The reason I went back up there was because my investigation that day reflected that her father had been in trouble with the law and was wanted by numerous cities in the United States, including Los Angeles, for forgery, and that his name had appeared in numerous bulletins, and that sometime in 1942 two Los Angeles officers from the forgery detail, named JONES and COPPAGE, were at our office making an investigation on some address on Shirley Place where this man had resided with his daughter. So I went back to the CHAPLIN residence and interviewed Mr. CHAPLIN regarding JOAN BERRY'S background and to find out who she was. I did not know that BERRY, the check passer, had been apprehended. Further, if the man who was on the steps of CHAPLIN'S when I picked up JOAN BERRY told me to come back up after I had booked her, it didn't register with me at the time and had nothing to do with my going back up there.

When I got back up to CHAPLIN'S, the butler let me into the sitting room where I met Mr. CHAPLIN, and he introduced me to a girl who was there with him, who I now know is his present wife. I had met CHAPLIN once before at, I believe, his house. I told Mr. CHAPLIN that I was the officer who had just arrested the girl in front of his house and asked him to tell me who she was. CHAPLIN said that he had met this girl quite some time ago and that at that time he had ideas that she had great possibilities as an actress, that he had sent her to dramatic school and that he had a part for her in a picture, and that recently she had caused him a lot of humil-

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iation; that her actions were causing him trouble and that her actions were apparently based on the fact that she was in love with him. I don't recall exactly how he worded it, but what CHAPLIN said indicated to me that his friendship with this girl had ceased and that he no longer wanted to have anything to do with her. I estimate that I was at CHAPLIN'S house ten or fifteen minutes.

When I left, I received no instructions, nor did Mr. CHAPLIN ask me to again get in touch with him and give him the results of any court proceedings. While I was there he offered me a drink, but I did not accept it. This constitutes the only time that I was at CHAPLIN'S house following the arrest of JOAN BERRY on that date, May 7, 1943. As I remember now, I had no telephone conversations with Mr. CHAPLIN after May 7, 1943, either with reference to my arrest of JOAN BERRY on that date, or anything else at any time thereafter.

I have read the above statement, consisting of five typewritten pages and a portion of this page, and it is all true to the best of my knowledge and recollection.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of January, 1944.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Unsigned)

Witness:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

JACK YOUNG  
520 North Beverly Glen  
Holmby Hills, California  
Telephone: CRestview 5-6015

Attention is directed to the fact GEBHART said he had been working on an extortion case with the Los Angeles office the night he was called to the CHAPLIN home. This case was identified as the JACK YOUNG case, YOUNG being one of the owners of YOUNG'S Market in this city. The writer interviewed Mr. and Mrs. JACK YOUNG at their home on December 15, 1943, and was advised that when the case commenced on May 4, 1943, they got in touch with the Beverly Hills Police Department and they did not furnish any officers to guard their child but suggested that if a reasonable sum of money was paid that one of the officers off duty could

sleep in the home. He said that Officer McBAIN was there the first night and another night Officer PIERCE or PEARSON, and then they recalled that JOE GEBHART of the Beverly Hills Police Department was there on the night JOAN BERRY was arrested at CHAPLIN'S house. As they recalled, at about 8:00 P.M. that night they were just sitting down to dinner, GEBHART being with them at the dinner table, and the telephone rang. GEBHART answered it because it was possible it might be the extortionist. He came back to the table and told them he had to leave, stating that some dizzy dame was bothering CHAPLIN trying to get in the front gate and he would have to go up and see about it. They recalled he took another drink of his coffee and left saying that he would be right back.

They said they sat around waiting for him to return and wondered what had happened to him because it was not until 11:00 that night that he returned. The only conversation he had with him concerning the matter was he mentioned he had arrested JOAN BERRY and taken her to jail. In view of the newspaper publicity which resulted shortly thereafter, they also remembered he had mentioned that she did not appear to be pregnant, although they were not sure whether he had in a later visit with them made that observation in view of the publicity.

At no time, either that night or later, did he admit having anything to do with her being "undressed" when in the custody of the officers. He said in that connection he had a matron to take care of those things. They said he did not talk about her having tried to commit suicide that night by cutting her wrists.

JACK YOUNG remembered that when GEBHART returned that night he mentioned that "CHAPLIN bought him a drink." YOUNG was sure of this because he recalled GEBHART mentioning that it was Scotch.

In conversation with YOUNG it was developed that he is a close friend of "CONNIE" HILTON, owner of the Town House of this city. It will be recalled that information has been received that ROBERT ARDEN was supposed to have boasted at a dinner party attended by people of foreign extraction that he had fixed things up for CHAPLIN in connection with BERRY. It was developed from YOUNG that CONNIE HILTON had married the sister of EVA GABOR; that HILTON's wife's name is ZAZA and that she is Viennese. In the event it is necessary to interview HILTON, YOUNG, being a good friend of his, volunteered to be of assistance in getting in touch with Mr. HILTON.

CARL HARTMEYER, Lieutenant  
Burbank Police Department  
Burbank, California

HARTMEYER was interviewed by Agents on January 18, 1944 in his office at the Burbank Police Department. HARTMEYER is now in charge of the Burbank

Identification Division, and stated that he was in charge of the Beverly Hills Identification Division from about January 8, 1936 until September, 1943.

When questioned regarding instant case, HARTMEYER stated that he could not remember for sure when he fingerprinted JOAN BERRY. As he recalled, however, it was in May of 1943 and as he recalled he forwarded the prints to the Bureau in Washington, D.C. about three or four weeks after printing the girl. He stated that he had forwarded these prints at the request of Chief ANDERSON, who wanted to see if the girl had a criminal record in view of the publicity which was breaking about that time. HARTMEYER stated that the girl had been dressed in pajamas on one occasion, but it was his recollection that at the time he fingerprinted her, she was wearing slacks.

HARTMEYER went on to say that as far as his procedure is concerned, as soon as he fingerprints anyone he immediately calls the Los Angeles Police Department and Los Angeles Sheriff's Office to see if the person has any criminal record with those departments. It is customary to furnish the LAPD and LASO with the fingerprint classification and in the event that they have no record they usually make a name search.

The arrest report of Sergeant MARPLE of the Beverly Hills Police Department dated January 1, 1943, was shown to HARTMEYER and his attention was directed to the notation on the back which indicates that the girl was arrested in 1938 on a petty theft charge. HARTMEYER identified the writing on the back and the initials below the writing as being his. He stated that he could not remember definitely when this notation was put on the back of the arrest report. He explained that he was somewhat confused because it was his impression that he had not fingerprinted the girl in January, and suggested that possibly he had put this notation on the back in May and had just picked up the wrong arrest report.

HARTMEYER stated that in the matter of procedure there are usually four copies of an arrest report made, one of which goes to the Detective Bureau, two copies go to the Identification Bureau and one copy goes to the court. This latter copy is usually kept in the booking office in a drawer until it goes into court, and on the completion of the case the clerk usually writes the disposition on this particular report. He stated that sometimes this report is destroyed and sometimes it goes up to the Identification Division.

It was further pointed out to HARTMEYER that there was no property receipt attached to the arrest report of MARPLE dated January 1, 1943. He stated that he could not explain this but that as far as he knew the procedure was as follows. This property receipt is filled out to show all the property of the girl at the time she was arrested. One copy of the property receipt goes to the prisoner and the other is retained by the Identification Bureau and is

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clipped to the arrest report. HARTMEYER was of the opinion that this receipt would probably be located in the Identification Bureau of the Beverly Hills Police Department.

HARTMEYER pointed out, however, that he was not at all sure in his mind as to when he fingerprinted the girl or when he put the notation on the back of the police report. He stated that if he fingerprinted her in January he feels sure that he would have called down immediately to the LAPD and LASO for a criminal check. He stated that it was just his impression in thinking about that he had fingerprinted her in May.

JOSEPH HEAD  
Beverly Hills Police Department  
Identification Bureau  
Beverly Hills, California

HEAD was interviewed in Chief ANDERSON'S office at the Beverly Hills Police Department on January 19, 1944. HEAD advised that it was his recollection that the girl had been fingerprinted in January of 1943 and pointed out that there is a notation to this effect in a ledger in which a notation is made of all persons who are fingerprinted. These notations are made by date. Agents were allowed to view this ledger, and it did reflect that Miss BERRY was printed in January, 1943. HEAD then explained that inasmuch as the prints were already on file she was not printed in May inasmuch as she was already assigned a Beverly Hills police number. It was HEAD'S recollection that HARTMEYER printed Miss BERRY in January. HARTMEYER stated that the prints of Miss BERRY, however, were kept on file by the Beverly Hills Police Department from January to June, 1943, at which time they were submitted to the Bureau in Washington, D.C. He explained that sometimes in the case of minor violations no prints are submitted to the Bureau in Washington, D.C. HEAD was of the opinion that the notation regarding Miss BERRY'S arrest by the LAPD was put on the back of the arrest report in January. He said that this is automatic procedure with the Identification Bureau as soon as a person is fingerprinted and prints classified.

FAUST R. GONSETT  
Home Address - 902 Cloverdale  
Los Angeles, California  
Home telephone - Walnut 1696  
Business address - Aircomp, Ltd.  
12 East Tujunga, Burbank, California  
Business telephone - Stanley 7-1175

GONSETT was interviewed by Agents on January 18, 1944. GONSETT is a radio operator for the Beverly Hills Police Department and is presently working only one night a week. GONSETT stated that he was on duty on May 6 and 7, 1943, and that he recalls that on one of these two nights he received a call from a

girl who identified herself as JOAN BERRY and who said that she was in the bathhouse at CHAPLIN'S home; that she was on probation to the Beverly Hills Police Department and she wanted someone to come up and arrest her. She was crying and appeared to be in a hysterical condition. It was his recollection that he mentioned this call from BERRY, there was some discussion with the officers present, and it was suggested that he get in touch with Captain WHITE to find out what they should do. GONSETT said he called GEBHART. He did not definitely recall where GEBHART was that night and when it was suggested that he might have been at JACK YOUNG'S in connection with the extortion case, GONSETT agreed that that might have been true. GONSETT recalled that there were two phone calls from the girl, but he could not place them as to the nights that they occurred. He said he had been giving the matter some thought since he had had a call from Chief of Police ANDERSON a few days ago and that in the event he recalled anything more definite, he would so advise Agents.

PAUL SMITH, Sergeant  
Beverly Hills Police Department  
Beverly Hills, California  
Home Address - 8715 Clifton Way  
Beverly Hills, California  
Home telephone - CRestview 1-2315

SMITH, who has been at the Beverly Hills Police Department for eight years, was interviewed by Agents on December 7, 1943. The records of the Department reflect that SMITH was on duty December 31, 1942, from 4:00 P.M. until midnight and from 12:01 A.M. to 8:00 o'clock in the morning of May 8, 1943. SMITH stated that K. MACEACHERN was his clerk on duty at the same time. SMITH was asked if he remembered ROBERT ARDEN or anyone else coming into the Police Department and making inquiry as to BERRY'S whereabouts on the shift from 4:00 P.M. to midnight December 31, 1942, which would be New Year's Eve. He was asked if it came to his attention that the watchman at CHAPLIN'S home, or anyone else telephonically contacted the department inquiring for BERRY or furnishing any information. He said that no such calls came in there. In discussing activity of the Department on New Year's Eve, SMITH recalled definitely that the Department was not busy. He thought it unusual that so few cases should be brought to their attention on such a date.

With reference to the other shift from 12:01 A.M. to 8:00 A.M. May 8, 1943, SMITH said that when he came on duty he noted that the blotter reflected that BERRY was back in jail and he recalled that Mrs. RENO, the matron, was on duty. SMITH said he knew nothing of the Department's being on the look-out for BERRY the previous day.

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K. MacEACHERN, Clerk  
Beverly Hills Police Department  
Beverly Hills, California  
Home Address - 713 North Roxbury  
Beverly Hills, California  
Home telephone

MacEACHERN was interviewed by Agents in the Identification Office of the Beverly Hills Police Department on December 7, 1943. He recalled his tours of duty previously mentioned, and added that he was in the Department on the morning of December 31, 1942, when BERRY came into the office of the Police Department, crying, and Sergeant MARPLE thereafter interviewed her, after which MARPLE and RENO took her home. MacEACHERN said that MARPLE told him that on the night, which was the first time that BERRY was in the Beverly Hills Jail, she told him, MARPLE, that CHARLES CHAPLIN was her boyfriend with whom she had had a fight, et cetera. It is to be noted that all others interviewed had denied that BERRY made known the identity of her boy friend on her first visit to the jail. MacEACHERN said that he probably was aware of the fact that she was in jail on the morning of May 8, 1943, but he said it was only mentioned in conversation and he had no information concerning what had gone on before.

MacEACHERN was asked if he had any other information which might be of interest to Agents in connection with the inquiry to develop complete facts concerning BERRY and CHAPLIN. He said that he did not, but he observed that the uniformed division of the Police Department would not know much about what went on concerning CHAPLIN and JOAN BERRY. He said that CHAPLIN would have called directly to Captain W. W. WHITE and Sergeant GEBHART of the Detective Bureau; that they would conduct their own investigation, take whatever action they saw fit, and no one else in the Department would know anything about it.

M. L. McINTYRE, Clerk  
Beverly Hills Police Department  
Home Address - 2282 Manning  
West Los Angeles  
Home telephone - ARizona 3-9773

McINTYRE has been with the Beverly Hills Police Department for two years, and was on duty with Sergeant MARPLE from 12:01 A.M., January 1, 1943, until 8:00 A.M., January 1, 1943. He likewise was on duty with Sergeant MARPLE the previous morning from 12:01 A.M., December 31, 1942, until 8:00 A.M., December 31, 1942. He said that MacEACHERN was likewise in the office.

Covering incidents which occurred on December 31, 1942, McINTYRE said that when JOAN BERRY came into the office they turned her over to Sergeant MARPLE for questioning, inasmuch as he was in charge; that after MARPLE and RENO had taken her home, MARPLE told them that she had had a fight with her boy

friend, and McINTYRE said he did not explain any further or tell who the boy friend was. He was asked specifically if she had mentioned CHARLES CHAPLIN and he said, "No." However, it was McINTYRE'S recollection that BERRY had walked out of the police station, rather than her being taken home. In addition he had not recalled that RENO was on duty, but on checking the records he found that she was there all night.

As for the incidents on January 1, 1943, it was McINTYRE'S recollection that two calls had been received announcing the suicide. The first was treated as one of the usual "pest" calls, and on the second one, MARPLE went out. He said he was not too sure that there were two. McINTYRE said he recalled that the hospital was called over to the Police Department to ask them what they were going to do with BERRY. McINTYRE said they were very busy during the morning of January 1, 1943. BERRY when she came in was booked with McINTYRE, but he said he had no conversation with her. It is to be noted that the records, according to McINTYRE after checking them, reflect that RENO came on duty that morning, January 1, 1943, at 3:45 A.M., and further that at 5:36 A.M. she went to work on the BERRY case. Previously she had been working on the "Arnold case."

On May 7, 1943, McINTYRE said he was working the day shift from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., and further that he knew nothing of his Department being on the look-out for BERRY. During the course of interview with McINTYRE, it was observed that in the room used for interviewing of these officers was an inter-office communication box, which was humming and gave all appearance of being in operation. Several times McINTYRE left the room to check some records, and while no conversation was had between Agents over this observation, definite note of same was made.

After concluding the interview with McINTYRE, the address of Officer WILLIAM F. THORNE, 416 $\frac{1}{2}$  North Maple, Beverly Hills, telephone CRestview 5-6734, was obtained from McINTYRE, THORNE being one of the other officers on duty during the time that is being covered.

As Agents left the room, comment was made that they were going to see the Chief of Police for a minute, and thereupon Agents proceeded immediately to the Chief's office, the door of which was closed. McINTYRE said that the Chief was in his office and to go ahead. Agents knocked on the door, and the Chief said to come in. Upon entering the room it was observed that sitting at the Chief's desk was a man, later referred to by the Chief as his clerk, and that he apparently had been writing in shorthand on a pad of paper which was in front of him. Agents observed the shorthand characters. The clerk started to go out of the room, but the Chief said to stay there unless Agents desired to talk to him alone. Chief ANDERSON was told that such was not the case, and appreciation for his cooperation was expressed. It is to be noted that the Chief has an inter-office communication box in his office.

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WILLIAM F. THORNE, Police Officer  
Beverly Hills Police Department  
Beverly Hills, California  
Home Address - 416 1/2 North Maple  
Beverly Hills, California  
Home Telephone: CRestview 5-6734

Agents interviewed THORNE at his home on December 7, 1943. THORNE advised that he was on duty in the office of the Beverly Hills Police Department substituting for a clerk who was ill, on May 7, 1943, from 4:00 P.M. to midnight. He was on duty with Sergeant MARPLE. THORNE said that a call came in from CHAPLIN'S place requesting that an officer be sent there. He was asked if he, THORNE, received the call and replied that he did not, but that he remembered hearing MARPLE say that BERRY was bothering CHAPLIN and his guests. THORNE recalled that Detective GEBHART answered the call. THORNE said he did not recall seeing GEBHART leave the station, however, but it was his understanding that he was going to answer it, MARPLE having told him that such was the case. THORNE said he did not send GEBHART to the CHAPLIN residence to arrest BERRY. On further reflection he thought perhaps the radio technician on duty at the time, one FAUST GONSETT, might have received the call. It was ascertained that FAUST GONSETT now only works at the Beverly Hills Police Department one day a week; that he has a business of his own in Burbank, California, telephone Stanley 7-1175, home telephone Walnut 1696.

THORNE continued that he recalled BERRY being brought into the station; that she was placed in the waiting room until Mrs. RENO arrived; that there was some comment about her trying to cut her wrists with a compact. THORNE went into great detail, explaining how BERRY had broken her compact in two and used the hinges to cut across her wrist. He said she made several scratches thereon. He also advised that when she was taken upstairs to be put in her cell, that BERRY screamed and hollered to the high heavens and for a while he thought the roof was coming down. THORNE recalled that from conversation among the officers on duty and Mrs. RENO later that JOAN BERRY had told Mrs. RENO that she was pregnant by CHARLES CHAPLIN. THORNE observed that she had a convincing story, too.

This officer furnished the name of one Sergeant SPLANE, who had peered through the hole in the wall separating the booking office from the waiting room and observed BERRY cutting her wrists. He just happened to be passing by and made this observation.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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BEVERLY HILLS CITY COURT RECORDS

The following records were turned over to U.S. Attorney CHARLES H. CARR by B. J. FIRMINER, City Clerk, Beverly Hills, California at the time FIRMINER testified before the Grand Jury. These records have been returned to the U.S. Attorney's Office. They reflect the following information:

1. City Court convened at 10:30 A.M., Jan. 2, 1943; present Hon. CHAS. J. GRIFFIN, Judge; D. Y. KIBBY Clerk; and the following proceedings were had:

"JOAN BERRY D 2445 Sec. 647 Sub 3 P.C.

Cause called. Judge GRIFFIN presiding. Both parties ready. People represented by \_\_\_\_\_ (D.C.A.) Defendant represented by self. Defendant in court duly arraigned, informed of the charge against her and of her legal rights. Defendant gives true name as above and enters her plea of guilty of the offense charged. Ordered to serve 90 days in County Jail suspended on condition you keep out of Beverly Hills and pay hotel bills now owing."

2. City Court convened at 9:30 A.M., May 8, 1943; present Hon. CHAS. J. GRIFFIN, Judge; D. Y. KIBBY, Clerk; and the following proceedings were had:

"JOAN BERRY D 2445.

Defendant in Court for violation of probationary sentence. Found in violation by the Court. Probationary sentence modified by changing "90 days suspended" to "60 days suspended" and defendant ordered to serve 30 days in County Jail.

3. City Court convened at 2 P.M., May 12, 1943; present Hon. CHAS. J. GRIFFIN, Judge; D. Y. KIBBY, Clerk; and the following proceedings were had:

"JOAN BERRY D 2445.

Sec. 647 Subd 3 P.C.

CECIL D. HOLLAND in Court representing above named defendant, moves the Court to modify terms of probationary sentence in such a manner to allow the release of defendant from the County Jail, due to the physical condition of defendant, and to allow her to be sent to a sanitarium or to be placed under medical treatment. Motion granted. Probationary sentence modified to suspend 85 days instead of 60 days and defendant ordered released this date. Terms further modified to allow defendant to come into Beverly Hills for the purpose of consulting her attorney.

4. City Court convened at 2 P.M., June 4, 1943; present, Hon. CHAS. J. GRIFFIN, Judge; D. Y. KIBBY, Clerk; and the following proceedings were had:

"JOAN BERRY - D2445.

CECIL HOLLAND, BARRY WOODMANSEE & JOHN IRWIN, Counsel for above defendant, appear before the Court to present motion regarding their client.

The Court rules that counsel shall file written Notice of Motion and sets the case for hearing on June 11, 1943, at 2 P.M. Copy of Notice of Motion to be filed with District Attorney's office."

5. City Court convened at 2 P.M., June 11, 1943; present, Hon. CHAS. J. GRIFFIN, Judge; D. Y. KIBBY, Clerk; and the following proceedings were had:

"JOAN BERRY D 2445.

Sec. 647 Subd. 3 Penal Code.

Case called for hearing on Motion to Vacate Judgment and Plea of Guilty. Defendant in Court represented by JOHN IRWIN. J. M. LEAVY representing the District Attorney's Office.

THOS. HUDSON, Court Reporter.

The Court enters an order, Nunc ProTunc, correcting Minute Record dated January 2, 1943, to show period of Probation as one year. Mr. IRWIN asks leave to withdraw motion filed as of June 10, 1943, to Vacate Judgment and Plea of Guilty. Request Granted. Motion withdrawn.

Mr. IRWIN files new Motion under Section 1203.3 and 1203.4 of the Penal Code, and moves the Court to terminate period of Probation as of this date; permit the defendant to withdraw her plea of Guilty; enter plea of Not Guilty; and dismiss the case.

At this point S. S. HAHN, Attorney, as Amicus Curae, addressed the Court in support of the Motion.

The Court thereupon granted the motion. Case dismissed.

6. Memorandum In Support Of Motion To Terminate Probation and Change Of Plea. #D-2445 - People of the State of California, Plaintiff, vs. JOAN BERRY, Defendant, filed June 11, 1943 and signed JOHN J. IRWIN, Attorney for Defendant. This memorandum asks for a termination of probation and permission to withdraw plea of guilty and substitute plea of not guilty and is based on the fact that BERRY is in delicate health and expecting a child in the near future.
7. Notice of Hearing of Motion to Vacate Judgment and Plea of Guilty, #D-2445 filed June 10, 1943 and signed by JOHN J. IRWIN, Attorney for the defendant JOAN BERRY.
8. Motion to Vacate Judgment and Plea of Guilty, #D-2445 filed June 10, 1943 signed JOHN J. IRWIN, Attorney for Defendant JOAN BERRY.
9. Carbon copy of letter to County Jailer, Booking Office, Hall of Justice, Los Angeles, California dated May 12, 1943 from the Judge of Beverly Hills City Court to the effect that BERRY'S probation had been modified and authorizing them to release BERRY as of May 12, 1943.
10. Letter dated May 12, 1943 re JOAN BERRY to the Honorable CECIL D. HOLLAND, Beverly Hills Justice Court, 730 North San Vicente Blvd., West Hollywood, California from MARCUS CRAHAN, M.D., Senior Physician, Jail Division, Los Angeles County Jail. This letter reads as follows:

"Pursuant to your telephone request of this date, the following information is submitted.

"Examination of the above named woman revealed the cervix to be small and hard; the uterus was enlarged

"containing a mass about the size of a grapefruit, consistent with a pregnancy of five months.

"A cervical smear was negative for gonorrhoea, and a blood test (Kahn) taken on May 11, 1943, was negative for syphilis."

11. Criminal complaint dated January 2, 1943 City of Beverly Hills, California filed by C. C. GARRISON of the Beverly Hills Police Department charging JOAN BERRY with violation of Section 647, Sub. 3, Penal Code, to the effect that on the first day of January, 1943 in the City of Beverly Hills she did wrongfully and unlawfully roam about from place to place without any lawful business.
12. Letter dated June 5, 1943 from Mayor ARTHUR L. ERB, Beverly Hills, California to Chief ANDERSON requesting full and complete statements from all City Employees relative to the BERRY case and also enclosing a letter to be posted on the police bulletin board. A copy of this letter dated June 5, 1943 is also made available which letter was addressed to the Chief and all officers of the Beverly Hills Police Department of Beverly Hills signed by Mayor ARTHUR L. ERB. This letter reads as follows:

"The following becomes a regulation to be observed by members of the Department:

'Any person requesting a police officer to deliver any sealed or written communication to any defendant in a case still pending in the City Court will be referred to the City Prosecutor as the agent to transmit such communication.'

"This letter will be posted on the Police Bulletin Board."
13. Letter dated June 5, 1943 from Mayor ERB to RICHARD C. WALTZ, City Attorney, City Hall, Beverly Hills, California. This letter in substance requests WALTZ to take statements from everyone in the City Hall in connection with the BERRY case. ERB states that he is not satisfied with the statements which have been received thus far and states that the City Council wants to review every act and fact in this case in which a city official participated.

14. Letter dated June 11, 1943 from FRED N. HOWSWER, District Attorney, County of Los Angeles, to Judge GRIFFIN which encloses a copy of a press release and which states:  
"You will observe that I stated in the same (press release) that I was happy to state that no irregularity whatever has been found with regard to any action taken by you in reference to the BARRY case."
15. Press release dated June 11, 1943 which was enclosed with the above letter dated June 11th from the Los Angeles County District Attorney to Judge GRIFFIN:  
This release reads as follows:

"After conferring with my deputies and investigators who have been engaged in investigating the CHAPLIN matter, and its various angles, I have concluded to close the case for the reason no evidence has been developed which justifies the initiation of a prosecution and therefore there is nothing to take to the grand jury for their consideration or action.

"After the investigation had been started by this office, and in connection therewith, Judge CHARLES J. GRIFFIN made a specific request that the phases of the case which concerned him and his court be looked into thoroughly. This was done, and I am happy to state that no irregularity whatever to the BERRY case.

"It should be understood that in the event any further evidence is developed which justifies proceeding further, appropriate action will be taken."

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INTERVIEWS WITH PRINCIPAL WITNESSES  
BY BUREAU AGENTS

EDWARD C. CHANEY  
1265 Midvale  
West Los Angeles, California  
Confidential telephone number ARizona 9-1269  
Business address 1085 Summit Drive  
Beverly Hills, California  
Confidential telephone number CRestview 5-0525

Reference report on Pages 25-28 sets forth information developed from EDWARD CHANEY concerning the Mann Act violation in this matter, and also mentions interview with him on December 10, 1943, in the Bureau Office. Matters discussed with CHANEY at that time not previously set forth will be mentioned here.

He was asked if he could recall the number of times BERRY was at CHAPLIN'S home following CHAPLIN'S return from New York in December of 1942. He thought it was probably about two or three times. CHANEY explained that that was the number of times she had been there, to his knowledge, and he thought she might have been up there on other occasions that he didn't have knowledge of. At this point in the interview he said that she was up there with a gun just before Christmas and then came up the following day after some money and was given \$50. CHANEY also was aware that CHAPLIN had given her some money the night before when she was there with a gun, or perhaps it was early in the morning. CHANEY estimated that it was about 2:00 o'clock in the morning that the sons of CHAPLIN woke him up, saying that there was some disturbance in the house. CHANEY said it was about 2:00 o'clock the following afternoon that BERRY left. He thought it was somewhere between \$60 and \$67 that CHAPLIN had given her before she left.

With reference to her coming back the next day for \$50 and getting \$50 CHANEY said, "Yes, he promised her \$50. I suppose he promised her \$50 a week - I don't know, but how it come out - that same day he said, "Miss BERRY is coming up for \$50." He said, "I don't want to see her, EDWARD," - he said, "I'll give it to you," which he did, and that day, that would be the next day, you see, she called me up and said, 'EDWARD, have you got my money?' and I said, 'Yes.' She said, 'I'll be up in about seven minutes' to be exact. I can remember that, you see. Wherever she was I don't know. Well, she was up and she just drove around and I watched for her and I gave her the \$50, you see. Well, six days afterwards - this is what the boss told me; I never saw her any more that week, so it would be the night of the gun, the next day, you see, for the \$50, and then she never bothered me no more until six days afterwards. She said, 'EDWARD, have you got my money?' I said, 'What money?' She said, 'The \$50 that Mr. CHAPLIN promised me. I said, 'I don't know anything about it,' because he never said anything to me about it, so I went right in to him and said to him, 'By the way, sir, Miss BERRY is on the phone

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and she's asking for her money.' He said, 'You can give it to her tomorrow,' you see, so that would make a week. The seventh day, you see, that's how he figured it out. He said, 'You can give it to her tomorrow.' So I went back to the phone and said, 'You can get it tomorrow.' She hung up on me, and that night she came up and broke the joint up again."

CHANEY said that as he understood it, she came up that night; he didn't see her, but knew she was there. He was asked if CHAPLIN had ever told him that he had put her under contract again for \$50 a week, and CHANEY replied in the negative. He admitted that BERRY had never told him that she was under contract again for that amount, whereupon he was asked if he just assumed that that was the situation from the conversation he had overheard. In answer to this question, CHANEY said, "Well, you see how it was, you see. This was the gun episode, you see. She said that she was destitute - she had nowhere to go, she owed her hotel bill and she had no clothes - they had held her clothes at the hotel. This is what she told me, you see, and I said, 'Well, he can't put you out of the house like that,' and she'd got a gun, you know. I knew she had the gun because I was up in the room with her, you see. And I said, 'Now, look here, JOAN,' I said, 'You've done wrong by coming up here with a gun. You can break into the house as much as you like,' I said, 'but you can't come in here with a gun - that's out. I'm telling you what I said to her. I said, 'That's out of our hands altogether.' I said, 'If the police get that, you're liable to prosecution.'" As CHANEY understood it, BERRY never did get that next \$50.

CHANEY estimated that the occasion when she was there with the gun was probably about the 19th of December; that it was the 20th that she came back and got the next \$50 and that it was about the night before Christmas that she called for the \$50 due her a week later. He said that although he didn't see her, he understood that she came up there Christmas Eve and while she didn't break any windows that night, she did throw some mud up at the windows. As he understood, nobody in the house saw her; the house was locked and she apparently didn't get in. He said that this information came from the watchman, WATT.

Asked if BERRY was at CHAPLIN'S house between Christmas and New Year's, CHANEY said he knew that she was there on the night of December 31, 1942. To his knowledge he didn't know whether BERRY was at CHAPLIN'S home on the night of December 30, 1942. He was asked if it was not possible that CHAPLIN and BERRY had had dinner at CHAPLIN'S home on the night of the 30th and he said he didn't believe so because he would probably have served and he was positive he didn't. In fact, he said BERRY only had dinner with CHAPLIN one night since he had been employed by him, and he recalled that on that occasion they went out after dinner to a movie and had a fight. Continuing, he said, "She got sore at him or something, and she left him there - she walked out on him, but I can tell you, I don't know exactly what date it is, but it was before he went to New York. You see, she walked out on him and the next day she called up and apologized. She said, 'Edward, I

... you to take an apology to him, that I was sorry.' I said, 'What did you do?' she said, 'I walked out on him.' But that was before and that's the only time a girl has had dinner there with him, and then they went out after dinner."

With particular reference to New Year's Eve, CHANEY said he didn't see her, but he was told by the watchman that she had been there. CHANEY thought that he got home that night about 11:30. He said when he got to the house, WATT told him she had been there and had jumped out the window. Asked what the watchman had told him, CHANEY said, "Well, he just told me she had rung the front doorbell and he went. The boss was out, you see. He went and got her and pulled her in the house because he wanted to keep track of her, you see. He pulled her into the sitting room off the pantry and she sat in the chair there and whatever they talked about I don't know. He didn't tell me, you see, and he said she acted dopey and all like that, and he went up to her and shook her, you know, to wake her up. I don't know whether he smacked her face or anything like that - you know, if anybody's unconscious you give them a smack in the face - give them a sock to bring them to." Asked if WATT had stated that he slapped BERRY, CHANEY stated, "Well, I think he did. I wouldn't be sure - I wouldn't like to put it into - but he said he shook her to wake her up. She was acting dopey; if you know the girl and see her many times, you'd think she was gone anyway, but half the time she's not. But I believe he did say, but I wouldn't swear, that he just smacked her face to wake her up and got her up and said he was going to call the police, and he said he went to the phone. I don't know whether he was going to or not. And then she said she wanted to go to the toilet, because she knows that house as well as anybody else. And she went to the help's toilet - the girls' toilet, you see. She locked the door, turned the faucet on, pulled the chain and got out of the window and fell down about fifteen or sixteen feet into the ivy. That's where she got chafed. If you could see the place you'd know that no one could fall out of that d--- little window without getting scratched, and then she beat it."

Asked where CHAPLIN was on that occasion, CHANEY said he believed he was at Chasen's restaurant, and it was his understanding that WATT got hold of the chauffeur to go down and tell CHAPLIN that they had her up at the house. He continued, "That's what they did, yes - they called him out of Chasen's. You know, CHARLIE when he was excited and he was out, he didn't want to be bothered. He said "Have her arrested." That's what he said." Asked if CHAPLIN told that to HARVEY WEISSMAN, CHANEY replied, "Yes, but she got away."

With further reference to that night, CHANEY said that BERRY called him about 12:30. He remembered answering the phone from downstairs. At that time BERRY said, "Oh, EDWARD, I called you up to say "goodbye" and to thank you for all you've done for me - I've taken sixteen pills and it's no good your trying to find me," she said, 'or trace this call because you couldn't find out anyway. Goodbye and thank you,' and she hung up, as much as to say, 'I'm going to commit

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'icide.' But I didn't take no notice of it because I've heard that talk many times, ever since she's been at the house it's always been pills, or getting druggs, or something. I don't know whether she did or not, but they never killed her."

Asked if he told WATT, the watchman, or CHAPLIN, or anybody about this call, CHANEY didn't know whether he did or not. He said, "I never took any notice of it, to tell you the truth. I may have and I may not." CHANEY said he did not tell CHAPLIN when he came home that night of what had occurred, nor did he at any time talk to him at Chasen's restaurant that night.

Asked what happened the following morning, New Year's Day, when BERRY was in jail, CHANEY said, "Nothing happened." Asked how he knew she was in jail CHANEY replied, "I knew she was in jail - I knew she had been arrested." Asked who told him, he said, "I think the watchman told me, I believe, that she was arrested." He said that WATT told him this the following morning, New Year's Day, and claimed he didn't know how WATT found out. He also said, "CHARLIE said, 'Have her arrested,' and I don't know where in the devil they picked her up. That was the time she was down at the apartment - that time with, what was his name?" He was referring here to HANS RUESCH. CHANEY said he didn't think he told CHAPLIN that BERRY was in jail on New Year's morning, although he was quite sure that WATT had told him of her being there. Asked how CHAPLIN found out she was in jail, CHANEY replied, "That I don't know - I don't know."

CHANEY thought that it was likely that ARDEN was up at CHAPLIN'S house that morning or at least during the day, but he said that he did not call ARDEN to tell him of JOAN being in jail. Told that ARDEN had advised Agents that he received a phone call from him, CHANEY, on New Year's morning instructing him to go down to the jail, CHANEY replied, "No, I think he's a little off there," and then said that he didn't recall that. He continued, "No, to be honest about it, I don't recall that. I don't recall that. He may have been up to the house and the boss asked him to do it, but I don't think it was any telephone. The boss may have asked me to call ARDEN to come to the house. I'd put it that way, but CHARLIE never asked me anyway - you know, to say to get him to go and find out anything about Miss BERRY, because there's no third party, you see. He might have told me to call up ARDEN, that he wanted to see him. I'd say that because there's many times he asked me to get anybody - he'd say, 'I want to talk to Mr. DURANT,' 'I want to talk to Mr. ARDEN,' 'I want to talk to Mr. WRIGHT, get him to come up,' you see. That's the way he'd do, but he wouldn't tell me what he wanted them for, and ARDEN might have put it that way, that I called up - that doesn't mean anything, you see. He might say, 'EDWARD called up and wanted me to find out what was wrong,' but he came to the house - I didn't say that over the phone."

While ARDEN was at the house, CHANEY said he talked with CHAPLIN and he was not present. He remembered that ARDEN left with BERRY'S fur coat to take it

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back to the police station, and he also remembered that after that ARDEN had come back up to the house to talk to CHAPLIN. He said he heard none of the conversations between his employer and ARDEN.

CHANEY said he had some conversation with ARDEN about the hotel bills owed by BERRY, ARDEN stating that "What a mess it was - the bills she had owed." He said ARDEN didn't tell him how much money he paid out, but he knew about how much it was because he had seen the bills himself. He thought it was over \$600. CHANEY was asked if ARDEN had told him why CHAPLIN wanted the hotel bills paid or at least why they were paid, and he replied, "No, he didn't tell me. You see, CHARLIE never talked to me about it. I only get these things from what I hear and all like that. No, I think he was just worried - he didn't want no scandal or anything like that," and as for ARDEN, CHANEY said, "I think he did it to help CHARLIE out as a personal friend. I don't think he did it with the intention of getting into trouble or anything, because BERRY wanted to go to New York. She had been wanting to go for a couple of months - she used to come to me and say, 'I've begged him to let me go, but he won't let me go.' CHARLIE didn't let her go, you see, because he had too much money tied up in her, for that movie, you know. But I think ARDEN just did it because, well, just to get her off of his mind, and I believe CHARLIE just thought she'd just go - she'd just forget it."

Agents asked CHANEY if ARDEN told him what arrangements he had made with Captain WHITE of the Beverly Hills Police. To this question CHANEY replied, "Well, I don't know about that. He didn't say he had made any arrangements with him, but he did tell me that he'd asked Captain WHITE if he'd see JOAN BERRY on the train, and I think Captain WHITE'S wife, I don't know whether he's married or not - I've seen him a couple of times, that's all; that his wife and him went down together and saw JOAN on the train and gave her her clothes."

CHANEY recalled that after BERRY left town following her sentence in January, 1943, she called from Tulsa, Oklahoma, and wanted to talk to CHAPLIN. CHAPLIN, however, didn't talk with her and CHANEY said that on that occasion she told him that she was married and was going to have a baby; that she was married to an Army captain. CHANEY said he wished her all the happiness in the world and at the time thought to himself, "That's one thing - we got rid of you."

The next time he heard from her, CHANEY said was, "Miss HUNTER down at the studio, she got on the same trolley car in New York, in Hollywood, or something, I don't know, and she called me up and said, 'What do you think, Edward,' I said, 'I don't know.' She said she got on the trolley, and 'who was sitting there but JOAN BERRY.' I said, 'My G--, she's back here.' And then I think it was in a few days she called up the house, and that's when she said that her husband was coming out here and she wanted Mr. CHAPLIN to have that court order lifted so that she could bring her husband into Beverly Hills. I said, 'Well, you hang on the wire and I'll see if I can talk to him,' and I went in and he said,

'I've got nothing to do with that,' he said, 'that's the court - I've nothing to do with it,' and I went and told her. She called up several times about the same thing. She did call up and say that she'd gotten in touch with what's-his-name's lawyer --" Asked if he was referring to GETTY'S lawyer, CHANEY continued, "GETTY'S lawyer, and he said CHARLIE could have that lifted. I told him she had called up several times and he said, 'I've got nothing to do with it, it's nothing to do with me, that's the court.'"

CHANEY then made mention of the time BERRY visited the CHAPLIN home in May of 1943 and spent five or six hours talking to him down by the pool. Asked if that was a few days before she was again arrested and put in jail, he replied in the affirmative. CHANEY said she came up there in her car and he saw her coming and went around and told Mr. CHAPLIN that she was there. He continued, "Before we could finish, she was there, you see, and she said, 'I want to speak to you alone, CHARLES.' He said, 'If you want to speak to me, you can say it in front of EDWARD.' She said, 'I don't think you'd like EDWARD to hear it,' and they went down to the pool, and they were down there I should say three or four hours and she came up to the house and she was excited. She said, 'He won't listen to me. I've offered to marry him and then when the child is born, we'll get a divorce, but he won't listen to me. He said he can't marry anybody, that his public won't let him.' You know she was an actress. And then she went down there again - she went down to the pool again and she was there a couple of hours, and they walked up again, and he rung the bell and I went in and he said, 'Will you get Miss BERRY a sandwich?' So I went out and made a couple of sandwiches and I took them in, put a cloth on them and put the two places and she sat down, and he wouldn't sit with her. So she ate these two."

EDWARD continued that after they had finished lunch they went again down by the pool and later came back up to the house and said, "I can't do anything with him. He won't do anything." There is a possibility that EDWARD in this discussion confused BERRY'S visit to the CHAPLIN home a day or so before she was arrested in May of 1943 with a later visit around Decoration Day of 1943 after she had been released from jail. It appears probable that he did so confuse it because he next went on to tell of how BERRY got in touch with HEDDA HOPPER and then Judge HOLLAND. This could not have happened on this date in May of 1943 because BERRY did not yet know Judge HOLLAND. This was pointed out to CHANEY and he was asked if he didn't recall previously advising Agents of BERRY'S being there in May of 1943 when she went up to CHAPLIN'S bedroom and saw him in bed with OONA O'NEILL. He was then positive that she had had a conversation with CHAPLIN before her second arrest, which lasted for some time down by the pool.

CHANEY then went on to detail what happened when she came up there about Decoration Day of 1943 and he said, "Then she came up to the house. Then they were down there six or seven hours. She came up to the house - she could do nothing with him. She could get nothing out of him. She went to the phone, called up HEDDA

HOPPER and HEDDA HOPPER told her to come down there. She called directly to Judge HOLLAND and he asked her to go down there too, so then he talked to me. I don't know whether she said, 'I'll get EDWARD to take me down,' or something like that, and I got on the phone. He wanted to talk to me, and he said, 'You bring her down to me,' he said, 'bring her right into my office so that she isn't picked up. I don't want that girl picked up,' he said. So I took her down and when she got there, she was mad. She said she could do nothing with him and she wanted the papers served on him. She said, 'If you get the papers, I'll sign them right here.' He said, 'I couldn't do it; they couldn't be ready until tomorrow, and you bring your mother in and I'll sign them,' and she turned around and said, 'And I want you to get onto that --- of a b--- DURANT for those abortions.' He said, 'I have nothing whatever to do with it.' He said, 'That's the District Attorney.' And then she came down and we went out and she said, 'Now, will you take me to HEDDA HOPPER'S,' and I said, 'all right' and I took her there and I left her there."

CHANEY was asked if that was the last time that he saw BERRY and he replied in the affirmative. He was reminded of a visit he had at BERRY'S house several months before the baby was born and he admitted that that visit had taken place.

With further reference to BERRY'S visit to CHAPLIN'S home in May of 1943 before her arrest he was asked to detail more of what took place on that occasion, and he only recalled that when BERRY came downstairs from seeing a woman in bed she made that statement, but didn't identify her as OONA O'NEILL. For that reason EDWARD said he didn't believe she knew who the woman was.

EDWARD explained that O'NEILL was in bed in CHAPLIN'S home because she was sick. He said she was suffering from a very bad cold and in addition she had lung trouble. He quoted CHAPLIN as saying that OONA had T.B. and EDWARD said that Dr. SHELDON came up to treat her, gave her "a lot of medicine, because she had that cough bad, my G--, it would kill you, at that time." Agents asked him if when BERRY found them together she did much talking with CHAPLIN. He didn't know how much, but was quite sure that they talked some place downstairs. He was asked if he took BERRY away from the property and he said he wasn't sure, he was so mixed up because he had taken her so many times in his car. He explained that sometimes he would take her away and ask her where she wanted to go, and she would fool him. He said he would be instructed by her to just drive someplace, and when they got so far she would tell him that she left her car in Beverly Hills so to take her back there. He said BERRY explained that she just wanted to talk to him about CHAPLIN'S other girl. EDWARD thought it was the following night that she came up and was arrested.

CHANEY was asked in detail what occurred on the night of JOAN'S arrest in Beverly Hills at CHAPLIN'S home, and he said, "Well, I'll tell you, the front doorbell rung. There was OONA, CHARLIE and DURANT having their dinner in the living room. She rung it. She rung the bell and, you know - have you ever been up in the house? There's a big hallway, you know, and you open the door and there's a vestibule with a glass door, and I saw her, and I just went like that to her, and instead

On opening the door, I went back to the living room and said, 'Miss BERRY'S at the front door.' Of course they all jumped up, you see, and DURANT - I don't know what the boss - DURANT said, 'Well, I'll go and talk to her,' and he went into the vestibule. I followed him and he didn't go outside, he just said, 'Go away - don't want to see you.'" He continued, "Yes, but that didn't make any difference to her. So then CHARLIE came out and OONA - they hid behind the door, you know, and CHARLIE couldn't resist it, and he went out and talked to her. Oh, he said some very unpleasant things and he went all over the ground with me at that time, you know, I don't like to repeat it, but --". Asked what CHAPLIN said to her, CHANEY stated, "Oh, he called her a dirty little blackmailer. 'You just came up to blackmail me.' CHANEY was asked what BERRY'S reply to this was, and he said, "She didn't open her mouth. She looked like a little girl sixteen there, you know. She had her hair tied up in a big ribbon and a pair of slacks on and a long coat, and I felt sorry for the kid, you know - I don't like to see people talk like that to anybody, no matter how bad they are." Asked if CHAPLIN called BERRY any other names than a "dirty little blackmailer," CHANEY replied in the negative.

After CHAPLIN had so addressed BERRY, CHANEY said he was instructed to "call up the police and have her arrested." He said that when CHAPLIN told him that he didn't take any notice of it, whereupon CHAPLIN turned to DURANT and said, "Go and call up the police and have her arrested." CHANEY explained further that "Of course, to me that was all the thing - she wanted to be arrested, you see. I went outside to her and I said, 'JOAN, you don't want to be arrested, you don't want to go and be shut in jail. Why don't you beat it?' I said, 'No, no,' she said, 'If he wants his child born in jail, he can have it that way.'" Asked if he had already known of BERRY'S pregnancy, CHANEY replied, "Only what she had - that came as a surprise to me, because she had said over the phone from Tulsa that she was married, and I said to her, 'I thought you said you were married.' 'Oh,' she said, 'that was just a bluff, a blind.' So I said, 'Why don't you go away - you've got plenty of time, you don't want to be shut in jail,' I said. She said, 'Oh, no, no.' So she just sat down there and she just waited and he came up and picked her up. I heard him say, 'Come on, JOAN, let's go down to the station and talk it over.'

CHANEY was asked if it was not true that approximately the day before she was actually arrested and again the same day he had not talked with BERRY on the phone and at that time he was aware that the Beverly Hills Police were looking for her. With reference to this CHANEY said, "Well, I think the order had been, and she had been at the house and they were looking around - yes, that was right, they were up there looking for her. I don't know how the news got around. She was expected up there and the police was telephoned for, and Captain WHITE came up. That was the first time I ever saw him. He came to the front door and said, 'Is JOAN BERRY here?' and I said, 'no.'" Asked if that was the day of the night that she was actually arrested, CHANEY stated, "Yes. You know, come to think, she had called up and said she was coming up to see Mr. CHAPLIN around 2:00 o'clock, but she never did because he had - he informed the police and WHITE came up there, he was up there.

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on, he must have been up there about half past 1:00 or a quarter of 2:00, and he hung around a little while, and he said he had some duty to perform, that he'd be back again, and that if she should come up, call up the police. But she never come up that day at all."

Agents asked CHANEY who it was who had called the police, and he said that he didn't know, it was a little vague to him. He recalled that BERRY had called the house and said that she was coming up there. He also remembered that he had so told CHAPLIN, whereupon CHAPLIN had told him "have the place watched and call the police up to watch for her and pick her up." CHANEY was then asked if he did call the police and tell them, and he replied, "I believe I did, yes." He didn't remember who he talked to, just that it was the police station in Beverly Hills. He said he "gave the order that CHARLES CHAPLIN was expecting Miss BERRY there, he telephoned she was coming up and will you come and pick her up." CHANEY said though, "She never did come." He was then asked if he remembered talking to BERRY that same day, telling her that the police were looking for her and she had better stay away. He admitted that "Possibly; I don't know what day, but she did call and I did tell her that she better stay away, the police were looking for her to pick her up."

He was asked if he recalled and could identify Captain WHITE and Detective GEBHART of the Beverly Hills Police. He said he remembered GEBHART because he was the one who picked her up, and continued, "The night he picked her up he came back and Mr. DURANT told me that he was coming back to tell Mr. CHAPLIN what happened. That was the way, didn't he come up - oh, I don't know, it must have been about 10:00 o'clock. It may have been a little before 10:00 or 11:00. He was there for about fifteen minutes, that was all." CHANEY said that when GEBHART came back he talked to CHAPLIN and there was nobody present other than the two of them. CHANEY said he did not stay in the room, but "everything was open, I mean, the living room doors were open, but I don't think there was anything particular said that I think you fellows - he didn't give him anything." Agents asked if GEBHART asked for anything, and CHANEY stated, "No, he didn't ask for anything, but you can look between the lines - I think he expected something, but he didn't know CHARLIE. But with Captain WHITE, I never saw Captain WHITE in the house." However, CHANEY said WHITE was up there that same day, but he just got out of the car and there was another officer with him in the car. Neither of the men had uniforms, at least CHANEY was sure that WHITE didn't have one on. He continued that WHITE rang the front doorbell and identified himself. CHANEY said that was the first time he had ever seen him and that he told WHITE, "Well, she hasn't come around." He said, "Well, I'll stick around for fifteen or twenty minutes," and then he rung the bell again and said he had an appointment he had to keep, but he'd be back, and if she should come up, just to call the station. She never did come, but they did come back and ask if she had been around, and I said 'No,' and he said, 'Well, we'll stick around outside for just a little while,' but they never came to the house any more."

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CHANEY was asked if this was the second time WHITE came back the same day, and he replied, "The same day, yes. He said he had an appointment. He was there for about fifteen or twenty minutes and then he went away. He came back and rung the bell and said he had an appointment but he would be back, and if she did come up between to call up the police station and somebody would come up, but she didn't come up. When he came back and I said, 'She hasn't been here,' and he said, 'I'll stick around outside for a little while,' which he did, and then they went away and we didn't hear anything from them that day."

CHANEY continued that he never saw GEBHART or WHITE again, however, that GEBHART called several times within the next few days. With reference to this CHANEY said, "He wanted to give a lot of talk, you know, and he annoyed the boss, you know - that was all through with and he wanted to forget." He was asked what GEBHART wanted to talk about, and CHANEY said he didn't know. He said his conversation with him consisted only of GEBHART stating that "he would like to talk to Mr. CHAPLIN, and I'd go in and tell the boss, and the boss would go to the phone and talk to him. That's all I knew, you see."

The writer reminded CHANEY that in previous interview with him he had told Agents that CHAPLIN had told him that his conversation with GEBHART consisted of first one, then the other asking "What do you know?" Further that CHAPLIN in talking about it didn't say what else their conversation consisted of, but "Of course, you could see one was testing the other to see what they'd say. I don't mean to tell you that CHARLIE liked him." In fact, CHANEY said he didn't believe CHAPLIN did like GEBHART because he annoyed him.

CHANEY said he had heard no conversation at all concerning the obtaining of the services of Judge HOLLAND for JOAN BERRY. He said that was a surprise to him. CHANEY said, "There was nothing spoken about it at the house - never." I was under the impression CHARLIE had nothing to do with it at all. I thought myself it was DURANT and MINNA WALLIS for their own benefit." When asked to explain what he meant by their own benefit, CHANEY said, "I don't know - they're implicated in it too. DURANT is scared as h---." He was asked if by that statement he meant DURANT's connection with abortions on BERRY and CHANEY replied, "Sure."

After BERRY was released from the County Jail and taken to a sanitarium CHANEY said she called him from Santa Monica and that he went down and saw her. He said at that time her conversation consisted of "Well, same old thing. She was jealous, and a lot of O'NEILL and how he got another girl and all that. It was the same old stuff over and over again. I was down there for about fifteen or twenty minutes. She had a private room there, but you were the first ones I ever told about that." CHANEY did admit that nobody else had ever asked him that question before. CHANEY explained that the reason he went to the hospital was because "I didn't want anybody to put anything over on me. You know, I'm a lone wolf in this business, nobody's helping me." Along this line, with reference to CHAPLIN, CHANEY

said that "He's practically thrown me to the wind. I mean, he said to me this morning, 'Get a lawyer to go down with you,' but who the h--- is going to pay for a lawyer - it's nothing to me - I haven't done any wrong." He continued, "I said, 'Shall I call up Mr. WRIGHT - oh, he's out of town, or MILLIKAN?' and CHARLIE just nods his head, and then I call up, and he says, 'EDWARD, well the only thing is tell CHARLIE you'd better cooperate with the FBI,' he said. You see they don't want the case, it's too dirty for them. It's no good to them. That makes CHARLIE sore. He thinks he's just got to clap his hands and they run after him. And then CHARLIE said, 'Don't go down, you're a sick man.' The only time I'm sick to him is when there's anything to be said against him. But OONA said - she was sitting at the table when I saw him - she said, 'CHARLIE, he's got to go - he has to go.' 'Well, G-- d--- it,' he said, 'I'm not scared of them. What the h---,' he said, 'I'll talk to them.' If you ever do go to get him, believe me, you're in for the time of your life."

CHANEY was asked if he recalled a telephone call coming to the CHAPLIN home sometime between 2:30 and 5:00 o'clock in the morning of January 1, 1943, from the Beverly Hills Receiving Hospital. He replied that, "I believe there was a call like that coming to the house." He didn't know, however, whether he answered the phone or not. He was sure, however, that there wasn't any request made by anyone from the hospital that they come down and pick her up, or at least that nobody at the CHAPLIN home said they would be down to pick her up.

EDWARD related an incident when BERRY had been at the Beverly Hills Hotel, apparently had taken an overdose of sleeping tablets, and then found her way to the CHAPLIN home. He said he took her back to the hotel and en route, in a condition which indicated she was in a stupor, related that BERRY referred to the "two abortions I had." At that time there was with her a nurse who had been assigned to watch her. CHANEY said that when they got her into her room at the hotel, BERRY wanted the nurse to lie down with her, whereupon the nurse said, "I wouldn't lay with you, you dirty little pig, if you paid me. What about my money? I want \$27 - I've been with you two nights," then turning to CHANEY, the nurse said, "She ain't got no money to pay, where shall I get the money from?" CHANEY said he replied, "Well, I'll see you get the money." However, on telling CHAPLIN of this incident, he quoted CHAPLIN as saying, "I had nothing to do with it. I'm not going to pay her - let the people who called up pay her."

When he got back to CHAPLIN'S home, CHANEY said that either that day or the next he was talking to Mr. DURANT, at which time he told him, "By the way, Mr. DURANT, she is opening her mouth about two abortions." CHANEY said that DURANT replied, "The s--- of a b----. Aw, she can't prove anything." He said that DURANT also stated "that was bad business."

In describing CHAPLIN'S attitude toward this investigation, CHANEY quoted CHAPLIN as stating that he had had an affair with BERRY in October, 1942 in

New York and again in December, 1942, in his home; that he had had affairs with lots of girls, and what of it? Also CHANEY said he knew of letters that CHAPLIN received from different girls, among them IRIS GABRIEL, who was previously mentioned as one who had associated with CHAPLIN during the past year. CHANEY said he understood she was back in Hollywood, but he didn't think she had seen CHAPLIN. He said just the other day he had seen a letter from her which CHAPLIN had hidden away in his tie drawer. CHANEY thought that letter from GABRIEL had been written within the past six weeks. Therein she said she wanted to talk to him.

CHANEY was asked concerning the suitcase of CHAPLIN'S which BERRY had when she left town in January, 1943. He explained that she had been at CHAPLIN'S home and she and CHAPLIN had gotten in a fight and she had to leave. He said he took her away in his car and en route, asked her where she wanted to go. CHANEY continued, "She said, 'Will you drive me over to Beverly Hills?' and I did, and it was the same thing over again, and I said, 'Where do you want to go, JOAN?' 'Oh,' she said, 'drive me back. I parked my car back there,' and when we got over there it was down at the bottom of the hill - you know our place, where the street goes off - there was her car, and all smashed in at the front. She had hit someone - it was all bent in. The radiator was all bent right in. I said, 'My G--, you certainly hit something.' She said, 'Oh, EDWARD, do you think CHARLIE would loan me a suitcase - I've nothing to put my clothes in?' And, by G--, I'm like CHARLIE, I'd give her any G-- d--- thing to get rid of her. I said like this, 'I'll let you have one of these suitcases, but you've got to let me have it back, otherwise I can't make up for it.' CHARLIE'S got nice suitcases, and it cost \$125 that suitcase. Everything is in the studio's name - it isn't CHARLIE CHAPLIN - everything belongs to Charles Chaplin Studio, and we have to account for everything, and of course I told the old man. I went back and got one of the suitcases and took it down where her car was. She waited for me, and I said, 'I have to have this back, JOAN,' and that's the one she took away with her. And I got after ARDEN - I said, 'for G-- sake, don't let that woman get away with the boss' suitcase.' I told the boss she's got it. He said, 'Don't let her get away with it,' and I said, 'I'm like you, I'd give her any d--- thing to get her out of the house.' So would he, you know, to get rid of her. So I said, 'I gave her your suitcase,' but we never did get it back. I said, 'ARDEN, don't you let that woman get out of this town with that suitcase. But he said, 'Oh, when I went to see her off she had nothing to put her clothes in. I said, 'well let her go.' So I just told the studio and they replaced it. But I really don't know the date. That was another one of these times when she was up at the house."

CHANEY made some other observations concerning CHAPLIN and BERRY and stated with reference to the position in which he found himself, "I mean, if you'd been in my position and these things - you forget them. It isn't a sure business to remember. They happen - these things happen and I never expected I was going to be called upon to answer such questions - and the things with BERRY - so many times she was a pest, you see. Personally the girl was very nice to me. Of

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course she played up to me as an actress because she knew I was the only one she could get to CHARLIE through, and if she couldn't get by me, she couldn't get to CHARLIE. She could never see him unless it was through me, see, and she played up to me and I know that, but I'd like to see the girl get a good deal. He's a wealthy man and between you and I, the majority of these wealthy guys, especially in the movies, they've got these girls, but they look after them, you know that - they pay them off - \$1,000 or \$5,000 is nothing to them. They give them an automobile, they give them a fur coat, but he expected it for nothing. You see, he says because 'I'm CHARLIE CHAPLIN,' and that isn't right - that's like me - he expects my blood - I'm supposed to look after him," and continued, "He's CHARLIE CHAPLIN - it's an honor to work for him. I'm just in a d--- mess. I'd quit tomorrow, because it's doing me no good, you know. My doctor don't like it - I'm paying him money. CHARLIE ain't offered me a d--- nickel. He wouldn't say to the studio, 'See that EDWARD has---.' You know in domestic work the family says 'Well, look after him and see that he gets everything.' Well, that son of a gun never sent me an orange down, yet he expects all this of me. Of course, when it comes up, 'You're a sick man - you don't have to go.' But he's scared, you see, because he doesn't know what he's done, and I know what he's done. That's the trouble, you see."

Concerning OONA O'NEILL'S living in CHAPLIN'S home for four or five months before they were married, CHANEY told of her having disappeared for about a week immediately prior to their marriage and during the time that the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office was investigating CHAPLIN. She was then staying in the apartment that she had in Beverly Hills. Special Agent [REDACTED] of this office ascertained that CHAPLIN had an apartment for OONA O'NEILL at 9852 West Olympic Boulevard. Should it be necessary to develop further information in this connection, [REDACTED], who lives in the same apartment building, could be of assistance.

Interview with EDWARD CHANEY by the  
Los Angeles District Attorney's Office

At 11:30 A.M. on June 6, 1943, CHANEY was interviewed by Investigators HERBERT GROSSMAN and PHILIP T. TOWER at 100 North Weatherly Drive, Beverly Hills. Notes on this interview were taken by LORNA ADAMS. Most of the matters covered by the District Attorney's Office with EDWARD concerned the presence of OONA O'NEILL in CHAPLIN'S home before they were married. EDWARD lied to those investigators, telling them that she never stayed there overnight unless her mother was present. Very little was said about CHAPLIN'S association with JOAN BERRY and nothing was covered which has not been previously set forth in this report.

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FLORABEL MUIR  
City News Service of Los Angeles, Inc.  
132 West First Street  
Los Angeles, California  
Telephone: Michigan 2254

FLORABEL MUIR is a newspaper woman who owns the City News Service of Los Angeles, Inc. She is also the Los Angeles representative of the New York Daily News. She is a red haired woman of about fifty years, very outspoken and is regarded as a very capable newspaper reporter by her colleagues. She is married to DENNIE MORRISON, a former newspaper reporter who is now doing publicity work for Twentieth Century Fox Studios. She has apparently been very cooperative with the agents in instant case and furnished the information which is set out below very readily.

She testified before the Federal Grand Jury in Los Angeles in instant case on January 13, 1944.

On January 4, 1944 United States Attorney CHARLES H. CARR, together with agents, interviewed FLORABEL MUIR in Mr. CARR's office. She went over in some detail her connections with instant case.

She stated that on a Saturday, which would be May 8, 1943, HEDDA HOPPER called her to advise that JOAN BERRY, an associate of CHAPLIN, was in the County Jail. On Monday, May 10, MUIR stated that she went to the County Jail and found that MINNA WALLIS was there, talking with BERRY. She asked MINNA WALLIS what she was doing there and the latter told her that HEDDA HOPPER had sent her down. MUIR pointed out to WALLIS that that was not true because HEDDA HOPPER had sent her, MUIR, to see BERRY, however, WALLIS persisted in stating that she was there because HEDDA HOPPER told her that BERRY was in jail. In front of VEDA SULLIVAN, who has since been married, or at least who has a married name, matron in the County Jail, MUIR stated that she soundly cross-examined WALLIS as to actually what she was doing down there talking to BERRY. CHAPLIN's name was mentioned by WALLIS and MUIR recalled that WALLIS said that CHAPLIN was not the father of BERRY's child, but that it was PAUL GETTY. While she was in the jail MUIR got permission to call HEDDA HOPPER to substantiate her claim that HOPPER had sent her, MUIR, and not WALLIS.

After WALLIS had secured the services of Judge HOLLAND, MUIR said that she and HOLLAND took BERRY out of the County Jail and to a hotel in Westwood. As MUIR put it, they had hidden her out, but she finally located the place where BERRY had been staying. After that they put her in the Santa Monica Hospital and while there HOLLAND had one Dr. [REDACTED] examine BERRY and his report was that she had a tumor. MUIR recalled that she had probably talked with Judge HOLLAND some twenty times before she actually interviewed him on May 30, 1943, as will be set forth hereinafter. During that time [REDACTED] told her, as also did HOLLAND, that BERRY was not pregnant, but had a tumor. MUIR

said she told HOLLAND he better not go on with that story because she knew she was pregnant, and in connection with the pregnancy MUIR said that she arranged to have BERRY given the rabbit test while she was in the County Jail, so she of her own knowledge knew that she was pregnant. She also mentioned that HEDDA HOPPER had sent BERRY to her own personal physician, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] examination reflected that BERRY was pregnant. b7c

At one time ARDEN called both FLORABEL MUIR and HEDDA HOPPER and claimed that he was the father of BERRY's child. She pressed him on that point, and he then admitted that he had been kidding. MUIR said that she pointed out to him that Mr. DEL GUERCIO (Director of the Immigration and Naturalization Service) would be glad to get that information. It was after she made that statement that ARDEN back tracked.

MUIR told of the day that Mrs. BERRY, JOAN BERRY, herself, together with the two investigators from the District Attorney's office, TOWER and ROSSMAN whom she said she knew, were all up at HEDDA HOPPER's. This followed JOAN's conference with CHAPLIN on that date, May 30, 1943. HOPPER had learned that JOAN was there, had called CHAPLIN'S residence and asked to have her delivered at HOPPER'S. MUIR described the scene as one where first BERRY cried and then her mother, then they got no place so they then went down to Judge HOLLAND's office. JOAN BERRY left with Mr. WOODMANSEE to get something to eat. In front of MUIR, Mrs. BERRY told Judge HOLLAND that she didn't think she could trust him, and asked Miss MUIR's opinion of the matter. MUIR said that she told Mrs. BERRY, in front of HOLLAND, "I think he's a crooked b-----," whereupon HOLLAND said, "I'll admit MINNA WALLIS engaged me to act as JOAN BERRY'S attorney. She made me the proposition that if I took her out of jail and got her out of the state, TIM DURANT would give me \$500." HOLLAND continued that after he had talked with BERRY he saw that she was a victim of circumstances in this matter and that thereafter he said that his sole interest was in protecting BERRY. MUIR stated that she interjected at that point that the thing that switched HOLLAND was Judge PALMER's editorials, continuing that they "scared H--- out of you."

MUIR said that about this time HOLLAND tried to get BERRY to sign a settlement with CHAPLIN wherein it had been written by FRANK DOHERTY that BERRY had been promiscuous, and included similar statements which defamed her character. This proposed agreement also provided that BERRY was to never again make any claim on CHAPLIN as the father of her child. It is recalled that when agents interviewed HOLLAND and WOODMANSEE, HOLLAND was specifically asked if such a provision was in the proposed settlement and he said it was not.

MUIR said that when she first found BERRY in the County Jail, she herself contacted SAMMY HAHN, Beverly Hills attorney, but before he had time to take any action, HOLLAND was on the scene. MUIR described HAHN as one of those who runs Beverly Hills. With reference to the time that he appeared in

Judge GRIFFIN'S court and made a speech after the case had been settled, MUIR said that his purpose in so doing was to white-wash GRIFFIN's part in the picture.

With reference to her conversations with Judge GRIFFIN, MUIR said that GRIFFIN told her that WHITE, Beverly Hills Police Officer, had gone to his chambers before BERRY appeared on January 2, 1943, and told him that CHARLES CHAPLIN wanted to get BERRY out of the state. GRIFFIN continued, according to MUIR, that he had told WHITE that he didn't like the idea of CHARLES CHAPLIN trying to tell him how to run his court. MUIR also recalled that GRIFFIN had told her that when BERRY appeared in his court on January 2, 1943, she told him that she had a job coming up in pictures.

MUIR also mentioned that HEDDA HOPPER had told her of contacting MARY PICKFORD in an effort to raise some money to get BERRY out of town, or at least taken care of, but was not too detailed on this because she said it was all hearsay as far as she was concerned.

On January 6, 1944 FLORABEL MUIR was again interviewed by agents in Mr. CARR's office. At this time she expressed a willingness to dictate a complete statement of her knowledge of instant case. Accordingly Bureau stenographer [REDACTED] took this dictation from Miss MUIR, which statement is set out below:

"I first heard about JOAN BERRY from HEDDA HOPPER, who called me on Saturday, the day that JOAN was sent to the County Jail for violating her probation. HEDDA told me over the telephone that this girl had told her that CHARLES CHAPLIN was the father of her unborn child and that she was in such a distraught condition when she was at HEDDA's office that HEDDA was afraid to send her on the streetcar, so she called a girl who had been living with JOAN at the Chateau Elysee, the girl being MARIE DE GARDA, and asked her to take JOAN to Dr. [REDACTED] who gave her an examination and found out that she really was pregnant. HEDDA was very excited about the whole thing and thought that there should be something done. LR

I called the County Jail and talked to one of the matrons, and she told me that JOAN was there, but they had given her a sedative because she came in so excited; that she wasn't able to see anybody and they would rather I didn't interview her that afternoon because they had put her in the hospital under a sedative, I think they said.

Monday I tried again to see her and they said she was still under a sedative. I think it was Tuesday I sent HELEN BRUSH, who is a cameraman for the "Daily News," and MARY TAYLOR, who then worked for me on the "City News" over to get a picture of JOAN in jail. After they got the picture

"I had intended to go over and talk to her. MARY TAYLOR called me on the phone and said that there was a woman named WALLIS there who was telling the girl not to talk to reporters and not to give any pictures. So I went over to the County Jail and up to the women's department and found that MINNA WALLIS was there. She came out and I said "Hello, MINNA," and she said, "Oh, hello, FLORABEL, what are you doing here?" I said, "The same thing you are - I want to talk to JOAN BERRY." She said, "Oh, I hope you're not going to write anything about this - it's a terrible case, and I said, "Well, I'd never have known about the case a I would never have given it any unfavorable publicity of CHAPLIN had- n' ) thrown her in jail." She said, "Well, you don't know the whole story, and CHAPLIN is not responsible for her condition - it's a man named PAUL GETTY. CHAPLIN has been very good to her." I said, "Why wouldn't he be good to her, after all men are usually good to their mistresses until they get tired of them." I said, "I think that they should never have sent her to jail if they didn't want any bad publicity. Now they're asking for it, and I'm afraid they're going to get it. Why don't you try to do something for the girl to get her out of here. This is no place for a girl who is pregnant and in her mental and physical condition." She said, "I think you're right, and that's what I'm going to do. What do you advise?" I said, "I don't advise anything - that's up to you." She said, "I'm going down to Beverly Hills and try to do something for her." I said, "How did you happen to know she's in jail and how did you happen to come up here?" She said, "HEDDA HOPPER sent me up here." I said, "I don't think that's true, because she sent me. Why should she send you?" She said, "I talked to her on the telephone this morning, and she told me to come up here and do something for JOAN."

So she left, and I tried to talk to JOAN. Matron VEDA SULLIVAN - I don't know her married name - said that JOAN didn't want to talk to anybody because MINNA WALLIS had told her not to. I asked Mrs. SULLIVAN if MINNA WALLIS had told JOAN that HEDDA HOPPER had sent her up there to see her, and she said that she had. So I told Mrs. SULLIVAN to bring JOAN out - I wanted to talk to her. She did, and JOAN was very reluctant and cried and said she didn't want to talk to reporters. I said, "You think HEDDA HOPPER sent MINNA WALLIS to see you, don't you?" and she said, "Yes, I do." I said, "Well, will you believe me if I tell you HEDDA HOPPER sent me to see you, and not MINNA WALLIS?" She said, "No, I won't believe that because MINNA told me that HEDDA sent her and that she's going to get me a lawyer and take me out of here." I said, "I don't think you can trust MINNA WALLIS. After all, she's a friend of TIM DURANT and TIM DURANT is not a friend of yours." She said, "I don't want any publicity about this. I'm sure that CHARLES is only doing this to me to make me suffer so I can be a great actress." I told her CHARLES was a heel of the worst kind and no matter what he was doing it to her for, he hadn't any right to do it;

that nobody had a right to send her to jail for anything she'd done, and I asked her if she wanted to talk to HEDDA HOPPER on the telephone and have HEDDA assure her that she could trust me. She said, "Yes," if HEDDA would tell her that, she'd trust me. So I called HEDDA on the telephone and, with Mrs. SULLIVAN's permission, let her say a few words to JOAN. HEDDA warned her that MINNA WALLIS was not her friend; that she hadn't talked to her and that she must be very careful and that she could trust me. So then JOAN agreed to tell us her whole story and pose for pictures.

In the meantime, PEARL GROS from the "Los Angeles Examiner" and H. WARD HURTELL, also from the "Examiner," joined the group, and through tears and dramatics and all sorts of emotional upheaval, JOAN finally told us the whole story about how she was thrown in jail on New Year's Eve and how she got the tourist ticket and \$100 from a policeman in Beverly Hills who put her on a train to go back to New York where her mother was. She said when she got to Omaha she decided not to go to New York, said she was ashamed to go back as a failure and also she felt that CHARLES still loved her and that she still loved him, and that if she could go back to Los Angeles she could make him believe it. She kept saying all the while that it was all her fault; that she hadn't done what CHAPLIN told her to do; that she had spent more money than she should have and that he was only trying to discipline her when he threw her in jail. I told her she was nuts - that guys didn't discipline women that way; that he had been doing this to girls for a long time and that she wasn't the first one and wouldn't be the last.

I asked her if it was true PAUL GETTY was the father of this child, and she said, "Absolutely not," that she had never had anything to do with PAUL GETTY in her life in a sex way; that he was just a good friend. She told me about the night the baby was conceived; how she went to CHAPLIN's house with a gun, threatening to kill him and that the gun acted as an aphrodisiac, and she stayed all night. She told me the two boys were in the house that night in another room. This took a long time to tell, because she kept breaking down and crying and telling me CHARLES was a fine man; that he was a genius and all the things he did wrong he couldn't help doing because he was a genius, and she didn't want to hurt him in any way. I said, "He's hurt you plenty, he's got you in the car. That's a fine thing for a genius to do." She knew that, but still she knew that he would take care of her, that everything was all right. All she had to do was to talk to him and she knew that the day she went over to talk to him that if TIM DURANT hadn't been there and she had been able to talk to CHARLES alone everything would have been all right. Then we finally got the story and took pictures of her.

I said, "Well, JOAN, I'll try to get you a lawyer and get you out of here." She said, "This is a terrible place - I can't eat," and she was going through a period when her stomach wasn't any too certain anyway.

So I tried to get SAMMY HAHN to take the case and get her out of jail, that was the main thing. In the meantime, MINNA WALLIS came back with CECIL HOLLAND. I called up the matron - they told me they had been up to see her and the next day took her out and hid her from the reporters in an apartment in Westwood Village under an assumed name. I called the apartment and they had just taken her to the Santa Monica Hospital.

They wouldn't let us talk to her in the hospital at all, but HEDDA HOPPER finally got in. HEDDA just used to walk in the back door and talk to her. I drove her down there a couple of times one night. We were going to kidnap her, but HEDDA went in to talk to her and she had been shot full of hop and we couldn't move her. They gave her these sleeping tablets all the time she was there.

In the meantime I called HOLLAND a number of times, warning him that he was on dangerous ground and I knew he had been hired by CHAPLIN and that this was a thing that might get him into trouble with the Bar Association if he was representing the girl or representing CHAPLIN, and he should watch himself. He kept assuring me that he was acting for her and her alone and that nothing was further from his mind than to be engaged by CHAPLIN - he didn't know CHAPLIN and had never talked to CHAPLIN about the case, and I said, "Well, the girl has told me about two other abortions she had, and I don't think that she should have any more abortions because if she does, you're going to get into an awful jam." He said, "Well, you know I wouldn't have any abortions performed" and I said, "No, you wouldn't have any abortions now because we're watching you." He said, "I don't even know she's pregnant." I said, "You should know she's pregnant - we've had two examinations on her - the doctor at the County Jail and [redacted] both examined her." He said, "Well, [redacted] isn't sure she doesn't have a tumor." I said, "Now you know G-- d--- well she hasn't got a tumor. At least I know it and you better find it out and if she loses that tumor by some accident, you better watch out."

In the meantime Judge PALMER of the "Hollywood Citizen News" began writing editorials demanding investigations, and HOLLAND began getting a little frightened. Each time I talked to him he got a little more communicative and tried to sell me a bill of goods that he was on the level, and assuring me - although I was always insulting him - that he wasn't a crook and that he meant only the best things in the world for the girl. I said, "Who's paying the hospital expenses for the girl?" He said, "I am." I said, "Where are you getting the money?" He said, "Her mother has been giving it to me." I said, "You're in communication with her mother?" and he said, "Yes."

I called [redacted] on the telephone and asked him about the child and how it was coming along and what they were going to do for her, and he said, "Well, I'm convinced she has a tumor," and I said, "Well, before you convince yourself too far that she has a tumor, you go down and look at the

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County Jail records and also call Dr. [REDACTED] and confirm his records, because there are two against one and they don't think she has a tumor, they say she's going to have a baby." I think they said in six months from that date.

She got out of the hospital and went to a hotel. In the meantime I had gone to the District Attorney, FRED HOWSER, and asked him why he didn't investigate the case. I told him that the girl had told me there had been two abortions committed and I also thought that there was a law violation in having these women, her and OONA O'NEILL who was then living at the house too, up there at the same time his two sons were and who were juveniles. There might be a contributing delinquency charge. So he immediately started an investigation. He put two investigators on - PHIL TOWER and HERB GROSSMAN.

So on the morning of Decoration Day PHIL TOWER called me at my home and told me that he had been working on the case and the girl was down at the New Carlton Hotel with her mother and that she was going nuts. She threatened to jump out the window and that now she had gone up to CHAPLIN'S house and that the mother was frantic and didn't know what was going to happen - they might put her in jail again, etc., and would I try to talk to the mother; that I might calm her down. I went down to the hotel and ate breakfast with her and MARIE DeGUARDA and they told me that JOAN was up at CHAPLIN'S house; that she got away from MARIE and had gone. So I called up HEDDA HOPPER and told HEDDA that the mother wanted to see her and could we all come up and talk to her.

So we went up. The mother was very reluctant to have any publicity or any lawsuit of any description. She thought the best thing was to take the girl and go back to New York and let the whole thing drop because she didn't want any of CHAPLIN'S dirty money, as she called it, and that it was a terrible disgrace and her family would feel terrible. GROSSMAN and TOWER were up there with us.

In the meantime, HEDDA had called up CHAPLIN'S house and told EDWARD, the butler, to bring JOAN down to her house, so by the time we arrived at HEDDA'S, JOAN was there and was full of this hop and acting silly. HEDDA had a long talk with her about how she was grown up and going to have a baby and to stop being foolish and believing anything CHAPLIN told her, and she said CHAPLIN told her he would take care of her - all she had to do was to drop the whole thing, trust him, go out of the state and have her baby and when it was all over he would take care of her, and later they might sometime get married, but he couldn't marry her now because of the publicity. So we told her that she was listening to a lot of hogwash; that he was just trying to get her out of the state. He insisted she should try to go out of the state.

This went on all day. We had one conference and then another, and the mother was very stubborn and wanted to drop the whole thing, and JOAN cried and she cried and so finally I called up HOLLAND and told him that they were up there and I was going to bring them down to his office in Beverly Hills and have a conference. So we went down there. TOWER and GROSSMAN went home, and I took the two women to HOLLAND's office.

We walked up to his office, and the girl hadn't had anything to eat all day and she was exhausted so WOODMANSEE took her out to eat, and Mrs. BERRY and HOLLAND and I sat in his office and talked. Mrs. BERRY said to me - b. this time she is getting very chummy with me - "Do you think I can trust Mr. HOLLAND?" Mr. HOLLAND is sitting there. I said, "Mrs. BERRY, I'm saying this to you in front of Mr. HOLLAND - I think he's a crooked b----- and I wouldn't trust him as far as I can see him. However, he's way out on a limb now and everybody's watching him. You've signed an agreement that he should be your lawyer - at least JOAN has," because he made her sign something when she was in the hospital and I had a copy of the thing which she signed. He gave her a copy and kept a copy himself. I said, "I know that now he's being watched and I don't think he can afford to do anything crooked with you." He said "FLORABEL, I swear to God I have no intention of being crooked in this matter. I will admit to you that I that I was first hired in this case by MINNA WALLIS. She came to my office and told me that if I would go and get JOAN BERRY out of jail and arrange it so she could be put in a sanitarium and then be taken out of the state, TIM DURANT would give me \$500. After I talked to JOAN and she told me what CHAPLIN had done, I changed my mind." I tried to pin him down as to exactly when he had changed from representing CHAPLIN's interests to BERRY's interests, and he said he couldn't remember exactly. He said, "don't pin me down - don't cross-examine me like that. You're worse than the District Attorney." I said, "Are you sure that it was JOAN's story or Judge PALMER's editorials that made you change your mind? I know that you're scared to death because everybody's afraid of Judge PALMER. He has a lot of political influence and he has been hitting you pretty hard." He said, "Yes, that's been murder, but it's all unfounded. I'm not guilty of the things he says I'm guilty of." Then he said to me, "To make it certain that I'm on the level with JOAN, I'm going to ask you and HEDDA HOPPER to sit in at the conferences with myself and CHAPLIN's attorneys when we make the settlement." I said, "The h--- you are. Then tomorrow morning or the next day the "Hollywood Reporter" would have HEDDA HOPPER and FLORABEL MUIR in a big blackmail shakedown. Neither HEDDA HOPPER nor myself are principals in this lawsuit, and speaking for myself, and I think HEDDA will take the same position, neither one of us will sit in on any conferences between any attorneys and CHARLIE CHAPLIN. That will have to be between Mrs. BERRY and JOAN and CHAPLIN. I'm merely a reporter who is trying to get the facts in the case." So he said, "You don't trust me at all, do you?" and I said, "No sir, I don't trust you at all." This was said kind of laughingly.

So I left then - went home. JOAN hadn't come back. In the meantime the mother turned to me and said, "I think if I could talk to a priest, I'd get my mind straightened out on this whole thing." I said, "Probably that would be a good idea; sometimes people do get comfort from talking to a priest." So I said, "I'll see what I can do." In the meantime, I don't remember whether it was GROSSMAN or TOWER who called the Blessed Sacrament Church - I didn't. The deal was made before we left HEDDA's house - that that night I would take her to the Blessed Sacrament Church. That night I went back down to the hotel and took Mrs. BERRY to the church. I called her the next morning and she told me that she hadn't had a very satisfactory talk with this man. He seemed to be in a little hurry and she felt that she needed further advice. I tried to find out who could help her, and someone told me to call the priest at La Cienega and that he could talk to her better than anyone else.

I took her out that night and we went in the priest's part of the church and I introduced myself and her. She wanted to talk to him alone, and I didn't want to be present. They stayed in his study. When we left she felt very much happier. I said, "Well, now what are you going to do?" and she said, "Well, I can't tell you what I'm going to do because he has given me some advice which I'm going to accept. I'll tell you one thing - I'm going to get myself another lawyer. I never hired HOLLAND - I don't trust him and after all, he's JOAN's attorney, not mine, and I'm going to get myself a lawyer because I think we need better advice than HOLLAND can give us." I said, "I think that's a good conclusion. Do you want to tell me who it is? Maybe I can tell you if he's any good." She said she would rather not. So to my great surprise, JACK IRWIN called me up and told me he was taking the case, and I knew he would be on the level with her and I advised him to watch HOLLAND, and I told him what HOLLAND had told me about the \$500.

The same day Mrs. BERRY hired IRWIN, I told the "Daily News" and the U.P. and they were up at the Carlton Hotel, so it was a big press conference. Mrs. BERRY asked me to protect them at the conference and keep people from asking her questions or taking her picture, and I assured her that they wouldn't take her picture if she would consent to the interview. So I stayed with her. JOE HERNANDEZ was there from the "Examiner" - he kept hanging on. He wanted JOAN to pose for pictures powdering her face, etc., and JACK wouldn't stand for any of that kind of business.

They were broke - they didn't have any money and the reporters were driving them crazy and it was hard to get a room any place at the hotel, so I took them up to my house and kept them there for a week - Mrs. BERRY and JOAN. This was the next day after JACK came into the case. I made them promise they wouldn't tell anybody they were there. I felt sorry for them - they had no place to go and no money. From my house - I kept them there

a week - they went over to JOE DUNN'S house. Mrs. DUNN took care of them and helped them. Then they went to the Mayflower Hotel.

Then comes the day of CHAPLIN'S marriage. I heard from "Variety" that CHARLIE was going to marry somebody and they thought it was JOAN. So I called the hotel and asked for JOAN. Mrs. BERRY said she was sleeping. I said, "Get her on the phone." So she came to the phone and said, "What do you want, FLORABEL?" and I said, "I just want to know that you're in that hotel, and not up in Santa Barbara with CHAPLIN. She said, "Well, there's something doing - EDWARD said he's gone from the house." EDWARD or ANDREW told her that CHARLIE was going to get married, but that he was forced into it and said, "You're the only one who forced him." She still wouldn't believe it.

The following day I went up to the hotel - her mother asked me to break the news to her. When I told her, she went completely haywire and became a raving maniac. TOM CATON of the "Times" came over and all the other reporters, and JOAN sat on the bed and posed for pictures, and kept screaming. That night the doctor came down and they stayed with her. The next day she escaped out of the hotel and went down to the American Airlines and booked passage for Mexico City. She said she couldn't stay in the country, she couldn't breathe the same air that CHAPLIN and OONA would breathe. Her mother called me on the phone to come on down, that JOAN was going to Mexico and I had to stop her. JOAN came back up to the hotel - she didn't have any money to get the passage to Mexico and she had to get it from her mother. She said what she really planned to do was to jump out of the airplane. I told her she was crazy. Dr. ██████ said it was shock - the shock of hearing of the marriage. b7c

The first day that JACK (IRWIN) went into court to get JOAN BERRY permission to come in and out of Beverly Hills, after the hearing was over - the Judge granted it - JACK also made a plea on that same day that she be allowed to withdraw her guilty plea and that she be given a chance to be rehabilitated and put in the care of her mother. GRIFFIN didn't consider it that day and indicated that he didn't want to consider it because HOLLAND was in court. He didn't like HOLLAND.

So then I went in the chambers and I went in alone first and I said, "I want to get the whole picture here. There seem to be a lot of things that went on here. Now, how did you happen to throw this girl in jail?" He said, "I put her in jail because she violated her probation." I said, "But you didn't give her a trial to find out if she had violated her probation, did you?" He said, "No," and I said, "Don't you think you should? You can't send somebody to jail for violation of probation until you find out if they've violated it, and you can't go on the word of somebody else. She might not have even been in Beverly Hills, and legally you're required

to give a person a hearing on a case like that. If I'm convicted of some sort of a crime and put on probation, certainly I have the right to a trial to find out if I've violated my probation." He said, "We don't do it that way in Beverly Hills." I said, "You do a lot of things in Beverly Hills that aren't right." He said, "You don't know the problems we have to contend with in Beverly Hills." I said, "Yes, I do. You've got a lot of screwballs who come out here to see the movie stars, and that's a big problem, and you've got lots of millionaires living here. I understand that, but you ought to be careful that you don't violate somebody else's rights." He said, "Well, I didn't think that under the law you were required to have a trial." I said, "I think you are." Then I said, "How in the world did you happen to 'vag' her in the first place?" He said, "She pled guilty." I said, "She told me she didn't plead guilty - she didn't know what happened to her; that you told her she had to go to jail if she didn't get out of Beverly Hills." He said, "Well, I did give her a chance to speak for herself and I asked her if she was working anywhere, but she said she had a job coming up, she thought." I said, "Well, she came into court with a \$1500 fur coat on, didn't she?" He said, "I don't know. I never noticed what she had on. You know how police courts are - we have lots of cases. This was just one other case." I said, "Well, it couldn't have been just one other case, because some policeman came in here before the case and told you that CHAPLIN wanted her sent out of the state, didn't he?" He said, "Yes, as a matter of fact, he did. Captain WHITE came in here and told me that ROBERT ARDEN said that she had been molesting CHAPLIN and CHAPLIN wanted to get rid of her - get her out of the state, and asked me to order her out of the state. I told WHITE that I didn't intend to do anything of the kind, and that he had a h--- of a lot of nerve to come and ask me such a thing and that he could "go back and tell CHAPLIN and ARDEN both that they weren't telling me what to do." I said, "Why didn't you bring CHAPLIN and ARDEN in for contempt of court for trying to influence your decision?" He said, "Well, I didn't think I could get a conviction on them. I only had WHITE's word for it that they had told him what to say." I said, "Did you know about the \$100 and the ticket?" He said, "WHITE told me that CHAPLIN was willing to pay the bills in the hotel and stores and give her a ticket and some money to go to New York with. I told WHITE that I couldn't take any judicial cognizance of the money CHAPLIN was giving to her at all. It didn't make any difference to me."

Just about that time in came Chief ANDERSON and the other reporters -- CATON and CLAUDE KIMBALL from the "Examiner." I started to ask ANDERSON questions, and he said, "I don't have to answer your questions, I'm not on trial." I said, "The h--- you're not on trial, and you better answer my questions. You're on trial with the public, and you better tell me the whole story. Why did these cops go up and look at this girl when she didn't have any clothes on?" He said, "That's a G--- d--- lie-- they didn't do anything of the kind. The only person that was there was the matron. She lay on the floor in the cell and wouldn't put jail clothes

I said, "Why did you try to put the jail clothes on her - she was going to the County Jail the next day." He said, "She tried to cut her wrists and we had to search her. She had a broken mirror in her pocketbook and we took all her clothes off so she wouldn't have any concealed weapons." I said, "What's the police matron's name?" and he said, "She's a society woman and I can't give you her name." I asked ANDERSON if it was true that this society woman had offered JOAN \$250 for her fur coat, and he said he didn't know whether she had or not and he said, "I'm sure if she did it was only out of the kindness of her heart because the girl said she didn't have any money."

Then I said, "What gave you the conclusion that she was a 'vag'? Why did you do that?" He said, "Well, she came in one night before and told us she didn't have any place to sleep and wanted us to put her in jail." He said, "She got to be a nuisance around here. We decided to get rid of her." I said, "I know, but don't you ever stop to consider that here's a very young girl and you're doing her a great injury by throwing her in jail. Why didn't you take her home or try to cover up or protect her some way. She obviously wasn't a tramp. She was a young girl that should have been protected." He said, "We thought she was a tramp. She told us all the guys that she'd been sleeping with." I said, "Who did she tell you she had been sleeping with?" He said, "Well, she said she slept with PAUL GETTY, HANS REUSCH, CHAPLIN, DURANT, ARDEN, BLUMENTHAL and a scenario writer at 20th Century-Fox, SAM MARX." I said, "Now, look, Chief, you mean to tell me that this girl sat in your jail and glibly told you that she slept with all those men?" He said, "Yes." I said, "I think that's a G-- d--- lie. I've known from my police experiences the worst kind of a prostitute and they don't talk that way. She may have slept with a few guys, but I don't think she'd tell a bunch of cops that." He said, "That's certainly what she said." I said, "What were her exact words?" He said, "You're worse than the District Attorney the way you cross-examine me." I said, "I want to know exactly what she said." He said "We asked her if she slept with those guys and she said 'What do you think?'" I said, "Oh, so it's your interpretation of what she said, not exactly what she said." I said, "You, with your filthy mind thought that was what she said. The answer to that with anybody else would be that it was a denial, rather than an admission." "Well," he said, "maybe so." "They talk that way - they wisecrack," he said, "so we just put them down as tramps." Then he said, "This whole case has been stirred up by HEDDA HOPPER anyway." I said, "What do you mean by that?" He said, "She told the girl to go over there and get arrested." I said, "Who told you that? You got that story from CHAPLIN. You don't know what you're talking about." "Yes, I do," he said, "she's a trouble maker." I said, "You know HEDDA could sue you for libel for what you just got through saying because you accuse HEDDA of sending this girl over to violate a law and get herself arrested. That's a grave charge and it isn't true. HEDDA HOPPER has got more sense than to tell JOAN to go anywhere near CHAPLIN. Who have you been talking to over at CHAPLIN'S? I heard from some of the boys that he wouldn't talk to anyone."

So we wanted to talk to WHITE and WHITE was away on sick leave. I said, "Where did WHITE get the pistols that JOAN took up to CHAPLIN'S house." He said, "I think ARDEN gave them to him." I said, "Was that the pay-off, or did he get any money?" He said, "He didn't get any money, I know that." I said, "Well, how come this guy WHITE goes way out of his territory and goes down and puts this girl on the train?" He said, "He didn't do that in any official capacity." I said, "It looks like he's lending some color of authority to the deal." I said, "Why send him to put her on the train in Los Angeles? He's got no jurisdiction in Los Angeles." He said, "I know it - he hasn't got any right to go down there at all. I bawled h--- out of him for it. He didn't have any right to do that. He was just trying to be a good guy," or words to that effect, that he was trying to be nice to the girl and see she didn't get into any trouble. I said, "Who did he expect trouble from?" He said, "Oh, I don't know - she was worried and she didn't have any automobile to go to the train with, and Captain WHITE and his wife took her down there. They liked the girl." I said, "Well, is that what made them tell the porter not to let her get off the train until it left the State of California?" He said, "I don't know if he told the porter that or not." I said, "That's what JOAN told me he did." I said, "When ARDEN came to WHITE with the ticket and \$100 and told WHITE to give it to the girl, why didn't WHITE tell ARDEN to give it to her himself?" He said, "The reason WHITE did it was because ARDEN had to go to his broadcast and couldn't wait."

Looking back at the second conversation I had with HEDDA, which was Monday, after she told me on Saturday the girl was in jail, she said "Did you go down there and get that story?" I said, "No, because the matron told me to leave her alone, that she was in the hospital." She said, "Well, I had a big talk with MARY PICKFORD today and I told her something ought to be done about this; that we shouldn't let that b----- get away with these things all his life and for the sake of Hollywood somebody ought to do something about it and it was up to her because she was part owner of United Artists." I said, "What did MARY say?" and she said, "Mary is going to try to do something about it," and something about there wasn't much you can do about CHAPLIN, anyway.

I called CHAPLIN'S house that Monday after I talked to HEDDA, and called him all day Tuesday, but he wouldn't talk to me. I talked to EDWARD, the butler, and told him it was FLORABEL NUIR calling. I called him Monday, and didn't call him Saturday.

I also had a conversation with ROBERT ARDEN. I called him at his apartment sometime after May 12, 1943. I know it was ARDEN because he has a very definite accent. HEDDA also called him on the same occasion right after I did because I told her what he said to me, and she called him up to see if he would say the same thing to her, and he did. I called him to ask him what he knew about the case. I introduced myself - I said,

"my name is MUIR. I work for the 'New York Daily News'". He said, "Yes, what is it you want?" I said, "I'm interested in the CHAPLIN Case. What do you know about it? The girl tells me that you took her clothes out of the Chateau Elysee and she wants to know where they are." He said, "I didn't take them out - they're still there." I said, "Well, she said you were going to pay the bill and take them out." He said, "I was, but I didn't do it." I said, "Where were you going to get the money to get them out with? Was CHAPLIN going to pay the bill?" He said, "Why should CHAPLIN pay the bill?" I said, "CHAPLIN's the father of the baby, isn't he?" He said, "No." I said, "How do you know?" He said, "Because I'm the father of the baby." I said, "I'm very sure that's an interesting admission, and I'm very sure Mr. DEL GUERCIO would be glad to hear that." He said, "What about DEL GUERCIO?" and I said, "Well, from what I hear about DEL GUERCIO and the Immigration Department, you're under orders to be deported. The first time I saw you, you were in the County Jail." He said, "I don't remember meeting you." I said, "Probably not - you meet so many people when you're in jail. I think I'll tell DEL GUERCIO you're the father of the child. That might make a better story." He said, "Well, you wouldn't want to tell something you didn't know for sure, would you?" I said, "No - you just told me." He said, "Well, we all talk, you know." I said, "Oh, so now you're just talking." He said, "Yes, but don't believe everything that girl tells you. She's no good - her father's in the penitentiary." I said, "Where's her father in the penitentiary?" He said, "He's up in Folsom." I said, "How do you know that?" He said, "I know when he was sent up. The whole family's no good - the mother's a drunkard and the father's in jail." I said, "That doesn't necessarily follow that she's a tramp because her family is in jail." He told HEDDA that JOAN stole CHAPLIN's suitcase, or his suitcase.

HEDDA HOPPER  
1708 Tropical Avenue  
Beverly Hills, California  
Telephone CRestview 6-9428

Miss HOPPER is the well known Hollywood Columnist for the Los Angeles Times. She also has a radio program and has had several roles in motion pictures. She testified before a Federal Grand Jury in instant case on January 13, 1944.

On January 8, 1944 Agents interviewed Miss HOPPER at her home at 1708 Tropical Avenue, Beverly Hills. This interview had previously been arranged by United States Attorney CHARLES H. CARR.

Miss HOPPER was asked to furnish whatever information she had concerning the CHAPLIN-BERRY association and advised that she first heard of JOAN BERRY on May 7, 1943, when she came to her business office in Hollywood. BERRY

told HOPPER that she had read her column, written on the occasion of her, BERRY'S birthday. HOPPER had dwelt at length in that article of hers concerning CHAPLIN. It was written portraying the hypothetical case of a girl who had come to Hollywood and had been taken up by CHAPLIN, who promised her stardom and then discarded. When BERRY came to her office she told her story of how she had been under contract to CHAPLIN, had been intimate with him and that then as of that date she was pregnant by CHAPLIN. HOPPER said that BERRY was in a hysterical condition and that she sent her to her, HOPPER's personal physician, Dr. WILLIAM BRANCH, who examined her and advised both BERRY and HOPPER that the girl was pregnant. So hysterical was BERRY when she appeared in her office that HOPPER requested her to get in touch with some friend to accompany her to BRANCH'S office. HOPPER recalled that this girl friend was MARIE DE GARDA.

Miss HOPPER had no further contact with BERRY that day after she left her office, but she instructed her to keep in touch with her. The next she heard was the following morning when HOPPER said that EDWARD, CHAPLIN'S butler, called her on the telephone and said that JOAN BERRY had asked him to tell her that JOAN was in jail. HOPPER said she immediately got in touch with GENE BISCAILLUZ, Sheriff of Los Angeles County, who is a friend of hers. He advised her that the only way to help BERRY was to get an attorney. The next thing that occurred was that MINA WALLIS called her on the telephone and inquired of her whether she was going to do anything about BERRY being in jail. HOPPER stated she asked WALLIS why she wanted to know. WALLIS replied that she had known JOAN BERRY through CHAPLIN who was a good friend of hers, that BERRY thought she was in love with CHAPLIN, but that actually she was a terrible person - bad through and through. MINNA WALLIS contended that CHAPLIN had in fact been good to BERRY, had purchased a fur coat for her. HOPPER asked WALLIS if CHAPLIN ever bought her a fur coat and WALLIS said no, but that she wished he had.

HOPPER said she also told MINNA WALLIS that instead of BERRY being the terrible one that it must be CHAPLIN, because she herself knew that BERRY was pregnant and presumably BERRY had gone up to tell him she was and that he had thrown her in jail. HOPPER said WALLIS asked her how she knew BERRY was pregnant. HOPPER said she had talked to BERRY herself and had her own physician examine her. HOPPER said that WALLIS still counseled her to stay out of it because it was going to be a dirty mess, to which HOPPER replied that she was going to get into it with both feet.

Then HOPPER said the thought of FLORABEL MUIR, who knew how to handle things, so she called her and told her of BERRY'S plight. This all took place on Saturday, May 8, 1943. HOPPER was positive that she never instructed or asked MINNA WALLIS to go down and see JOAN BERRY in her behalf.

HOPPER said she was up at MARY PICKFORD'S the following day and told her of JOAN BERRY'S case. HOPPER said that PICKFORD was very sympathetic and offered to pay the girl \$100.00 per week for three years. As far as HOPPER knew, there was no conversation between PICKFORD or CHAPLIN or ARTHUR KELLY