

U. S. Department of Justice
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
~~Bureau of Investigation~~
SUITE L FEDERAL BUILDING
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.
APRIL 25, 1934.

Director
Division of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

IN RE: GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases, ET AL
CHARLES F. DURSHEL - VICTIM
KIDNAPING

Kindly refer to my letter to the Division dated April 13, 1934, and Division reply thereto dated April 19, 1934, relative to the request of [REDACTED] of the Kansas City Office of the William J. Burns International Detective Agency, that arrangements be made either for him or for an Agent of this Division to interview Albert Bates at the United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, for information concerning the robbery of the Railway Express Agency at Tacoma, Washington on March 26, 1932.

Inadvertently, in previous letter from this office, the writer neglected to advise you that [REDACTED] had, prior to his call at the Kansas City Division Office, endeavored to interview Bates at the United States Penitentiary. However, [REDACTED] states that the Warden of that penitentiary informed him that he had instructions from the Attorney General not to permit anyone to interview Bates without written authority from this Division Office. Accordingly, [REDACTED] called at this office to enlist our cooperation.

In view of the above additional information it will be appreciated if the Division will kindly advise its desires in this matter.

RECORDED
Very truly yours,

MAY 7 1934

E. E. CONROY
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

7-115-1196	
APR 27 1934	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
One	FILE

7-8-

Memo Keenan
5/4/34
RCW

All b7C

7-115-1196

May 4, 1934

RECORDED

MAY 7

1934

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL KEEMAN

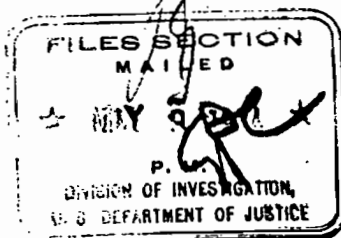
[redacted] of the Kansas City Office of the William J. Burns International Detective Agency, has advised the Special Agent in Charge of the Kansas City Office of this Division that when he attempted to interview Albert Bates at the United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, relative to the robbery of the Railway Express Agency, at Tacoma, Washington, on March 26, 1932, he was informed by the Warden, that, in accordance with instructions issued by the Attorney General, no one would be permitted to interview Bates without written authority from the Agent in Charge of the Kansas City Office of the Division.

The Division will appreciate your advice relative to this matter, and whether there is any objection to permitting [redacted] to interview Bates for the purpose above stated.

Very truly yours,

Director.

All b7C



U. S. Department of Justice
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
~~Bureau of Investigation~~

P. O. Box 1276
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
April 24, 1934

EMB
7-6

Director,
Division of Investigation,
U.S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Re: George Kelly Barnes, with
aliases, et al.
Charles F. Urschel - Victim,
Kidnaping.

This is to advise that Chief of Police John Watt, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, called this office today and advised that a [REDACTED], Secretary to Mr. Kirkpatrick, Tulsa, Oklahoma, was in his office and that Mr. Kirkpatrick is writing a book relative to the Urschel kidnaping case and in connection therewith desires certain photographs, among which Chief Watt enumerated photograph of the Shannon home in Texas, and also requested a photograph of the agents digging up the money on the Coleman farm in Texas.

Chief Watt was later advised by telephone that in the absence of Special Agent in Charge Brantley, the writer was unable to locate any such photographs at this office and suggested that contact be made with Special Agent in Charge F. J. Blake at Dallas, Texas, who no doubt would know about the photographs.

This letter is being forwarded to the Division and the Dallas office for information as it is contemplated that Chief Watt will communicate with the Dallas office relative to the above.

Very truly yours,

Earle M. Black

EARLE M. BLACK, Acting
Special Agent in Charge.

All b7c

cc-Dallas.

COPIES DESTROYED
20 MAR 16 1965

RECORDED

APR 28 1934

7-115-1197
APR 27 1934 A.M.
FILE

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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

Section 552Section 552a☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (d)(5)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(7)(B)☐ (j)(2)☐ (b)(3)☐ (b)(7)(C)☐ (k)(1)☐ (b)(7)(D)☐ (k)(2)☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (k)(3)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (k)(4)☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(8)☐ (k)(5)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(9)☐ (k)(6)☐ (b)(6)☐ (k)(7)

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

- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

- ☒ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

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

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

- ☐ For your information:

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

7-115-1198

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

FBI/DOJ

UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **OKLAHOMA CITY.**

FILE NO. **7-10**

REPORT MADE AT: Salt Lake City, Utah.	DATE WHEN MADE: 4-25-34	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 3/10, 12, 26/34 4/18/34.	REPORT MADE BY: [REDACTED]
TITLE: GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases et al. CHARLES F. OURSCHEL - Victim.			CHARACTER OF CASE: KIDNAPING.

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Mail cover on Box 2565 has expired, results set out. Stop placed in files of Colorado State Motor Vehicle Registration Bureau on Chevrolet, Motor 3126905. No record cars registered in Colorado for Ruth Johnson or Axel C. Johnson. [REDACTED] states [REDACTED] in State of Washington, possibly Tacoma. Whereabouts of Clara Feldman not ascertained to date.

P.

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Salt Lake City, Utah, 3-8-34, and Letter from Portland office dated 2-16-34.

DETAILS: AT DENVER, COLORADO.

The mail cover placed on Box 2565, which box is in the name of [REDACTED] has expired. Additional tracings were received but all were from the same parties, and the same addresses, as mentioned in report of reference. These tracings are being forwarded to the office of origin with copies of this report.

DETAILS: Information being secured that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were residing at [REDACTED] agent interviewed them openly, and was advised that [REDACTED] according to the last letter they received from him, was in the State of Washington; that the letter was mailed from Tacoma, but [REDACTED] mentioned he was travelling about a great deal. No tracing of any letter bearing the return address or carrying the name of [REDACTED] has been received during the mail cover. They stated the letter was received about 6 weeks ago and he sent money to make a three month payment on his car, which payment was made by [REDACTED] [REDACTED] stated that in about three weeks he expects

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	7-115-1199	RECORDED AND INDEXED: APR 30 1934
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 3 - Division 2 - Salt Lake. 2 - Oklahoma City. 1 - Portland. 1 - St. Paul. 1 - Kansas City. 1 - Chicago.		APR 30 1934 A M BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ROUTED TO: <i>[initials]</i>	CHECKED OFF: MAY 1 - 1934 JACKETED:

**COPIES DESTROYED
20 5 MAR 18 1965**

All b7C

another letter containing money for the next payment from [REDACTED] and that he will furnish the address of [REDACTED] to agent at Denver. They both stated that [REDACTED] is a gambler and travels about a great deal. Both denied knowing anything regarding the whereabouts of Clara Feldman and stated they have not heard from her since Albert Bates was arrested in Denver. [REDACTED] promised to furnish any information he may obtain regarding Clara Feldman to this office. He at present is seeking to obtain a Government position and appears to be quite straightforward.

In the event any information is secured from the [REDACTED] regarding either [REDACTED] or Clara Feldman, the same will be furnished immediately to the interested offices.

[REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] lived with [REDACTED] at [REDACTED]. She advised that [REDACTED] was in the show business and that she had met him on the road while travelling with a show.

[REDACTED] of the Atlas Finance Company, 922 Equitable Building, telephonically advised agent that [REDACTED] had been in to make a payment on [REDACTED] car, and furnished him his [REDACTED] address, as being [REDACTED]. He advised that [REDACTED] was still out of town.

In response to a letter directed to the State Auto Theft Department of the State of Colorado, at Denver, Colorado, advice was received that they had no record of any registration on Chevrolet cabriolet, Motor No. 3126905, Serial 6 BA 0314291. [REDACTED] Chief of the Division, advised that a stop notice had been filed, and in the event any information was received concerning this car, this division office would be notified immediately. He advised that according to his records 1934 license plates No. 1-49836 was issued to Axel Johnson 4575 Raleigh Street, Denver, on a 1930 Chevrolet Coach, Motor No. 1678390; and that 1934 license No. 1-41705 was issued to [REDACTED] Denver, on a 1931 Studebaker Sedan, Motor No. 11331.

Agent made inquiry of [REDACTED] under pretext of being an insurance representative seeking to locate relatives of one [REDACTED]. It was observed that [REDACTED] was a very small woman, about 28 years of age, and does not conform in any respect with the description of Clara Feldman (who has been using the name Ruth Johnson). From the 1932 City Directory it is noted that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] live at [REDACTED]. He is listed as being Production Manager of the National Lumber and Creosoting Company and has lived at that address at least since 1932.

Agent made inquiry of Mr. Axel Johnson 4575 Raleigh Street, under the same pretext. Mr. Axel Johnson is a man about 55 years of age, has gray hair, scandinavian accent and weighs about 200 pounds. He has lived at 4575 Raleigh about 6 months and has been in North Denver for the past two years. He could not be the son of Clara Feldman.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

The SALT LAKE CITY OFFICE: AT CHEYENNE, WYOMING,
Will secure all information possible, helpful in locating Ruth
Johnson (Clara Feldman) and [REDACTED]

b7c

PENDING.

WESTERN UNION

(38) V

Received at 708 14th St. N.W. Washington, D. C. 101225

KA 118 17-TULSA OKLA 28 1027A

J. EDGAR HOOVER, DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION=
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WASHDC=

PLEASE WIRE ME RELATIVE AREA IN SQUARE MILES COVERED BY
SCOTLAND YARD AND OUR DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION=
E. E. KIRKPATRICK.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

MAY 1 - 1934

APR 30 1934

W H W 9

Pink 4/28/34

7-113-1200	
APR 30 1934	
TOLSON	ENTER

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

MAY 1 - 1934

DAY LETTER

RECORDED

7-115-1200

WHDL

b7C

APRIL 28 1934

MR E E KIRKPATRICK
ELIOT-URSCHEL OIL COMPANY
TULSA OKLAHOMA

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT OF LONDON OR SCOTLAND YARD HAS GENERAL
INVESTIGATIVE JURISDICTION OVER GREATER LONDON WITH AREA OF SEVEN HUNDRED
SQUARE MILES STOP THE SPECIAL BRANCH OF THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCOTLAND YARD EXERCISES NATIONAL FUNCTIONS RELATIVE TO
ALIENS AND IMMIGRATION AND GUARDING ROYALTY AND PERSONS OF IMPORTANCE IN
ENGLAND AND WALES STOP DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
HAS INVESTIGATIVE JURISDICTION IN CRIMES IT INVESTIGATES OVER GEOGRAPHICAL
AREA TALLING THREE MILLION SIX HUNDRED EIGHTEEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED
NINETYSIX SQUARE MILES

J EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

320-P
WESTERN UNION

✓

W H R S

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

April 27, 1934

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NATHAN

Robert F. Urschel

[redacted] in the office of ~~Amos~~ McClellan, Executive Secretary, Association of Distilled Spirits Rectifying Industry, 808 Woodward Building, Washington, D. C., who endeavored to reach Mr. Cowley by telephone, was referred to me. [redacted] advised that Mr. McClellan had received a letter from [redacted] of the firm of George Benz Sons, Incorporated, St. Paul, Minnesota, containing confidential information to the effect that the leaders of a ring controlling alcohol in St. Paul were some of the suspects in the Urschel kidnaping case. [redacted] stated that if the Division desired this information he would send the letter over, but requested that it be returned when it had served its purpose and, accordingly, the letter was sent and I have caused copies to be made to be furnished to the St. Paul Office for its information.

Respectfully,

[redacted]

All b7c

10
an
58
7/20

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

MAY 1 - 1934

7-115-1201	
APR 30 1934	
NATHAN	FILE

PHILIP HAMLIN,
Chairman

SAMUEL UNGERLEIDER,
Treasurer

WILLIAM J. BAIRD,
Vice-Chairman

JOSEPH P. KERRIGAN,
Secretary

P. de La MONTANA,
Vice-Chairman

Association of Distilled Spirits Rectifying Industry

Code Authority - Group 3
(Manufacturing Rectifiers)

808 WOODWARD BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Telephone NATIONAL 0255

Office of
AMMON McCLELLAN
Executive-Secretary

Members of Group 3

WILLIAM J. BAIRD,
President
Baird-Daniels Co.
36 Front Street,
New York City

GEORGE BENZ,
President
George Benz Sons, Inc.,
367-377 Grove Street
St. Paul, Minn.

FELIX V. GOLDSBOUGH,
President
Records & Goldsboug
117 W. Lombard St.,
Baltimore, Maryland

PHILIP HAMLIN,
President
C. H. Graves, & Sons Co.
35 Hawkins Street,
Boston, Mass.

JOSEPH P. KERRIGAN,
President
Gallagher & Burton, Inc.
1204 Arch Street,
Philadelphia, Penna.

PIERRE de La MONTANYA,
President
Cresta Blanca Company
727 Sansome Street,
San Francisco, Calif.

SAMUEL UNGERLEIDER,
President
Distillers and Brewers Corp.
21 West Street
New York City

You will note that the writer of the enclosed letter is head of George Benz Sons.

La Pompadour, Inc., are located at 115 5th St., Minneapolis, Minn. They hold a permit for rectifying distilled spirits, from the Federal Alcohol Control Administration.

P. S. Please return the letter to this office when you have finished with it.

All b7C

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

7-115-1201

APR 30 1934

COPY

GEORGE BENZ SONS
Incorporated

367-377 Grove Street
Saint Paul, Minn.

April 23, 1934,
File No. N-200-2.

Mr. Ammon McClellan,
808 Woodward Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. McClellan:

I am glad to acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 19th and to note that Mr. Benz has had conference with you in Washington.

The powers of attorney you refer to have, I believe, all been sent to your office.

I should be glad if you would advise us of any official meetings of the Code Authority Group and if the matter is of sufficient importance either [REDACTED] or I will try to make the trip.

As to the other matter referred to in your letter it is to be said we have been fortunate in this district in not being overwhelmed by many unscrupulous holders of rectifiers permits. However, there is one situation which I believe merits investigation. I am enclosing a liquor price list dated March 15th from the company in question. The first thing I would like to call to your attention is the quotation on straight whiskey which is indicated as bottled by LaPompadour, Inc. It may be that they did this bottling and paid the rectification tax but if they did not it would seem that their acts were in contravention to the Code until such time as Regulation 19 was abrogated and this I believe was April 20th.

It is a matter of common knowledge here that this company is in the hands of - and for that matter controlled by - a former alcohol and bootleg ring; the company before repeal having engaged in the cosmetic and perfume business which business gave them a nice tie-up for their alcohol distribution. They are now continuing under the same name and with the same personnel, although those directly in control do not appear in the corporate set-up.

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20 MAR 16 1965

7-115-1201

- 2 -

It is a well known fact, however, that the ring leaders of this crowd are in control, and in fact some of the suspects in the Uerschel kidnaping case whom the records will show were in possession of some of the ransom money are the individuals I speak of.

These people also control several retail outlets in Minneapolis. It is difficult to cite anything specific because of the rather vague background of the company but a little impartial investigation would elicit the same information I am giving you herewith.

I of course trust you will keep this matter confidential, as I know you will, and any other information I can give you I shall be glad to furnish.

Yours truly,
George Benz Sons, Inc.,

[REDACTED] b7C [REDACTED]

71
MAY 1 - 1934

April 28, 1934

RECORDED

7-115-1201

Association of Distilled Spirits
Rectifying Industry,
808 Woodward Building,
Washington, D. C.

IM
All 67C

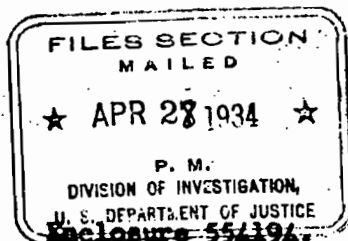
Dear Sir:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your undated communication, enclosing a letter dated April 23, 1934, addressed to Mr. Ammon McClellan, 808 Woodward Building, Washington, D. C., by [redacted] of George Beas Sons, Incorporated, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Please be advised that a copy of this letter is being retained by the Division and, in accordance with your request, the original letter is returned herewith.

Thanking you for your cooperation and interest in this matter, I am

Very truly yours,



J. Edgar Hoover
Director.

[Handwritten signature]

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	FOREIGN
Rush Message	Full Rate
Day Letter	Deferred (LCO)
Night Message	Radio Letter (NLT)
Night Letter	Week End Letter (WLT)

Ship Radiogram

Mackay Radio

RADIOGRAM

All America Cables

Commercial Cables

5 WORDS FOR USUAL PRICE Coastwise Se
RECEIVER'S NUMBER

Send the following message, subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back hereof, which are hereby agreed to -

Filed at April 27, 1934

Wags
J E P Dunn
Division of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
617 Federal Building
Los Angeles, California

GEORGE KELLEY BARNES ETAL KIDNAPING REFER WIRE THIS OFFICE TWENTY EIGHTH ULTIMO

RE ED FELDMAN ALIAS A C JOHNSON MAKE IMMEDIATE VERY CAUTIOUS INVESTIGATION

ADDRESS REFERRED TO FOR ANY INFORMATION RE CLARA FELDMAN OR ED FELDMAN STOP

ED FELDMAN HAS BEEN UNDER SURVEILLANCE MEDFORD OREGON PAST MONTH LEFT DURING

PAST WEEK ALLEGEDLY TO SECURE THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM SOME SOURCE BELIEVED TO BE

HIS MOTHER STOP UNLESS CLARA AND ED ARE TOGETHER DO NOT TAKE STEPS TO APPREHEND

STOP ADVISE TELEGRAPHICALLY EXPEDITE

off bus govt rate Chg. Dis. In Post. All U.S. CUSTOMER TELEPHONE AT-WATER 6484
cc-Division

7-115-1202

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

MAY 1 1934 A.M.

RECORDED

INDEXED SPEARS

MAY 4 1934

Unit

FILE



Postal Telegraph
INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial Cables All America Cables

Mackay Radio

STANDARD TIME INDICATED ON THIS MESSAGE

DAY	DATE	TIME

TO: []

FROM: []

BY: []

RE: []

MA215 15 GOVT COLLECT

BX DALLAS TEX 30 453P

DIRECTOR *07*

DIVN OF INVESTIGATION US DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHN DC
 LOUISE SEATON HARBORING FUGITIVES SENTENCED TODAY ONE YEAR ONE
 DAY ALSTON WESTVIRGINIA PLEA GUILTY

BLAKE.

Lm

WOS

MR. NATHAN

MR. TOLSON

MR. CLEGG

MR. COWLE

MR. EDWARDS

MR. EGAN

MR. QUINN

MR. LESTER

CHIEF CLERK

RECORDED

MAY 2 - 1934

7-115-1203

1

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

One | FILE

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
TELEGRAM	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	SHIP RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
MANAGER OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILKINSON
VICE-PRESIDENT

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which you hereby agree to

LOS ANGELES CALIFORNIA
APRIL 28th, 1934.

C C SPEARS
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
411 U. S. COURT HOUSE BUILDING
PORTLAND OREGON

GEORGE KELLY BARNES ETAL KIDNAPING CLARA AND ED FELDMAN ALIAS A C JOHNSON
HAVE NEVER BEEN AT ADDRESS MENTIONED YOUR TELEGRAM
THERE OCCUPIED BY TWO BOYS NAMED WHO HAVE BEEN THERE
SEVERAL MONTHS AND WORK IN A DAIRY

Off Bus Govt Rate
Chg Div Inv LA 617 Fed Bldg

2-66 Division
9:15 AM

All b7C

BACKETT ACTING

LA File 7-19

RECORDED

&

INDEXED

MAY 4 1934

7-115-1204	
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
MAY 2 1934 A.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
one	FILE

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE.