

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Ladd *pk*

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

DATE: 1/20/47

FROM : E. H. Winterrowd

*ELIZABETH*SUBJECT: SHORT MURDER CASE,
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

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

At the above time, Special Agent Haynes of the Washington Field Office called and advised that a Warren Francis, Washington correspondent of the "Los Angeles Times," had requested telephonically any information that the Bureau had concerning a Robert "Red" Manley, South Gate Street, Los Angeles, or 8010 Mountain View, Huntington Park. Francis stated he had received a wire from his paper requesting information in the possession of the Bureau, as well as Army or Navy, concerning Manley who allegedly was or was to be arrested in connection with the murder of the Short girl whom, it will be recalled, was found in a ~~horrible~~ *horrible* mutilated condition. *K.C.*

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

RECORDED

INDEXED

211

JAN 22 1947

JAN 22 1947

EHW:EW

58 FEB 13 1947

Jan 19 47
649 50 1/3 st
Newark 3
91)

Dear Mr Hoover,

I have a suggestion ^{Los Angeles Calif}
"Black Dahlia" Elizabeth Short.

BLACK DAHLIA ELIZABETH SHORT

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

8. Check all camps in Calif
and hospital ⁵
9. ^{CHOCORR 165} Within 2 weeks ^{II} Murder
be caught. ^{31 JAN 29 1947}

I hope you find these
help the police. Y 48

Arthur Stamp

January 19, 1947
349 So. 13 St.
Newark 3, N. J.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have a suggestion. "Black Dalia,"

Elizabeth Short, Los Angeles, Calif.

1. No-Marine
2. Race - White
3. Age - 28 to 30
4. Hair - Red Kenderson
5. Weight - about 120 lbs
6. Irish and English
7. 5' 10" tall
8. Check all camps in Calif. and hospital
9. Within 2 weeks murder be out

I hope you find these help the police.

G 48

Arthur Stange /s/

G
O
F
I

January 22, 1947

Mr. Arthur Stange
649 South 13th Street
Newark 3, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Stange:

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

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

RE: [illegible]

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

JAN 22 4 16 PM '47

SNIF E, 4
11-16-47
23

40

3 1/2 12 5
71A J
+
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 25 1947

TELETYPE

CONF WASHINGTON 1, WASHINGTON FIELD 1, LOS ANGELES 1 AND
BOSTON 1 FROM NEW YORK 25 1-55 PM

UNKNOWN SUBJECT., ELIZABETH SHORT, VICTIM, MURDER, MISC. INFO CONCERNING.
VICTIM, ALSO KNOWN AS BLACK DAHLIA, MURDERED JAN. FIFTEEN, FORTY
SEVEN. RETEL FROM LA TO DIRECTOR AND NY DATED JAN. TWENTYTHIRD
LAST ADVISING LEE R. MULLIGAN, LOS ANGELES, IDENTIFIED PHOTO
FOUND IN VICTIMS EFFECTS AS FORMER FIRST LIEUT., SHIPPEY,
FORMERLY AT WESTOVER FIELD, MASS. IN FORTYFIVE AND MITCHEL FIELD,
LONG ISLAND, JUNE FORTYFIVE AS A PSYCHONEUROTIC PATIENT,
WHOSE WIFE COMMITTED SUICIDE NEAR BOSTON AFTER KILLING CHILD.
TRUE NAME OF SUSPECT FROM MITCHEL FIELD STATION HOSPITAL RECORDS.
REGISTRY RECORD NO. SIX NAUGHT FIVE SEVEN THREE IS JOHN HENRY SHIPPEE,
ASN NAUGHT - SEVEN NINE NINE FOUR SEVEN EIGHT FIRST LIEUT, WHO ENLISTED
IN RESERVE CORPS MARCH TWENTYONE FORTYTWO AND WAS COMMISSIONED MARCH
TWENTYFIVE FORTYTHREE. HOSPITAL RECORDS SHOW HIS WIFE COMMITTED
SUICIDE APRIL TWENTYFOUR FORTYFIVE AFTER KILLING TWO YEAR OLD DAUGHTER.
SUSPECT CONFINED AT AAF REGIONAL HOSPITAL, WESTOVER FIELD, MASS.
MARCH TWENTY FORTYFIVE FOR PNEUMONIA WHERE DEVELOPED EPILEPTIC FITS
AND WAS RECD AT MITCHEL FIELD HOSPITAL JUNE TWENTYONE FORTYFIVE UNDER

RECORDED
INDEXED
162
60

CONF.,

WAR DEPT. SPECIAL ORDER NO. EIGHTY ONE, PARAGRAPH TWO, DATED JUNE NINETEEN, FORTYFIVE. SUSPECT HAD SICK LEAVE AT HOME FROM JULY EIGHTEEN FORTYFIVE TO AUG. NINE FORTYFIVE. ON LATTER DATE ARMY RETIREMENT BOARD FINDINGS RULED SUSPECT AN EPILEPTIC, PLACING HIM ON TERMINAL LEAVE WITH PERMANENT INCAPACITATED RATING AND HE WAS DISCHARGED FROM SERVICE AFTER TERMINAL LEAVE HAD EXPIRED SEPT. TWENTYSECOND FORTYFIVE. SUSPECT RECEIVES MONTHLY RETIREMENT PAY FOR DISABILITY, OF ONE HUNDRED THIRTY ONE DOLLARS AND TWENTY FIVE CENTS FROM US VETERANS ADMINISTRATION, WASHINGTON, D. C. SUSPECT ADVISED MITCHEL HOSPITAL, JULY SIXTEEN FORTYFIVE, THAT HIS FATHER AGE FIFTYTWO IS A RETIRED PAINTER, REAL ESTATE OPERATOR AND DRUNKARD, THAT HIS MOTHER, MARIE J. SHIPPEE, MAIN ST., NEWTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE, IS HIGH STRUNG, THAT A SISTER DIED AT THE AGE OF FIVE, THAT HE WAS TWENTYFIVE OF AGE WHEN INTERVIEWED, WHITE, BORN IN PROVIDENCE, RI REARED IN NEW ENGLAND, GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL, CLAIMED NO PRIOR POLICE RECORD AND WORKED IN HAT FACTORY FOR A YEAR AND HALF THEN BRICK LAYERS HELPER, SIX MONTHS, AND LAST EMPLOYED AS BOOKKEEPER AND ASST. OFFICE MANAGER IN WHOLESALE GRAIN, COAL AND BUILDING SUPPLY CO. UNTIL ARMY ENLISTMENT. HE MARRIED IN FORTYTWO, STATING WIFES BROTHER, ABOUT APRIL, FORTYFIVE WAS APPREHENDED AS AWOL AT

END PAGE TWO.

CHAMUTE FIELD, ILL. SUSPECT ADVISED HIS BROTHER IS A MENTAL CASE.
SUSPECT TREATED FOR GONORRHEA, OCT., FORTYFOUR, AT MAXWELL FIELD,
ALA. AT WESTOVER FIELD WAS ASSIGNED TO SQ. H, ONE ONE TWO AAF BU.
IN JAN. OR FEB. FORTYTHREE WAS IN AAF STATION HOSPITAL, BLYTHVILLE,
ARKANSAS, TREATMENT UNKNOWN. SUSPECTS TWO NAUGHT ONE PERSONNEL FILE
SENT FROM MITCHEL FIELD TO AGO, WASHINGTON DC. NO FULL DESCRIPTION
AVAILABLE IN NY. WASH FIELD ASCERTAIN ADDRESSES FROM US.
VETERANS ADMINISTRATION WHERE SUSPECTS DISABILITY CHECKS HAVE BEEN
MAILED SINCE ARMY DISCHARGE AND SECURE DESCRIPTION, PHOTO,
BACKGROUND AND LEADS ~~AS~~ AS TO WHEREABOUTS FROM AGO RECORDS. ST. LOUIS
CONDUCT SAME TYPE INVESTIGATION BY CHECKING DEMOBILIZED PERSONNEL
ARMY RECORDS. BOSTON CONDUCT DISCREET INQUIRY AT LAST
KNOWN HOME ADDRESS OF SUSPECT AND FAMILY AT MAIN ST., NEWTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE
IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH BACKGROUND AND WHEREABOUTS OF SUSPECT AT
COMMISSION OF MURDER, JAN. FIFTEEN, LAST. BOSTON ALSO CHECK
LOCAL US VETERANS ADMINISTRATION OFFICE FOR ADDRESSES - CHECK MAIL TO.
SUTEL BUREAU AND LOS ANGELES, ORIGIN AND CONDUCT IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION.
SCHEIDT
ST. LOUIS ADVISED. 4
END

R RELAY FOR LOS Z A

ES ES R1 UA

WA Transmitted 4 P.M. A.
Sage - to Wm.

TELETYPE 1 LOS ANGELES 1 BUREAU

CONF 9 ANGELES 1 BUREAU 1 FROM BOSTON 1 QY W 26 12 7 PM
URGENT

UNKNOWN SUBJECT, ELIZABETH SHORT VICTIM, MURDER, MISCELLANEOUS
43 RE TELETYPE LOS ANGELES TO BOSTON AND ST. LOUIS, JANUARY
TWENTY THREE LAST, ALSO CONFERENCE TELETYPE FROM NEW YORK,
JANUARY TWENTY FIVE. JOHN HENRY SHIPPEE PURCHASED HOUSE AT
DEERFIELD, NEW HAMPSHIRE ABOUT SEPTEMBER NINETEEN FORTY FIVE
AND HAS RESIDED AT DEERFIELD SINCE THAT DATE AND HAS MADE
EXTENSIVE ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS TO ~~HOUSE~~ HOUSE. MOTHER,
MARIE J. SHIPPEE, OWNS DEERFIELD INN, PRESENTLY CLOSED AND
MOTHER GONE TO FLORIDA. SHIPPEE REMARRIED ABOUT EASTER,
NINETEEN FORTY SIX TO GIRL ~~NAME~~ NAMED QUOTE MARY, MAIDEN
NAME POSSIBLY HANSON, FROM CALIFORNIA, BELIEVED TO BE LOS
ANGELES. ACQUAINTANCES THINK MARY AND SHIPPEE MARRIED IN
NEW YORK CITY. ROMEO LEVESQUE, CHIEF OF POLICE, RAYMOND,
NEW HAMPSHIRE KNOWS SHIPPEE AND SAW HIM AT WHITE CROSS STORE,
4-6 RAYMOND, NEW HAMPSHIRE, JANUARY FOURTEEN LAST. ROBERT
ECCLETON AND ESSEX VINING, PROPRIETORS THIS STORE PRODUCED
RECORDS AND ADVISED SHIPPEE HAS ACCOUNT AT STORE. SHIPPEE
IN STORE ~~ADXX~~ AND MADE PURCHASE ON JANUARY FOURTEEN, NINETEEN
FORTY SEVEN, . HE ADVISED ~~OWNERS~~ OWNERS HE WAS DRIVING TO
CALIFORNIA TO BRING BACK HIS WIFE, MARY, WHO FLEW TO CALIFORNIA
FROM BOSTON, MASS., JANUARY TEN, LAST TO VISIT HER PARENTS. HOWARD ROBINSON, FORMER
TOWN CLERK, DEERFIELD, NEW HAMPSHIRE, NEIGHBOR OF SHIPPEE,
ADVISED SHIPPEE ACCOMPANIED BY HIS UNCLE TOM, LAST NAME
UNKNOWN, LEFT FOR CALIFORNIA ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY FIFTEEN
LAST, DRIVING SHIPPEE'S NINETEEN FORTY TWO BUICK SEDAN TO BRING
MARY SHIPPEE BACK TO DEERFIELD. ROBINSON SUPPLIES MILK TO
SHIPPEE AND IS CARING FOR HIS HOUSE. SHIPPEE ADVISED
ROBINSON HE EXPECTED TO BE GONE APPROXIMATELY ONE MONTH

60 FEB 13 1947

PAGE TWO

ROBINSON POSITIVE SHIPPEE HAS BEEN IN DEERFIELD CONTINUOUSLY DURING LAST FEW MONTHS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF FEW DAYS SPENT IN BOTON^S ABOUT CHRISTMAS AND OCCASIONAL ONE DAY TRIPS TO BOSTON. ROBINSON PRODUCED POST CARD FROM SHIPPEE POSTMARKED JANUARY SEVENTEEN LAST, BOSTON, MASS. ECCLETON RECEIVED POSTCARD FROM SHIPPEE ON JANUARY TWENTY ONE OR TWENTY TWO FROM VIRGINIA, ~~UNABLE~~ UNABLE TO FIND CARD. NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE POLICE ADVISED SHIPPEE HAS NEW HAMPSHIRE REGISTRATION PLATES, NINE SEVEN DASH SEVEN SIX FIVE, A NINETEEN FORTY TWO BUICK ROADMASTER, FOUR DOOR SEDAN, COLOR BLACK SERIAL NUMBER ONE FOUR FOUR THREE FOUR FIVE ZERO FOUR. ACQUAINTANCES ADVISE SHIPPEE VERY HEAVY DRINKER, SPENDS MONEY FREELY, ~~795~~ NOT EMPLOYED, RECEIVES NINETY PERCENT DISABILITY PENSION FROM ARMY AND HAS OCCASIONAL SPELLS, BELIEVED TO BE EPILEPTIC FITS. RECORDS CHECKD VETERANS ADMINISTRATION, MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS

END SOUCY

CR LFSLESCRSURS

F

BS R 1 WA

R RELAY FOR LOS A AL

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

DIRECTOR SAC NEW YORK URGENT

UNSUB., ELIZABETH SHORT, VICTIM, MURDER, INFO CONCERNING. CONNECTION WITH INVESTIGATION OF BRUTAL MURDER OF ELIZABETH SHORT IN L.A. JAN FIFTEENTH NINETEEN FORTY SEVEN REQUEST ASSISTANCE OF BUREAU IN DETERMINING IDENTITY OF SUSPECT IDENTIFIED ONLY AS SHIPPEY. FIRST NAME UNKNOWN. INFORMANT [REDACTED] IDENTIFIED SHIPPEY IN PICTURE AND STATES SUSPECT WAS A FIRST LT. IN US ARMY AIR CORPS, RATE PILOT. [REDACTED] SHIPPEY BOTH WERE CONFINED AT WESTOVER HOSPITAL, WESTOVER, MASS. ABOUT APRIL FORTY-FIVE. SHIPPEY DISCHARGED FROM HOSPITAL AND ABOUT SAME TIME SHIPPEY'S WIFE, A RESIDENT OF MASS., KILLED THEIR CHILD AND COMMITTED SUICIDE. AFTER THIS EVEN SHIPPEY WENT TO PIECES AND WAS CONFINED AT ARMY HOSPITAL, MITCHELL FIELD, NY ABOUT ONE JUNE TWELVE, E. XXXX JUNE TWELVE FORTYFIVE AND WAS PLACED IN PSYCHO WARD FOR TREATMENT. HIS PRESENT WHEREABOUT UNKNOWN. IT IS BELIEVED SHIPPEY WAS DISCHARGED FROM ARMY UNDER SECTION EIGHT, PSYCHO NEUROSIS. BOSTON CHECK WESTOVER HOSPITAL AND NEWSPAPER MORGUE IN ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY SUSPECT AND ASCERTAIN BACKGROUND, WHEREABOUTS, AND DESCRIPTION. NY CHECK HOSPITAL AT MITCHELL FIELD. IF SUS- PECT IDENTIFIED WILL REQUEST ST. LOUIS CHECK ARMY RECORDS RE DISCHARGE AND ANY ADDITIONAL INFO.

HOOD

PLS NOTE THAT BOSTON AND ST. LOUIS WILL BE ADVISED

ACK PLS

58 FEB 13 1947

RECORDED

&
INDEXED

EX-69

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SC-150

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

JANUARY 29, 1947

Transmit the following message to:

MR. C. B. HOSKINS
CHIEF OF POLICE
ATTENTION WILLIAM J. BRADLEY
DEPUTY CHIEF
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

URGENT

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

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR
FBI

JR:CJO

RECORDED

EX-118

COPIES DESTROYED
332 NOV 18 1964

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

SENT VIA _____

Per 610

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Rosen
Mr. Martin

CC - 150

URGENT

TO: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

JANUARY 24, 1947

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

HOOVER

CJM:ear

SE 95
RECORDED
EX - 6

162-82627-10

JAN 24 4 10 PM '47

RECEIVED READING ROOM

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JAN 24

TELETYPE

61 MAR 27 1947

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

4:40 PM

Per

6844

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

FROM : Mr. Edw. A. Tamm

SUBJECT:

DATE: 1-30-47

Mr. Tolson ☒

Mr. E. A. Tamm ☒

Mr. Clegg ☒

Mr. Glavin ☒

Mr. Ladd ☒

Mr. Nichols ☒

Mr. Rosen ☒

Mr. Tracy ☒

Mr. Carson ☒

Mr. Egan ☒

Mr. Gurnea ☒

Mr. Harbo ☒

Mr. Hendon ☒

Mr. Pennington ☒

Mr. Quinn Tamm ☒

Tele. Room ☒

Mr. Nease ☒

Miss Beahm ☒

Miss Gandy ☒

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

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

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

JK^M:DMG

yes let me know
K.

REGORDED

EX-6

162-826-11
FEB 4 1947

[Signature]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

8829

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION. JANUARY 31, 1947

ROUTINE

Transmit the following message to: LOS ANGELES

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

HOOVER

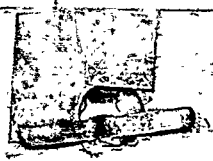
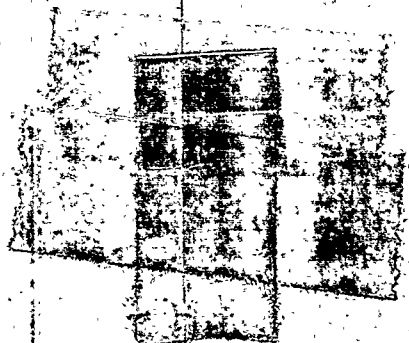
JAN 31

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

RECEIVED
JAN 31 1947

JAN 31 9 11 AM '47
RECEIVED
JAN 31 1947

62-83607-12
Photo of [illegible]
D. E. [illegible]



ENCLOSURE

62-83607-12
R521

62-83607-12

295-771 E. Skovt



1-28-47-FLI-

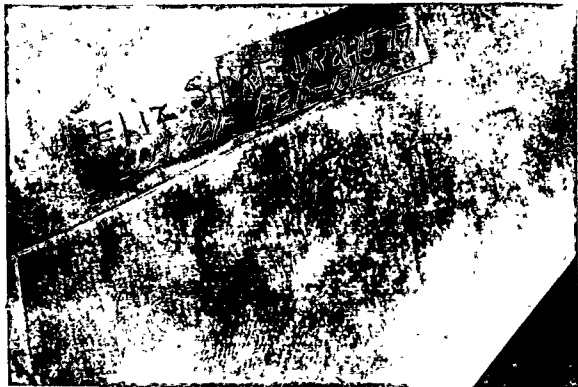
295-771 E. Short



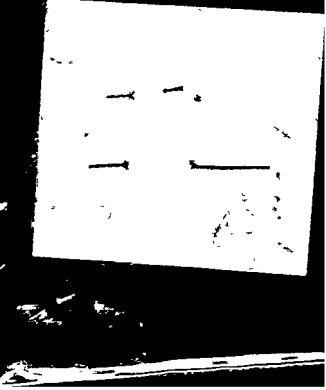
1-28-47 - FLY -

2

3



65-53637-12



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

6/4
Director, FBI

Attention: IDENTIFICATION DIVISION
(SINGLE FINGERPRINT SECTION)

Re: ELIZABETH SHORT
INFORMATION CONCERNING

63753
W.S.M.

Dear Sir:

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

Very truly yours,

R. B. Hood

R. B. HOOD
SAC

RECORDED & INDEXED

RECEIVED BY
CHIEF DESK

SPECIMENS DETACHED IN S. F. P. DIV.
2-8-47

3 ENC
Encl. (3)

JAJ:JCJ
62-2928

AMSD

RECORDED

62-82627-12

36 FEB 4 1947

RECEIVED
F.B.I.

ans.
2-15-47
Carr



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

65753

Date recorded: 2-4-47 9:00 AM

Single Fingerprint Report

Case: RE: ELIZABETH SHORT
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Number: 62-82627-12 ✓

Specimens: Three photographs of latent impressions, submitted for fingerprint examination.

Examination requested by: SAC, Los Angeles

Date received: 2-3-47 rmd

Date of reference communication: 1-31-47

Examination requested: Fingerprint

Result of examination:

Examination by: Robyak

TELETYPE IF IDENT

*Four latent fpts. of value
searches as follows:*

1, B? L, 17, C? D #6

Arch all ten fingers

W, A₂? A₃, C+, ?, D+ #3 & #8

W, A₃? A, C+, ?, D+ #4 & #7

Dictated 2-13-47 [signature]

1-95

ans
2-15-47
JK c/o

SAC, Los Angeles

February 15, 1947

Director, FBI

ELIZABETH SHORT
INFORMATION CONCERNING

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

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

JR:CJO

62-82627 -12

EX

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

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

60 FEB 20 1947

98

12 PM '47

1/29/47

This Daniel S. Voorhees
appear to be mental case.

However, C.W. Evans checking
Index and Ident. for any info re
this suspect

HP

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

[Handwritten signature]

SUSPECT CONFESSES

BLACK DAHLIA KILLING

62-82627-13

WASHINGTON TIMES HERALD
DATE 1-29-47

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

33-year-old Man Denies Writing Notes

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

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

"Can't Stand It Any Longer"

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

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

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

Has Family in Phoenix

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

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

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

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

Must 'Get it Off My Chest'

Barrett quoted Voorhees as saying:

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

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

PHOENIX, Ariz., Jan. 28 (AP). The Phoenix police identification bureau said tonight a man who gave his name as Dan Voorhees had been arrested here five times.

The bureau said that Voorhees, arrested in 1942 in connection with a Phoenix assault to commit rape case, gave his age as 25. Records showed no disposition of the case.

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

62-82657-13

✓ ROR
F. L. H.

Cops Doubt Dahlia 'Slayer's' Addled

By United Press

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

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

Voorhees' confession read:

"I did kill Beth Short."

He refused to amplify his statement.

Voorhees surrendered by phone and asked to be arrested.

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

His only connection with the Black

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The girl, who masqueraded as a 24-year-old model, admitted an acquaintance with free-lance Photographer George Price, 43, and said she had posed in the nude for him for lewd pictures.

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

Police said that as a result of Miss Martin's testimony 11 men would be charged with contributing to her delinquency.

62-821-7-13

MAJ. J.

Washington News

1-28-47

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. ROSEN

DATE: January 29, 1947

FROM : C. W. EVANS

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

BETH SHORT

With regard to the newspaper clipping which appeared in the Times-Herald on January 29, 1947, indicating that Daniel S. Voorhees, with alias Dan Voorhees, had surrendered to the Los Angeles Police Department and had admitted the murder of the victim, Elizabeth Short, who is also known as the "Black Dahlia", the newspaper article indicated that Voorhees had previously been arrested in 1942 in Phoenix, Arizona, for rape. The files of the Records Division fail to disclose any previous record on Voorhees. The files of the Identification Division disclosed the following criminal record on one Dan Voorhees, FBI-#1052309, who may be identical with the individual who surrendered himself to the Los Angeles Police Department.

Voorhees was first arrested on December 6, 1934, by the Sheriff's Office, Phoenix, Arizona, for auto theft. No disposition was given for this arrest. He was next arrested on February 5, 1936, by the Phoenix, Arizona Police Department on a charge of disturbing the peace. On February 8, 1936, he was given 180 days' sentence and the sentence was suspended. A fingerprint card in Voorhees' jacket dated October 28, 1941, reflects that Voorhees was an applicant for a position at the Fleet Operation Base, Roosevelt Base, Terminal Island, Long Beach, California. Voorhees was arrested on September 9, 1942, by the Sheriff's Office, Phoenix, Arizona, on the charge of rape. The case was dismissed on October 19, 1942, when Voorhees was inducted into the U. S. Army.

Another fingerprint card submitted by the Commanding General, Service of Supply, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C., reflected that on May 30, 1942, Voorhees applied for a position in the Salvage Department. A disposition sheet contained in the file and unsupported by fingerprints reflects that Voorhees was arrested on September 11, 1945, in Salt Lake City, Utah, and charged with vagrancy, disorderly conduct, and "B. of H" (not a standard abbreviation and exact charge not known). On September 13, 1945, he was given a sentence of \$25 or 30 days on this charge.

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

CWE:KLV

SE 3
RECORDED
& 97
INDEXED

162-22627-13
F B I
32

58 FEB 25 1947

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

DIRECTOR AND SACS URGENT

UNSUB, ELIZABETH^① SHORT, VIC., MURDER. MISCELLANEOUS INFO CONCERNING. FOLLOWING TELETYPE RECD FROM ST LOUIS QUOTE SPECIAL SEARCH CONDUCTED FOR SERVICE RECORD PERTAINING TO JOHN HENRY SHIPPEE, ASN NAUGHT DASH SEVEN NINE NINE FOUR SEVEN EIGHT, WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. SEARCH ALSO CONDUCTED IN CLINICAL RECORDS ON SHIPPEE UNDER REGISTER NUMBER SIX NAUGHT FIVE SEVEN THREE WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. AGO ADVISES RECORDS PROBABLY LOCATED IN WASHINGTON, DC. RUC UNQUOTE. NO FURTHER ACTION IN NYC.

SCHEIDT

Two copies to WFO

Transmitted to O.A.

HOLD
68 FEB 17 1947

RECORDED
INDEXED
X-4

15 FEB 14 1947

62-82627-14

*1/31/47 9:15 AM
Jaw*

ew

*1/30 Decision
1-30-47
1-30 from
2/1/47*

969

WASH FROM LOSA 16 29 5-11 P

DIRECTOR URGENT

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

? LAPD REQUESTS ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING LT. COLONEL THOMAS W E

CHRIST FORMER EXECUTIVE OFFICER MEDICAL CORPS U S ARMY,

FORMERLY ATTACHED TO DIBBLE GENERAL HOSPITAL, MENLO PARK CALIF.

THIS OFFICER SIGNED MEDICAL DISCHARGE ON SUSPECT ROBERT M MANLEY

AND LAPD INTERESTED IN COMMUNICATING WITH CHRISTMAS RE MANLEYS

CASE. DIBBLE GEN HOSPITAL MENLO PARK DEACTIVATED AND PRESENT

STATUS CHRISTMAS UNKNOWN AS TO WHETHER ON ACTIVE DUTY. SUTEL. *1-15*

HOOD *Called Ident.*

Mr. Brown with 9/1

By 1947 ew

RECORDED

FEB 5 1947

*ask by mine
1-31-47 jaw-me*

one at jaw

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

1-31-47

Transmit the following message to:

SAC, LOS ANGELES URGENT

RECORDED

INDEXED

EX-45336

62-82621-15
RETEL JANUARY TWENTY NINE, LAST, ELIZABETH SHORT, VICTIM, MURDER, MISC
INFO CONCERNING. LATEST WAR DEPARTMENT ROSTER SHOWS AS OF NOVEMBER
THIRTY, LAST, LIEUTENANT COLONEL THOMAS WILLIAM CHRISTMAS, OFFICER
SERIAL NUMBER NAUGHT DASH ONE SIX NINE SIX FIVE AT ARMY AND NAVY GENERAL
HOSPITAL, HOT SPRINGS NATIONAL PARK, ARKANSAS.

HOOVER

*S. J. [unclear]
WB*

JCH:md

COPIES DESTROYED
332 NOV 18 1964

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

JAN 31 1947

TELETYPE

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

57 FEB 11 1947

SENT VIA

113
11/14 R

Per

Conrad
RR

LOS ANGELES AND BOSTON FROM WASHINGTON FIELD

1/28/47

SACS

URGENT

UNSUB. ELIZABETH SHOPT, VICTIM, MURDER, MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION
CONCERNING. RETEL FROM NEW YORK JANUARY TWENTYFIVE, LAST. VA FILE, NO.
C DASH FOUR ONE NAUGHT SEVEN THREE SIX EIGHT, REFLECTS SUSPECT JOHN HENRY
SHIPPEE HONORABLY DISCHARGED FROM ARMY SEPTEMBER TWENTYSEVEN, FORTYFIVE,
BECAUSE OF QUOTE EPILEPSY, GRAND MAL SEIZURES UNQUOTE. DISABILITY CHECKS
CURRENTLY MAILED TO HIM, AS OF DECEMBER THIRTYONE, FORTYFIVE, AT RFD SOUTH
DEERFIELD, NEW HAMPSHIRE. CHECKS PRIOR TO THIS TIME AND SUBSEQUENT TO
DISCHARGE MAILED TO HIM AT ADDRESS OF MAIN STREET, NEWTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE.
BORN JULY TWENTY, TWENTY, PROVIDENCE, R. I., FIVE FEET ELEVEN, ONE SIXTY
EIGHT POUNDS, WHITE, MEDIUM BUILD, BLUE EYES, BROWN HAIR, MOTHER, MRS. MARIE
J. SHIPPEE, MAIN STREET, NEWTON, N. H. AGO RECORDS REFLECT SHIPPEE ENTERED
ARMY MARCH TWENTYFIVE, FORTYTHREE, COMMISSIONED SECOND LT. IN AIR CORPS,
FEBRUARY, FORTYTWO, RECEIVED PRIMARY TRAINING AT HELENA, ARKANSAS, OCTOBER
TO NOVEMBER, FORTYTWO, BASIC TRAINING AT GUNTER FIELD, ALABAMA, D.C. DEER
TO JANUARY FORTYTHREE, ADVANCED TRAINING, BLYTHEVILLE, ARKANSAS, FEBRUARY
TO MARCH FORTYTHREE, ASSIGNED AT SMYRNA, TENNESSEE, MAY TO JUNE, FORTYTHREE,
MAXWELL FIELD, ALABAMA, JULY, FORTYTHREE TO FEBRUARY SEVENTEEN, FORTYFOUR.
LATEST AGO ADDRESS REFLECTED BY AGO COMMUNICATION TO SHIPPEE AUGUST TWENTYSIX,
LAST, AT RFD SOUTH DEERFIELD, N. H., AND SAME RETURNED BY HIM. COPIES OF PHOTO
TAKEN IN FORTYTHREE BEING MADE. WILL BE FORWARDED LA ANSD. BUREAU ADVISED.

RWB:VIM
62-5378

HOTTEL

cc Bureau by messenger

16

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: 1-29-47

FROM : MR. EDW. A. TAMM *EAT*SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
ELIZABETH SHORT - VICTIM
MURDER AT LOS ANGELES

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

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

JKM:ml

RECORDED

62-82627-17

57 FEB 17 1947

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

Handwritten initials and list of names:
Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : D. M. LADD *[Signature]*
 FROM : H. W. SMITH *HWS*
 SUBJECT:

DATE: February 6, 1947

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

Jim Donovan of the U. P. called at 12:30 a.m., February 6, 1947, and requested the criminal record, if any, of Corporal Joseph Dunais, an M.P. who had been arrested in New Jersey as a suspect in the Black Dahlia murder case in California.

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

ACTION:

Transmit to Records and Communications Division.

HWS:mjj

[Signature]
 RECORDED
 &
 INDEXED
 214

62 12627-18

[Signature]
 20

FEB 20 1947

SAC, Los Angeles

January 31, 1947

Director, FBI

ELIZABETH SHORT, VICTIM, MURDER

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

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

Enclosures

HANDLED BY
STAMP DESK

RECORDED
31
INDEXED

68 FEB 11 1947

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

WWB:mks

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
★ FEB 1 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

57 FEB 2 1947

JAN 31 / 04 PM '47

Date: January 28, 1947

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

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

Subject: ELIZABETH SHORT

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

RRR:DMG

RECORDED

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

23 1947 70

11-2
#

RECEIVED

JAN 28

4:22 PM '47

JUSTICE

RECEIVED

82-22-20

4:22 PM '47

20

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : D. M. Ladd

FROM : E. G. Fitch

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH SHORT

DATE: January 30, 1947

Mr. Tolson ☒

Mr. E. A. Tamm ☒

Mr. Clegg ☒

Mr. Coffey ☒

Mr. Glavin ☒

Mr. Ladd ☒

Mr. Nichols ☒

Mr. Rosen ☒

Mr. Tracy ☒

Mr. Carson ☒

Mr. Egan ☒

Mr. Hendon ☒

Mr. Pennington ☒

Mr. Quinn Tamm ☒

Tele. Room ☒

Mr. Nease ☒

Miss Gandy ☒

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

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

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

ACTION

None.

COL:ONE

RECORDED

EX-27

JAN 31 1947

62-82-1-21

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

JAN 24 1947

Comm
FEBRUARY 1947

WASH FROM LOSA 4 24 1-36 PM

DIRECTOR URGENT

ELIZABETH SHORT, INFO CONCERNING, POLICE COOPERATION. ELIZABETH
SHORT VICTIM OF RUTHLESS MURDER JAN. FOURTEEN LAST AT L.A.
POLICE INVESTIGATION AT STANDSTILL. CAPTAIN JACK DONAHUE, LAPD
HOMICIDE SQUAD, REQUESTED THIS OFFICE ENDEAVOR TO OBTAIN PRIOR
EMPLOYMENT RECORD OF SHORT THROUGH OF SOCIAL SECURITY. VICTIM
DESCRIBED WHITE, FEMALE, TWENTYTWO, FIVE FT. SIX, ONE EIGHTEEN
LBS., HAIR LIGHT BROWN, DIED BLACK, GREEN EYES, LAD TEENTH,
SOCIAL SECURITY NO. NAUGHT DASH TWO TWO DASH ONE EIGHT DASH FOUR
SEVEN FIVE NAUGHT. SUTEL AT ONCE.

HOOD

58 FEB 26 1947

ACK PDS

Called Ident

MAILED

15 FEB 17 1947

By

22

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

FBI EL PASO 2-13-47 12-20 PM JMU

DIRECTOR FBI AND SAC BOSTON AND LOS ANGELES URGENT

GEORGE POLEET, NMVTA. RE EL PASO TELETYPE TO BOSTON TWELFTH INSTANT
ADVISING SUBJECT IN CUSTODY PITTSFIELD, MASS. POSSESSION OF NINETEEN
FORTY SIX CHEVROLET TWO DOOR SEDAN, MOTOR DAA TWO NINE
TWO NAUGHT NAUGHT, WHICH CAR STOLEN JANUARY TWENTY SEVEN LAST FROM
STREETS ALBUQUERQUE, NM, FROM J. B. STEPHENSON, NEW MEXICO LICENSE
TWO DASH SIX ONE NINE FOUR. EL PASO TIMES NEWSPAPER TODAY CARRIES
ARTICLE TO THE EFFECT THAT AT THE TIME OF SUBJECTS APPREHENSION IN
MASSACHUSETTS THERE WERE CONTAINED IN THE AUTOMOBILE A BLOOD STAINED
AXE AND AN ARMY SHOVEL AND HINTS THE SUBJECT MIGHT BE IMPLICATED IN THE
QUOTE BLACK DAHLIA UNQUOTE MURDER CASE, LOS ANGELES. ACCORDING TO
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES STEPHENSON ADVISED HE HAD USED AXE FOUND IN TRUNK OF
CAR FOR CUTTING UP AN ANTELOPE SEVERAL YEARS AGO. ARTICLE FURTHER STATES
SUBJECT ADMITED BEING ON WEST COAST WHEN ELIZABETH SHORT WAS SLAIN.
BOSTON INTERVIEW SUBJECT RELATIVE TO HIS EXACT WHEREABOUTS ON THE WEST
COAST AT TIME OF SLAYING. LOS ANGELES FURNISH BOSTON WITH DATES AND
DETAILS OF SLAYING. THIS OFFICE WILL ENDEAVOR INTERVIEW STEPHENSON
TODAY.

SURAN

ACK IN ORDER PLEASE

WA 2-26 PM OK FBI WA OVM

BS OK FBI BS MH

LA OK FBI LA CJM DISCO

62 FEB 24 1947

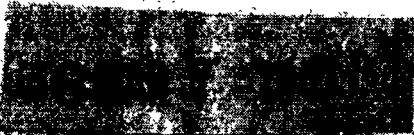
EX-1

RECORDED

80 FEB 15 1947

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 26-107439-1

COPIES DESTROYED
832 NOV 23 1964





62-82627-25

SLAIN

Mr. C
Mr. C
Mr. A
Mr. S
Mr. S
Mr.
Mr. C
Mr. I
Mr. C
Mr. S
Mr. S
Mr. P
Mr. Q
Mr. N

GIRL

Wine
- 1

IDENTIFIED

62-82627-25

ENC

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

New Torture Disclosed by Autopsy

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

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

Cause of Death Given

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

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

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

L. R. Jones 1-17-47

Fiend Slaying Victim's Life Story Under Check

Santa Barbara Arrest Learned From F.B.I.

Girl Once Arrested

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

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

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

The Santa Barbara authorities placed Miss Short on a train by

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

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



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

L. A. Times 1-17-47

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

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

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

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

Reported in San Diego

In a telephone call to Boston The Times learned last night that Elizabeth Short wrote her mother, Mrs. Phoebe Short of Medford, Boston suburb, two weeks ago, telling her of working in a San Diego hospital.

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

Youth Questioned

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

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

Hollywood Visits Told

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

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

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

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

Girl Arrested

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

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

Movements Traced

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

Drs. Frederick D. Newhar and Victor Cefalu, deputy autopsy

DATED 1-17-47

62-24427-25

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

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

Tied for Torture

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

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

Resemblance Doubted

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

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

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

Depot Visitor Questioned

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

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

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

Cars Seen Near Scene

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

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

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

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

Movements Traced

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

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

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L.A. Times 1-17-41

Soundphoto Assists Probe of Mystery

Victim Named as Elizabeth Short; Clues Hunted at Santa Barbara

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

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

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

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

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

Soundphotos Aid Identification

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

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

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

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

L.A. Examiner 1-17-47



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

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

—International News soundphoto

POLICE AIDED BY SOUNDPHOTO

By Ray Richards

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

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

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

PRAISE GIVEN

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

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

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

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

IMPERFECT

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

But the dead fingers had not provided good prints.

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

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

1-17-47

L.A. Examiner

about \$5—would come to the desk and pay her rent," the clerk said.

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

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

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

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

LIVING IN COURT—

"She was living in a court with a Vera Green," Miss Unefer also said. "There were four soldiers from Camp Cooke in their cottage when they were arrested. Miss Green said one of them was her husband, but we later learned her husband was a soldier overseas."

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

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

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

REACHED HOME—

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

This was another fact confirmed by the mother.

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

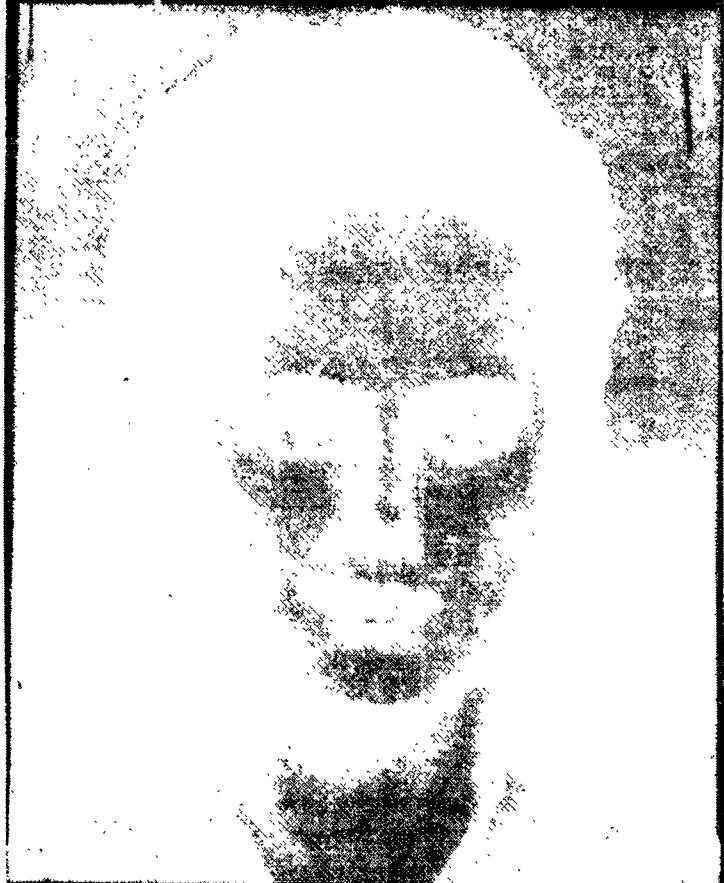
"She loved to sit so that it would show," Miss Unefer recalled.

The slayer mutilated this identifying blemish.

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

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

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



VICTIM IDENTIFIED—This is Elizabeth Short, 22, whose mutilated body was found on a Los Angeles vacant lot Wednesday morning. She was identified through fingerprints rushed to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington by this newspaper.

L.A. Examiner 1-17-47

Reporters Trace Victim's Movements

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CAR CLEW—

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

The back seat was removed. On other ~~apartment~~ there was

stains which police chemists were analyzing.

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

SISTER LOCATED—

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

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

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

L.A. Examiner 1-17-47

EXAMINER

IDENTIFIES

GIRL

TORTURE

SLAYING

VICTIM

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

Handwritten: ~~W. J. P. [unclear]~~
B. J. [unclear]

Gristly L. A. murder similar to sex slaying of seven San Diego women

Southern California police officers last night noted the striking similarity between the mad butcher murder of Elizabeth Short, 22, whose body was found here Wednesday, and other unsolved San Diego sex crimes.

Officers in the border city immediately feared that San Diego's sadistic woman killer, already believed responsible for at least seven unsolved murders, was on the prowl again.

For 15 years, police and psychologists have agreed that the killer was a sexual sadist whose crimes increased in brutality.

By studying the records of unsolved cases, they conjectured that Miss Short, who worked and lived in San Diego, could well be the mad killer's latest victim—in the most brutal crime of them all.

The string of unsolved crimes began in Feb., 1931, when Virginia Brooks, 10-year-old schoolgirl, was lured into an auto, raped and murdered. Her body, trussed in a gunny-sack, was found months later.

On April 25 of the same year, the body of Dolly Bibbens, attractive, well-to-do widow, was found in her apartment. She had been viciously beaten after first being raped.

Two weeks later, Hazel Bradshaw, beautiful 22-year-old telephone operator, was found mur-

dered in the Indian Village, Balboa Park. She had been stabbed 17 times.

While still investigating these three murders, police were called to the apartment of Maud Detwiler, attractive divorcee. She, too, had been raped and sadistically slain.

There was a three year lull before the sex fiend struck again. Then, on the morning of March 4, 1934, police found Mrs. Wesley Adams dead, the victim of a killer following a similar pattern to the first three crimes.

A month later, San Diego was shocked by one of the most baffling of all sex crime cases. Hanging from a tree on Black Mountain was the nude body of pretty Louise Teuber, 17-year-old clerk.

A rope around her neck was tied to the limbs of two trees, but an autopsy indicated she had been raped and murdered elsewhere, before being tied to the trees.

Before the summer ended, the sadist struck again.

Celia Cota, 16-year-old high school beauty, was murdered just

before she entered her home after attending a movie.

She had been raped several times, tortured and strangled.

So incensed was San Diego that the entire police administration was replaced, but still no clues to the mad slayer were found.

Next, and perhaps most spectacular in the series, was the brutal murder of Miss Ruth Muir, Riverside YWCA secretary, and daughter of a prominent Phoenix banker.

Visiting her vacationing parents in La Jolla, Miss Muir walked along the moon-lit shore of La Jolla on the night of Sept. 2, 1936.

She had paused behind a lover's bench, near the Casa Manana Hotel, when the killer set upon her.

Police said they had never known a murder in which the victim's head was so hysterically beaten. She, too, had been raped, and slashed.

But the most vicious killing of all—and perhaps No. 8 in the series—was the murder of Miss Short, whose mutilated and dissected body was discovered here Wednesday.

L. A. Daily News 1-17-47

Identify victim as Hollywood resident

(Additional story on Page 3)

A definite suspect has been established in the brutal murder of 22-year-old Elizabeth Short, whose mutilated body was found dumped in a vacant lot in southwestern Los Angeles Wednesday morning.

Identification of the girl was made last night by police from copies of her fingerprints on file with the FBI in Washington.

Elizabeth was a Massachusetts girl who recently lived at a hotel at 1611 N. Orange Dr., in Hollywood.

In 1943 she was a civilian employe at a post exchange at Camp Cooke, near Lompoc, and more recently worked at the naval hospital in San Diego.

Investigators, who said they were withholding the name of the suspect for the present, declared that he might be the man of whom Elizabeth told friends she was "deadly afraid."

That Elizabeth lived in fear of a suitor was substantiated in San Diego by Mrs. Vera French and her daughter, Dorothy.

The Frenchs, who live at 2750 Camino Tadaro, Pacific Beach, said Elizabeth lived with them from last Dec. 12 until Jan. 8, when she hurriedly left for Hollywood.

Mrs. French told officers that Elizabeth, whom she had met in San Diego, was very popular with men and had many dates. The girl, she said, often spoke, however, about a boy friend from whom she was always hiding because of an unexplained fear.

Harold Frank Costa, 31, and Donald Leyes, 22, who lived in the same Hollywood hotel last October as Elizabeth, described her as being a very attractive girl who liked to see and be seen in Hollywood nightspots.

Two other persons who reported to police they knew Elizabeth when she lived in Hollywood were Marvin Margolis, 27, and William Robinson, 25.

The two men said they had often been in places Elizabeth frequented. The last time they saw her, they said, was the latter part of November.

On the night before the body was found, a Los Angeles policewoman said, a girl answering the description of the pretty, dark-haired victim asked for protection against a man who "had threatened to kill me."

The policewoman, Myrtle McBride, told homicide investigators late last night that the girl had

approached her at the Sixth and Main Sts. bus terminal, sobbing with terror.

The policewoman said the girl told her she had just run into a former boyfriend, who once had threatened to "kill her if he ever found her with another man." She had left him that day.

Mrs. McBride, who at first believed the girl who appealed for aid was Elizabeth, was not as certain after viewing photos of the slain girl.

Mrs. Phoebe M. Short of Medford, Mass., mother of the slain girl, said last night she had received a letter from her daughter from San Diego about two weeks ago.

"As far as I know she was working in a naval hospital there," said Mrs. Short.

"I just can't believe my daughter is dead."

Identification was made from fingerprints which the FBI had on record from Sept. 1943, when the girl was arrested in Santa Barbara.

She had been a clerk at the Camp Cooke post exchange near Santa Barbara and was picked up for drinking with soldiers in a cafe there.

Policewoman Mary Unkefer of the Santa Barbara police department took the girl to her own home to live with her for nine days.

"She was very good looking," said Miss Unkefer, "with beautiful dark hair and fair skin. She dressed nicely and was a long way from being a barfly."

Miss Unkefer said the girl had a rose tattooed on her left leg. "She loved to sit so that it would show," the policewoman recalled. The killer gouged the identifying mark from the body.

"We put her on the train for her home, and several times later she wrote to me from there," Miss Unkefer recalled. One of her letters said:

"I'll never forget you—thank God you picked me up when you did."

FBI records described the girl as 5 foot 6, 121 pounds, brown hair, green eyes, medium build and with moles on the back of her neck.

The description tallies almost exactly with that given by the coroner's office here of the body found Wednesday morning on Norton Ave. between 39th St. and Coliseum St.

Yesterday an autopsy showed the girl had been tortured with sharp metal weapons before she died, then trussed up and butchered.

Dr. Frederick D. Newbarr, chief autopsy surgeon, listed the cause of death as hemorrhage from face and head wounds after examining the body of the victim for three hours.

He ruled out the possibility that the pretty young girl had been strangled.

Rope burns about the wrists and ankles indicated, however, that the girl had probably been strung up for torture and post mortem mutilation, the surgeon said.

Other grotesque findings of the autopsy gave evidence of the fiendish mind of the slayer toward whose identity and capture the full force of the Los Angeles homicide squad was turned.

To spur apprehension of the criminal, city officials moved to post a \$10,000 reward. Councilman Lloyd G. Davies said he would propose the reward before the City Council today.

Automobiles gave detectives their only early clues to the killer.

One car which detectives believed might have been used by the slayer was a 1940 green Hudson convertible which was found abandoned on a gas station lot at 951 Manchester Ave.

The car had bloodstains on one door, and inside were copies of three newspapers with detailed accounts of the slaying.

The registered owner of the vehicle told police the car was stolen from him, but he had failed to make a report.

He was called to headquarters for further questioning.

LA Times News 1-17-47

HUNT DEFINITE SUSPECT IN L. A. HORROR MURDER



VICTIM OF A CRAZED FIEND
Elizabeth Short, 22, was tortured and butchered

—Acme telephoto.

62-52627-25

'Beth Broke and Hungry' During Stay in Hollywood

Jobs were few and money was scarce for Elizabeth Short during her residence at a Hollywood hotel last year, two youths and the hotel's clerk told police last night.

Harold Costa, 31, and Donald Leyes, 22—both residents of the hotel at 1611 North Orange drive—said they had been boy friends of Elizabeth's two roommates, Margery Graham and Lynn Martin.

"Whenever we took the girls out to dinner, they always asked us if they might bring Beth along," Costa recalled. "They said the kid was broke and hungry."

Leyes added that the three girls occasionally worked as waitresses.

"Miss Short was always getting behind in her rent," James McGrath, clerk at the hotel, remembered. "Whenever she did, a short, dark man—about 35 or 40—came in and paid her bill. He used to drive a black Ford sedan and park it in front."

McGrath said the victim of the fiendish torture slaying last Tuesday had been a chronic

bronchitis sufferer and once underwent a chest operation.

"When Beth and the other two girls checked out of the hotel last October," the clerk added, "they piled their baggage in the short, dark man's car and drove off."

Costa and Leyes remembered a date they had had with the three girls when Elizabeth asked to be excused because "her hair needed another henna rinse."

L.A. Examiner 1-17-47

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1947

TO:

✓ Director ✓

Mr. Tolson

Mr. E. A. Tamm

Mr. Clegg

Mr. Glavin

Mr. Harbo

Mr. Ladd

Mr. Rosen

Mr. Tracy

Mr. Carson

Mr. Cartwright

Mr. Hendon

Mr. Jones

Mr. Leonard

Mr. McCoy

Mr. McGuire

Mr. Nease

~~Mr. Quinn Tamm~~

Miss Gandy

Mr. English, 5627

Records Section

Pers. Records Sec.

Reading Room

Mail Room

Miss Cowan

Miss Middleton

Miss Pitts

M

See Me

For Appropriate Action

Send File

Prepare Reply

Excellent

stories

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

L. B. Nichols
Room 5640, Ext. 691

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



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

Director, FBI

RE: ELIZABETH SHORT
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Attention: FBI LABORATORY

Dear Sir:

On the early morning of January 15, 1947 the mutilated body of ELIZABETH SHORT was found in a vacant lot in a residential section of Los Angeles. She was last seen alive, according to information thus far available to the Police, the night of January 9, 1947 when she was dropped off in the lobby of the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles by a male friend. The body was cut into around the waist with a very sharp instrument and the cut was very cleanly done--none of the internal organs being touched except to sever the intestines. The cut through the backbone was very cleanly done. There were other cuts on the body including the removal of one breast. There is some speculation that the murderer had had some training in dissection of bodies.

When found, the body was thoroughly scrubbed and there was no blood in it. Several bristles, apparently from the brush, were found in the breast wound and among the internal organs, leading to the belief that a brush was used in scrubbing the body.

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

Very truly yours,

R. B. HOOD
SAC

AIR MAIL - REGISTERED
JCE:JCJ
62-2928

24

10103001



EMPTY
11-18-64
332

(9-87627-25

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TOLSON

FROM : L. B. NICHOLS

SUBJECT:

DATE: Jan. 18, 1947

LBN:..C

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Hood advised & will inform Police.
ENCL. ATTACHED

want more calls
back - identified
& rep'd to police.
give name.

Warden Francis
Called 6:10 PM
& given info

If no info by 7 PM
OK NICHOLS
146

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 162-1-25

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Room 5744

3-19

1947

TO: _____ Director
_____ Mr. Edward Tamm
_____ Mr. Clegg
_____ Mr. Glavin
_____ Mr. Ladd
_____ Mr. Nichols
_____ Mr. Rosen
_____ Mr. Tracy
_____ Mr. Harbo
_____ Mr. Hendon
_____ Mr. Jones
_____ Mr. Nease
_____ Miss Gandy
_____ Personnel Files Section
✓ _____ Records Section
_____ Mrs. Skillman

See Me For Appropriate Action

Send File Note and Return

Clyde Tolson

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TOLSON ✓

DATE: January 17, 1947

FROM : L. B. NICHOLS

SUBJECT: IDENTIFICATION OF ELIZABETH SHORT

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

At 6:10 p.m. yesterday I received a call from Warren Francis of the Los Angeles Times. He stated he was inquiring regarding our identification of the murdered girl found in Los Angeles day before yesterday, that the Los Angeles Examiner had sent her prints to Washington via wirephoto and that the Bureau had identified the girl and informed the Examiner and the Los Angeles police. I told him this was correct, that we had made the identification, that since it involved a local case any further comment would have to come from the Chief of Police. He asked for the girl's name and I told him. He was very appreciative.

At 7:00 p.m. Bill Hutchinson of INS called. He asked if we could give them a statement at 9 o'clock, as he would be smack in the middle since they had received a previous inquiry from the Herald Express, the day paper, and he had deliberately declined to answer this inquiry and it would be very embarrassing unless they carried something on their wire. Of course, at 9 o'clock the Examiner was on the street.

At 8:40 p.m. I received a call from the Associated Press stating that their Los Angeles Bureau was making inquiry regarding the case, that the Los Angeles Examiner had the full details, the Times had a story. I also ascertained that United Press had a similar inquiry. Accordingly, at 8:50 p.m. I issued the following statement to INS, which was given to the AP at 8:55 and to UP at 9:05. All were appreciative.

"J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the FBI, announced that fingerprints sent to the FBI by wire photo of an unidentified murdered girl whose body was located by local authorities in Los Angeles were identified when searched through the fingerprint files of the FBI, containing some 104 million sets of fingerprints.

"The fingerprints, taken by Los Angeles Police, were transmitted to Washington by the Los Angeles Examiner today over the facilities of the International News Photos. Upon receipt in Washington they were delivered to the FBI Identification Division by a representative of the Los Angeles Examiner.

"Only 8 fingerprints appeared on the card and 3 others were badly blurred, yet it was possible for fingerprint experts to search them through the files and effect an identification with two fingerprint cards previously on file bearing the name of Elizabeth Short.

"One of the fingerprint cards was submitted by authorities at Camp Cooke, California, on January 30, 1943, indicating that

62 JAN 14 1947

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 74-8-43-40

Miss Short was an applicant for a position as a clerk in the Post Exchange. The other set of fingerprints was submitted by the Santa Barbara, California, Police Department reflecting the girl's arrest on September 23, 1943, on charges of violating Juvenile Court laws after which she was released to the Probation Department. Her residence at that time was recorded as 231 G. W. Montecito Street.

"Both cards reflected her date of birth as July 23, 1924, at Hyde Park, Massachusetts.

"All details on the identification were promptly communicated to the Los Angeles police authorities."

I also furnished copies of the girl's picture pursuant to requests from Acme News Photos and the AP Photo Service.

Ray Richards of the Los Angeles Examiner was wondering if the Director today could give them a brief quote along the lines that the action of the Examiner in forwarding the fingerprints by wire photo was an excellent illustration of public service. I told Ray we would think about this. I see no objection to this. Ray wanted a letter, although I do not think the Director should write a letter. The Examiner should be thanking us. However, I would suggest the Director give out the following statement:

"The action of the Los Angeles Examiner in transmitting to the FBI the fingerprints of the unidentified murdered victim is an excellent illustration of the cooperation of the press with law enforcement, and it is such cooperation that aids law enforcement in curbing the increase in crime."

LEN:RC

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

DATE: January 21, 1947

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: IDENTIFICATION OF ELIZABETH SHORT

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

To recount the happenings on Thursday, January 16, involving the identification of Elizabeth Short and the possible interest of Warren Francis of the Los Angeles Times, I wish to advise as follows:

Shortly after 10 a.m. on the morning of January 16, Ray Richards of the local Hearst bureau, which represents the Los Angeles Examiner, called and related the murder and stated that in cooperation with the Los Angeles Police the Los Angeles Examiner was sending the fingerprints of the girl to Washington via International News Photos wire service. They were sending them at considerable cost and as soon as they arrived Richards asked if we could check them. I made the arrangements with Mr. Quinn Tamm in Ident.

The pictures arrived at approximately 11 o'clock. Quinn Tamm called me on the phone and stated that he doubted they would be able to identify the prints since two of the fingerprint impressions were missing entirely and three others were badly blurred. He stated they would start making reference searches but that it would be much better if they had better impressions. Accordingly, I called Ray Richards back and told him that we were having difficulty and it would be much better if he could have a full set of the fingerprints transmitted and if the transmission could be clear. This Request WAS CANCELLED when Mr. Tamm made the identification.

At approximately 1:30 p.m. a Lorraine Francis of the Los Angeles Times called Quinn Tamm and in my absence was referred to Mr. Jones. Mrs. Francis referred to the unidentified girl and stated that she had a wire from her paper furnishing the fingerprint classification. Mr. Jones told Mrs. Francis that it would be extremely difficult to identify a set of fingerprints with only the fingerprint classification and of course with no name. However, Mr. Jones stated he would check on the matter. Mr. Jones checked with Quinn Tamm, who informed him of the search that was then underway and referred Mr. Jones to me. I told Mr. Jones to do nothing and to sit tight.

The identification was made in the middle of the afternoon and the full details were furnished to Ray Richards of the Los Angeles Examiner. Obviously, from a newspaper standpoint the Examiner by its enterprise and initiative had a clear scoop on this matter and of course was entitled to such protection as could be given them. At that time we decided that we would not furnish the information to anybody, that if the Francis called back we would of course refer them to the Los Angeles Police but furnish the name of the girl. It was also decided if they did not call by 7 o'clock that we would call them.

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 8-43-10

Memorandum to Mr. Tolson

At 5:40 Warren Francis called Mr. Jones' office and ⁱⁿ Mr. Jones absence talked to Supervisor Mathews and also gave Mr. Mathews the fingerprint classification. Mr. Mathews stated he would get hold of Mr. Jones and have him call Francis back. Mr. Jones was out and Mr. Mathews was unable to get hold of Mr. Jones until shortly after 6 o'clock, and at that time Warren Francis called back. On this occasion he was perturbed and stated that another paper had received a reply, that it looked like the Bureau was playing favorites and indicated that he was being given a run-around. At this moment Mr. Jones came in. Mr. Jones talked to him and told him I was handling the matter. Mr. Jones, in accordance with my instructions, then referred Mr. Francis to my office. When Francis called he obviously had a chip on his shoulder and he immediately went into a tirade that he had called Jones and was being given a run-around and he demanded to know what the score was, stating that his paper had a deadline to make.

I told him the score simply was that the Los Angeles Examiner, which he in turn had mentioned by name as having the story, had furnished the fingerprints to us by wire photo, that we had made the identification, that since it was a local case it was suggested that his people contact the Police Department in Los Angeles. He was very gracious at this point and thanked me. He then asked for the girl's name and I furnished him with the girl's name. This satisfied him completely.

I noted in the Los Angeles Times story that the Times stated that the Times had been informed of the identity of the girl by the FBI after the Times had sent the fingerprint classification to Washington.

Shortly before 6 o'clock INS had a query from the Los Angeles Herald Express. They of course were fully informed as to the developments in the case by Ray Richards; the Herald Express is a day Hearst paper and INS stalled on making any reply.

At about 7 o'clock that evening Bill Hutchinson called me and asked if we would give out a short statement around 9 o'clock which would protect him since the Examiner would then be on the street. At 8:40 p.m. I received a call from the AP, advising that the Los Angeles Times and the Los Angeles Examiner had the story. I told the AP that I would check on the matter and call them back. I then issued a short statement to INS and called the AP back and issued a short statement to them and to the UP. The statement issued is attached, included in my memorandum of January 17.

Warren Francis has the reputation of carrying a chip on his shoulder. I would not be the least bit surprised that he might not protest against our handling of the matter. I do not think he

Memorandum to Mr. Tolson

has a leg to stand on since the Examiner was entitled to the protection that they had. I recall very distinctly that during the smear campaign of 1940 Francis exhibited an unfriendly attitude toward the Bureau. With my recollection serving me correctly, I was informed confidentially that at one of the AG's press conferences Francis asked questions indicating an unfriendly attitude toward the Bureau.

In checking the file I note a report dated May 26, 1941, submitted by the Washington Field Office, listing the name of Mrs. Warren Francis, 3121 N. Hampton Street, N. W., whose name appeared on the indices of the "Keep Out of War Committee," which was maintained in the Socialist Party Headquarters under the label of "Capital City Forum." This appeared in the report submitted by former Special Agent T. W. Dawsey submitted May 26, 1941, and was the subject of considerable discussion at the time.

AN Old

LBN:hbm SUMMARY

ATTACHED

mm

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. E. A. TAMM *RAG*

FROM : *RA* ROSEN

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

DATE: 2/18/47

Call 2:25 pm

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

SAC R. B. Hood, Los Angeles, called and stated he had been advised by Mr. Jim Richardson, City Editor of the "Examiner", the newspaper in Los Angeles which has been giving so much publicity to this case, that the Mayor of Los Angeles intended to call Mr. Hood this afternoon and request Bureau assistance in this investigation. Mr. Hood stated he was sure the Mayor knew the Bureau could conduct no actual investigation in this case but would ask for whatever assistance which could be rendered, his main purpose probably being that he could state publicly that he had asked the FBI for assistance.

Mr. Hood stated, if he was called by the "Examiner", which is a friendly paper, he would explain the Bureau's lack of jurisdiction in a matter of this kind and point out to the Mayor that the Laboratory facilities and fingerprint files of the Bureau were available in the event they were desired, but that no actual investigation could be conducted. It was pointed out that even though Hood states the Bureau's position, the story would probably leave the impression that the Bureau was actually conducting some investigation, because any comment concerning the Laboratory facilities would probably be near the end of the story. In the event he is called by the newspapers, Hood felt that he should probably issue a statement setting out the Bureau's exact position in this matter. I told him I agreed.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN: No action is to be taken by Hood until he receives a call from the Mayor or a call from the newspapers. If he receives a call from the Mayor he is going to explain the Bureau's position. If he receives a call from the Newspapers he is going to explain the Bureau's position.

HANDLED BY
STO *[initials]*

cc - Mr. Nichols

AR:LG:WW

RECORDED

62-82627-28

38 FEB 19 1947

EX-40

60 MAR 5 1947

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

FEBRUARY 20, 1947

Transmit the following message to:

SAC, LOS ANGELES

ELIZABETH SHORT, INFORMATION CONCERNING. TWO BRISTLES ARE PLANT FIBERS
BEARING CHARACTERISTICS OF PALM TREE FIBERS WHICH ARE USED IN MANUFACTURE
OF INEXPENSIVE BRUSHES.

ROUTINE

HOOVER

PC-19260 BH
RED:ABC

RECORDED
8463

15 FEB 21

29

COPIES DESTROYED
332 NOV 18 1964

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

SENT VIA

M

Per

12

MAR 11 1947

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICELaboratory Work SheetRECORDED
2-18-47
kag

EXPEDITE

Wire Answer !!!!

Re: ELIZABETH SHORT
INFORMATION CONCERNINGFile #
Lab. # PC-19260 BN

Examination requested by: Los Angeles (62-2923)

Date of reference communication: let 2-13-47

Date received: 2-13-47
kag

Examination requested: Micro. (Fibers)

Result of Examination:

Examination by: BUCKETT

Specimens submitted for examination

✓ Q1 Two bristles.

62-82627

APR 1 1947

58 APR 5 1947

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Work Sheet

RECORDED
2-18-47
kag

EXPEDITE

Wire Answer !!!!

Re: ELIZABETH SHORT
INFORMATION CONCERNING

File #
Lab. # PG-19260 BN

62-82127

Examination requested by: Los Angeles (62-2928)

Date of reference communication: let 2-13-47

Date received: 2-18-47
kag

Examination requested: Micro. (Fibers)

Result of Examination:

Examination by: DUCKETT

wire - 2-20-47

Two bristles are plant fibers having character
of palm tree fibers which are used in manufacture
of unspun wire brushes.

Specimens submitted for examination

Q1 Two bristles.

Q1 - plant fibers - rounded tip

dull violet or straw color -

texture - stiff - thin - wavy

slightly flexible - strong - flat to
firm

Miss
Windham } Bassine as palm tree fiber from palm
tree

See Report
pg 18

TELEMETER

WASH 11 FROM LOSANGELES 19 10-47 AM
DIRECTOR URGENT ----- ATTENTION MR. ROSEN

ELIZABETH SHORT, INFORMATION CONCERNING. CHIEF OF POLICE C. B.
HORRALL PERSONALLY ADVISED ME ON FEBRUARY EIGHTEENTH THAT
FOLLOWING BRIEF TALK WITH MAYOR FLETCHER BOWRON, NO REQUEST WOULD
BE FORTHCOMING FOR ACTIVE ASSISTANCE IN MURDER CASE INVOLVING
SHORT AS VICTIM. LOS ANGELES EXAMINER THIS DAY STATES CHIEF
HORRALL MADE OFFICIAL REQUEST OF ME FOR ASSISTANCE WHICH STATEMENT
HAS BEEN DENIED BY HIM TO THE EXAMINER AND INQUIRIES FROM TWO
OTHER PAPERS HAVE BEEN MET WITH RESPONSE THAT WE ARE NOT CONDUCTING
ACTIVE INVESTIGATION IN THIS CASE IN ABSENCE OF JURISDICTION.

HOOD

END ACK PLUS 17
58 MAR 11 1947

RECORDED

15 FEB 1947

454. South Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, 13, California
Feb. 15, 1947

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

Dear Sir;-

I had occasion once before to write you - April 10, 1940 - and feel impressed to do so again now. That other was a personal matter; this one is of grave public importance which is being grossly neglected - if not abetted - by the police.

On the night of the 14th, of January there was an awful rumpus here in this house on the Fourth floor in Apartment 405. A Mr. Hawkins - whom everybody used to call the Old Policeman - has lived there for a long time. I was told that Mrs. Knau, the woman next to him in Apt. 403 heard it all - the terrible obscene language the man was using and the woman screaming, and ran down and reported it to the manager - Phelps - in the office. He at once called policemen. Twelve - I was told - came and took old Hawkins - covered with blood - to jail. Later an ambulance came to get the girl's body. It was all cut up and terribly mutilated. Her mouth cut from ear to ear. The lady in No. 400 fainted when she saw it. The next morning the body of the Black Ahlia was found dumped out into a lot on Norton. Hawkins - all cleaned up - was let out by the sheriff and allowed to come back here to live as though nothing had happened. He's been going and coming ever since - so I'm told - and the second murder in L.A. within the past week - Feb. 10th - has all the earmarks of his dirty work.

Now, I do not know whether or not this matter has been taken care of by any investigators. The police appear to be doing nothing in regard to it. Maybe no one has reported it for fear of the police - as they already know all about it; having been here twelve strong that night of B.D.'s murder. She was alive a few minutes before they got here. The first papers - the Times - mentioned a \$10,000 reward involved.

We women are beginning to live in mortal terror of these conditions that are happening around us, for this corner was once a highly respected neighborhood. We have no place to move to, and cannot get out. Mr. Hawkins has been involved before in other questionable affairs. Everybody in this house could give evidence in regard to this matter. Mrs. Benjamin in 301, Mrs. Brand in 300. Lady in 202. Lady in 400 - and many I do not know by name. The matter is being hushed up. Everybody is afraid of the police. I am giving you this information in case you have not been informed. L.A. needs cleaning up. If the matter is being taken care of - to your knowledge - please drop the matter here. If not; I would like to see Mr. Hawkins picked up at once for he is to have until the 18th, Tuesday, to leave here.

(If you should answer, please answer in plain envelope.)

Mr. Rosen
Mr. McCabe
Mr. Martin

February 20, 1947

31

Miss E. H. Thomas
454 South Figueroa Street
Los Angeles 13, California

Dear Miss Thomas:

I have received your letter dated February 15, 1947.

You may be assured I am appreciative of your courtesy and interest in furnishing such information to me.

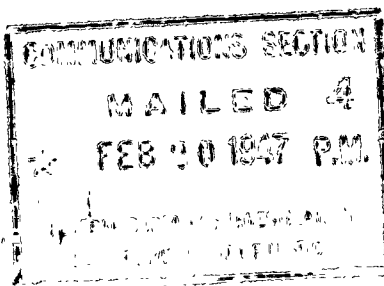
Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc: Los Angeles (With copy of incoming letter)

62-0
CJM:RDW

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



Handwritten signatures and initials, including "P" and "HR".

WASH FROM LOSA 3 28 11-52 AM

DIRECTOR URGENT

RE UNKNOWN SUBJECT, ELIZABETH ^①SHORT, VICTIM, MURDERED, MISC.
INFORMATION CONCERNING, VICTIM AKA QUOTE BLACK DAHLIA UNQUOTE,
MURDERED JAN. FIFTEEN LAST. RETEL FROM L.A. JAN. TWENTY-FOUR
LAST. REQUEST EXPEDITE INFO REQUESTED IN REFERENCED TELETYPE,
NAMELY, EMPLOYMENT RECORD OF SHORT THROUGH SOCIAL SECURITY AS
MATTER OF COOPERATION WITH LOCAL POLICE. LATEST DEVELOPMENTS
IN POLICE INVESTIGATION INCLUDES RECEIPT OF SEVERAL LETTERS TO
NEWSPAPERS AND AUTHORITIES HERE BY WRITER WHO CLAIMS TO BE
~~AUTHOR~~ MURDERER WITH PROMISE TO SURRENDER. FIRST LETTER IN-
TERCEPTED BY POSTAL AUTHORITIES AND ADDRESSED TO NEWSPAPERS
CONTAINED FOLLOWING ARTICLES DEFINITELY BELONGING TO VICTIM.
BIRTH CERTIFICATE, BAGGAGE CHECK, PHOTOGRAPHS, PERSONAL CORRES
PONDENCE. NO SUBSEQUENT MAIL OR COMMUNICATIONS CONTAINED ANY
MATERIAL TO INDICATE WRITERS HAVE ANY KNOWLEDGE OR CONNECTION
WITH INSTANT CASE. NO DEVELOPMENTS TO DATE TO INDICATE UFAP
POSSIBILITIES. EXPEDITE INFO REQUESTED.

HOOD

ACK PLS

RECORDED
-23
Ident.

62-627-32
FEB 13 1947

51 MAR 7 1947

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: February 28, 1947

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles

Attention: IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH SHORT
INFORMATION CONCERNINGRe: LEON E. BURRIS, SUSPECT

Attached hereto are fingerprints of captioned suspect in connection with the mutilation murder of ELIZABETH SHORT. Please forward results of search of these fingerprints to this office Air Mail Special Delivery.

COPIES DESTROYED

832

NOV 18 1964

PJP:JCJ

62-2928

EX-17

60 MAR 8 1947

ANS.
3-6-47
TR. ETO
62-81677

FINGERPRINTS DETACHED IN S. F. F.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Date recorded: 3-4-47 12:00 NOON

Single Fingerprint Report

Case: RE: ELIZABETH SHORT
INFORMATION CONCERNING
LEON E. BURRIS, SUSPECT

Number: 62-82627-33

Specimens: Fingerprints of suspect, LEON E. BURRIS, submitted for comparison
with the unidentified latents in this case.

Examination requested by: SAC, Los Angeles

Date received: 3-4-47 amb

Date of reference communication: 2-28-47

Examination requested: Fingerprint

Result of examination:

Examination by: Robyak

*Comparisons made - no
Prints to tech 3-4
No prior record
Dictated 3-6-47 Jml*

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

March 6, 1947

SAC, Los Angeles

Director, FBI

ELIZABETH SHORT
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Reference is made to your letter of February 28, 1947, submitting the fingerprints of Leon E. Burris in connection with the above-entitled matter, your file #62-2928.

You are advised that the fingerprints submitted were compared with the latent fingerprints previously forwarded in connection with the instant case, but no identifications were effected.

A search of the fingerprints of Burris through the Bureau's main fingerprint files has failed to disclose any prior record for this individual.

JR:CJO

62-82627 - 33

RECORDED

EX - 44

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAR 6 1947
FBI - LOS ANGELES

62 MAR 15 1947

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FEB 26 1947

TELETYPE

WASH FROM LOSA 19 5-20 PM

26

DIRECTOR URGENT

UNSUB, ELIZABETH SHORT, AKA BLACK DALIA, VICTIM, MUTILATION MURDER,
INFO. CONCERNING. PVT. FRANCISC B. KERNER, WA. FRANK LACEK, ASN
THREE NINE ONE SIX FIVE SEVEN TWO SEVEN, ENLISTED OCT. SIXTEEN
FORTYONE, CONSIDERED LIKELY SUSPECT IN SHORT MURDER. INFO AVAIL-
ABLE LAPD INDICATES KERNER DESERTER. NO RECORD ~~INDICES~~ INDICES
THIS OFFICE. REQUEST BUREAU ADVISE WHETHER OR NOT KERNER
SUBJ OF DESERTER FUGITIVE CASE AND IF SO WHAT OFFICE IS ORIGIN.
WIFE OF SUSPECT, MRS. LEE KERNER, LISTED RESIDENCE ADDRESS ONE
NAUGHT NAUGHT FIVE THIRD ST., WICHITA FALLS, TEX. SUTEL EXPEDITE.

HOOD

ACK PLS

62 MAR 7

EX-47

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEBRUARY 25, 1947

TO: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

SAC, LOS ANGELES

URGENT

Transmit the following message to: *OK*
UNSUB, ELIZABETH SHORT, AKA BLACK DAHLIA, VICTIM MUTILATION MURDER,
INFORMATION CONCERNING. REURTEL TODAY. WAR DEPARTMENT HAS NOT
REQUESTED BUREAU'S ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING KERNER, ALIAS LACEK, AS A
DESERTER.

HOOVER

CC: Mr. Rosen
Mr. McCabe
Mr. Martin
Mr. Gearty

FHS:ml

RECORDED

COPIES DESTROYED
332 NOV 18 1964

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

SENT VIA

M

Per

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: March 3, 1947

✓ FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
ELIZABETH SHORT - VICTIM;
MURDER - INFORMATION CONCERNING

Reference is made to the conference teletype from the Los Angeles Field Division to the Bureau and New York, dated January 23, 1947.

Since all pertinent facts were submitted by teletype to the Los Angeles Field Division and the Bureau on January 25, 1947, no report is being submitted and this matter is being Referred Upon Completion to the Office of Origin.

cc Los Angeles

RECORDED

645

WEH:MXW
62-9061

36

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60 MAR 12 1947

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: February 20, 1947

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH SHORT
Information Concerning

On February 18, 1947, JAMES RICHARDSON, City Editor of the Los Angeles Examiner, advised me that in all probability I would receive a request from Mayor FLETCHER BOWRON on February 18th for this Bureau's assistance in connection with the murder case in which ELIZABETH SHORT is the victim. The Bureau will recall that this individual was murdered and her body dissected and it is referred to as the "Black Dahlia" case.

G. I. R. 5

RICHARDSON went on to state that Mayor BOWRON had been friendly to the Examiner and that he personally was friendly to the Mayor but that there are now rumbles of incompetency in the police department and that citizens are terrorized in view of the recent murders in this city - there having been four unusual cases in the past six weeks. He stated that within the last several days the Police Commission has asked Chief of Police C. B. HOPRALL for a report on these cases and in RICHARDSON's opinion if there is another murder of this type in the near future, it is going to be most unfortunate for the Los Angeles Police Department.

ATTACHED ENCLOSURE

He stated many people believe that the FBI should join forces with the local department in this case and they do not know that our jurisdiction will not permit it. He mentioned that if the FBI did join the local authorities and nothing became of the investigation, there obviously would not be so much unfavorable reflection on the local agency and likewise if the Bureau were to solve the case and make its own independent release and ignore the police department, it would destroy all public confidence in the police organization.

RICHARDSON states that he has many good friends on the Homicide Squad and they have been very cooperative with his paper but it is known that many of them are not experienced homicide investigators, they having been taken over from other squads in the last year or so.

I was with Chief of Police C. B. HOPRALL on February 18th and without my mentioning this situation, he stated he wanted me to know confidentially that on February 17th the Mayor had called him in and asked why he did not request assistance of this Bureau and the Chief informed him that we had no jurisdiction to enter the investigation but for the Mayor's own information and not for publication, this office had been of considerable

RECORDED

1 MAR 8 1947

37

TO: Director
FROM: SAC, Los Angeles
SUBJECT: ELIZABETH SHORT
Information Concerning

assistance in the investigation. This is true, as we have made records available to the local officers which they were not in a position to obtain and have rendered them assistance in contacting the Veterans Bureau, Navy Department and other similar organizations. No actual investigation has been made of the murder case and none is contemplated. The Chief wanted me to know that if the Mayor did make any statement about the Bureau's participation in this case that it was entirely the Mayor's and over the objection of HORRALL as he did not want to bring the Bureau into this situation for it was not his practice to have anyone else involved in his own difficulties. He pointed out that his department could take the criticism that might be directed to them and he would take it personally if necessary and under no circumstances would he do anything that might give the appearance of attempting to pass it on to this Bureau. He stated that the Mayor meant well but that when the newspapers put the pressure on him his judgment is not good and he might say something that would appear to involve this Bureau in the investigation. I informed the Chief that I understood the Mayor was going to call upon me for assistance but that if he did so, it would be explained that there is no Federal jurisdiction for us to enter the case but our usual facilities would be available at any time as they have always been in the past.

For the Bureau's information, reporters were at the scene of the murder before the law enforcement officers arrived and had the evidence in their possession before the officers, and throughout the entire investigation the reporters have talked to witnesses and published facts which were bound to hinder the investigation of the local department. Reporters are in the offices of the Detective Bureau and it is not possible for the investigators to have a confidential telephone conversation or even read mail without having some news reporter looking it over to see if it relates to this case.

As Mr. ROSEN of the Bureau was informed February 18th, the Mayor, if he requests assistance from us, would be informed of the Bureau's lack of jurisdiction in the case and newspaper inquiries will be met with a direct statement that we have no investigative jurisdiction, and if any statement the Mayor might make calls for a clarification, the matter will be discussed with the Bureau immediately before any comment is made.

Since dictation of the above material, Chief HORRALL has telephonically advised me that he had another talk with the Mayor and he believes the entire situation is taken care of and he does not anticipate that anything further will be heard on it.

RBH:AB
62-2929
1-3

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO :

DATE:

FROM :

SUBJECT:

REPORT
of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON D. C.

February 26, 1947

To: SAC, Los Angeles

Following is the report of the FBI Laboratory giving the results of examinations conducted on evidence received from your office. This report serves to confirm and supplement the Bureau's wire of February 20, 1947.

Re: Elizabeth Short
Information Concerning

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

YOUR FILE NO. 62-2928
FBI FILE NO. 62-82627
LAB. NO. P-19260 BN

Examination requested by: Addressee
Reference: Letter 2/13/47
Examination requested: Microscopic
Specimens: Q1, Two bristles.

RECORDED
EX-66
F B I
72 MAR 10 1947

RESULTS OF EXAMINATIONS:

The two bristles in specimen Q1 are plant fibers bearing characteristics of Palm tree fibers which are used in the manufacture of inexpensive brushes. They have rounded tips, and are dull russet in color. The bristles are stiff, thin, and wiry. They are slightly flexible, firm, strong, and elastic. Specimen Q1 appears to have been coated to make the bristles water repellent.

From the above examination, it is the opinion of the examiner that Q1 is probably from a cheap brush. The bristles in brushes that Q1 could have come from contain few identifiable characteristics for comparison purposes. However, if a brush is located, it is suggested that it be submitted to the laboratory along with the remaining portion of specimen Q1.

The portion of specimen Q1 not consumed in the examination is being returned herewith.

Enclosure - Registered Mail

REF:pw

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

97833

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE MISSING
11-18-64
332

62-82627-39

HEARST NEWSPAPERS



TIMES-HERALD BUILDING
Room 607
WASHINGTON 5, D. C.

RAY RICHARDS
WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT

January 23, 1947

TELEPHONES-
EXECUTIVE-8322-8323

J. Edgar Hoover, Esq.,
Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Inclosed is a tearsheet from The Los Angeles Examiner, in which I thought you might be interested.

The near-miracle which is the FBI's identification division was lauded in big stories in all our papers in connection with the Elizabeth Short identification. I presume you are receiving clippings.

Your comment in the inclosed story was particularly appreciated by Mr. R.T. Van Ettisch, managing editor of The Los Angeles Examiner.

LOS ANGELES, CALIF

Yours very truly,

Ray Richards
Chief of Bureau.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

91

162-82622-39
MAR 6 1947

CRIME REC.

NEW YORK JOURNAL-AMERICAN
DETROIT TIMES
LOS ANGELES EXAMINER
LOS-ANGELES HERALD-EXPRESS

BALTIMORE NEWS-POST
BALTIMORE AMERICAN
BOSTON RECORD AND AMERICAN

BOSTON ADVERTISER
PITTSBURGH SUN-TELEGRAPH
SAN FRANCISCO CALL-BULLETIN

SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER
MILWAUKEE SENTINEL
SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER

CHICAGO HERALD-AMERICAN
OAKLAND POST-ENQUIRER
SAN ANTONIO LIGHT
ALBANY TIMES-UNION

January 30, 1947

RECORDED

INDEXED

39
Mr. Ray Richards
Washington Correspondent
Hearst Newspapers
Times-Herald Building, Room 607
Washington 5, D. C.

Dear Mr. Richards:

Your letter dated January 23, 1947,
* has been received and I want to thank you for
making the enclosed tearsheet from the Los
Angeles Examiner available to me. I am in-
deed pleased that my comments were gratifying
to Mr. Van Ettisch because the Examiner de-
serves real commendation for its cooperative
service in this case.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

E. J. Connelley

NOTE: Mr. R. T. Van Ettisch is managing editor
of the Los Angeles Examiner-per Mr. Richards' letter.

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

FRY:dn

JAN 31 4 04 PM '47

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Los Angeles, California
February 25, 1947

Director, FBI

ATTENTION: IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

RE: ^PELIZABETH SHORT
"BLACK DAHLIA" MURDER IN LOS ANGELES
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Dear Sir:

The manner in which ELIZABETH SHORT's body was dissected has indicated the possibility that the murderer was a person somewhat experienced in medical work. The Los Angeles Police Department has undertaken to develop suspects among the medical and dental schools in the area, as well as among other students who have anything to do with human anatomy.

The University of Southern California Medical School was reluctant to turn over a list of their students to the police department without being assured that the names would not be indexed into police or FBI records as suspects in the case. This assurance has been given them.

I am enclosing two copies of a list of the University of Southern California medical students, giving the name, address, ^{present} ~~permanent~~ date and Army or Navy compensation number where known. Those students with "c" numbers are in school under the G.I. Bill of Rights. It is requested that the Bureau search these names through the criminal record indices and in the event any criminal record is determined for any of these men, a copy is requested to be sent air mail to this office.

It will be noted that eight names are preceded with an asterisk. In these cases, if a fingerprint card is located for the individual, it is requested that a photographic copy of fingerprints be furnished to this office by air mail as the Los Angeles Police Department Crime Laboratory has compared the handwriting of these individuals with notes received in the case and has concluded that there is some similarity and they would like to be able to compare latent fingerprints also.

I feel that we can be of much assistance to the Los Angeles Police Department in this case and the Bureau's expeditious attention to this project will be sincerely appreciated by them. **RECORDED 62-39127-40**

At the completion of the Bureau's search, it is requested that the list be destroyed or returned to the Los Angeles Office.

Very truly yours,

R. B. Hood
R. B. HOOD, SAC.



JOB: AB
62-29205
Encs. 2
AIR MAIL

COPIES DESTROYED
332 NOV 18 1964

SAC, Los Angeles

February 28, 1947

Director, FBI

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

RECORDED

ELIZABETH SMOOT
"BLACK DANIEL" MURDER IN LOS ANGELES
INFORMATION CONCERNING
Your File #62-2928

Reference is made to your letter of February 25, 1947, relative to the above subject matter, enclosing a list of the names of the University of Southern California medical students.

In accordance with your request these names are being searched through the files of the Identification Division and upon completion of this search the results will be furnished to you. At that time the list of names will be forwarded to you for appropriate disposal.

For your information the Identification Division Single Fingerprint Section will compare the photographic latent prints which are in their possession with the records as they are located.

AIR MAIL

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

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Date recorded: 3-5-47 2:00 PM

Single Fingerprint Report

Case: RE: ELIZABETH SHORT
"BLACK DAHLIA" MURDER IN LOS ANGELES
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Number: 62-82627 -40-

Specimens: One list of approximately 300 individuals submitted. (with copy)
It is requested that the fingerprints of the individuals listed
in instant letter be compared with latents previously submitted in this case.

Examination requested by: SAC, Los Angeles

Date received: 3-5-47 amb

Date of reference communication: 2-25-47

Examination requested: Fingerprint

Result of examination:

Examination by: Robyak

EXPEDITE

*Cpts. of 254 indiv compared with latents
just sub. - 200
Dictated 3-5-47*

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

March 6, 1947

SAC, Los Angeles

Director, FBI

REGISTERED MAIL

ELIZABETH SHORT
"BLACK DAFILIA" MURDER IN LOS ANGELES
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Reference is made to your letter of February 25, 1947, submitting a list bearing the names of students enrolled in the Medical School of the University of Southern California and requesting that these names be searched through the criminal indices of the Identification Division in connection with the above-entitled matter, your file #62-2928.

You are advised that no criminal records were located for the individuals whose names are marked with an asterisk. However, non-criminal fingerprint cards were located for nine of these individuals, photographic copies of which are enclosed as requested.

A search of the remaining names on the list has resulted in the location of criminal records for three individuals who may be identical with the persons named in your letter. Transcripts of their records are enclosed.

Non-criminal fingerprint records were also located for 217 other individuals and their fingerprints, as well as those mentioned above, were compared with the five latent fingerprints previously submitted in connection with the instant case, but no identifications were effected.

For your information, red check marks appear on the returned lists before the names of individuals for whom fingerprint cards were located. It should be noted that no fingerprints are available for 28 individuals.

Enclosures

JH:CJO

RECORDED

62-82627-40

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
★ MAR 8 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

61 MAR 29 1947

Assignment, Chris M. M. M. M.

Paula Weldon Bennington, Vermont disappeared

Michael Martin
Blue Point
Long Island

*lp
1-10*

alias
Blue Point Vance
Philo Vance

Blue Point
Long Island

killer [Ⓢ]
of Elizabeth Short
Los Angeles

Michael Martin ~~Schwab~~

Northport, Long Island
Babylon

Long Island Phone Book

77-18748-148

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-82627-41

F B I

58 MAR 11 1947

EX-11

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

SAC, Los Angeles

February 27, 1947

Director, FBI

UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ELIZABETH SHORT - VICTIM
MURDER

RECORDED

7-41

EX-1

Enclosed is a transcript of an anonymous communication received at the Bureau which makes reference to the murder of the captioned victim. You should submit such information to the Los Angeles Police Department for such action as that agency deems advisable.

Attached with a copy of this letter for the Boston Field Division is a transcript of this anonymous communication which also makes reference to the disappearance of Paula Welden. In view of the nature of the anonymous communication, it is not believed advisable for the Boston Field Division to initiate any investigation on the basis of this letter.

cc: Boston (enclosure)

Enclosure

JTL:dlr

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

454 South Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, 13 California
Feb. 26, 1947

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

97830

Dear Sir:-

Elizabeth "SHORT"

As you know, the Black Dahlia case has been quickly hushed up, and apparently all covered up. No effort was really made to bring the culprit to justice. His name ~~Mr.~~ Hawkins - and his room number here - 405 - and all of his dirty work, are well known to the police but the rascal is still here in 405 and begging the new landlords - Mr. and Mrs Naylor - to stay! He was supposed to have left by the 18th - by order of the sheriff. As for any material evidence being now available, that is possibly out of the question. For the firemen and police have been here many times "cleaning" up after Mr. Hawkins. I saw an old mattress being brought into the house here from a truck - marked M 62 on the back left corner - on the first of Feb. about 12:30 p.m. . The new landlady says the firemen have found an enormous amount of old papers between this house and the next - corner restaurant and saloons - and that they have been clearing them out. The strip is only a couple of feet or so wide and directly under Mr. Hawkins' fourth floor windows. The Hoover Hotel Company that run this place for Mrs. Striker who owns it, know about these goings-on of Mr. Hawkins and tried to evict Mrs Bernice Benjamin whom they accused of talking too much. They are almost as kind to old Hawkins as are the police. This was not Mr. Hawkins' first offense. I heard on good authority from several sources here in the house, that a woman who had been with the "Old Policeman" - as they call Hawkins - was shoved when drunk from the roof or 4th floor and taken to the hospital - probably the same ambulance that took the Black Dahlia. Another affair that took place in his room and ended down in a book-store or Magazine shop below my window on 5th, st. and which was quickly hushed up - and the store vacated; now being used to store liquor - was more than suspicious. I will never forget that poor store-keeper's wife's screaming and being suddenly choked still, as long as I live! The old man with the white dog called Michel, that used to live here and who talked too much about this affair, has now disappeared. I am told he is in a hospital from liquor poisoning!

Hoping this information may be of service,

Sincerely
Edith R. Thomas.

RECORDED 67-8262742

(4)
MAJ
-8

6/1/47
2/1/47

March 4, 1947

RECORDED

INDEXED

E. L. R. THOMAS

Miss Edith L. B. Thomas
454 South Figueroa Street
Los Angeles 13, California

E. L. R. - 5

Dear Miss Thomas:

Your letter dated February 28, 1947, has been received and I want to thank you for making this information available to me. The matter you mention does not come within the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau but I am referring your comments to appropriate local authorities.

Sincerely yours,

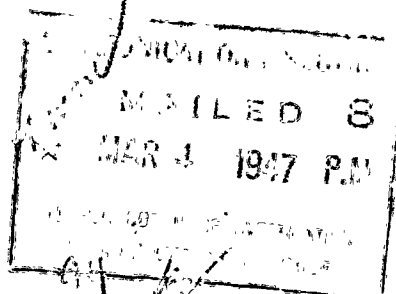
John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc: Los Angeles, with two copies of incoming.
Attention, SAC: For your information and referral to appropriate local authorities.

NOTE: No record on this correspondent located in general indices.

FRY:hmm

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



62 MAR 18 1947

FROM

DO-7

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO
OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

Mr. Tolson ✓ ()
Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓ ()
Mr. Clegg ✓ ()
Mr. Glavin ✓ ()
Mr. Ladd ✓ ()
Mr. Nichols ✓ ()
Mr. Rosen ✓ ()
Mr. Tracy ✓ ()
Mr. Carson ✓ ()
Mr. Gurnea ✓ ()
Mr. Harbo ✓ ()
Mr. Hendon ✓ ()
Mr. Nease ✓ ()
Miss Gandy ✓ ()

See Me ✓ ()
Note and Return ✓ ()
For Your Recommendation ✓ ()
What are the facts? ✓ ()

Remarks:

Set me know
result of present
reconsideration
this outfit is
giving & our re-
quest.
H.

62-82057-43

FROM

DO-7

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

Mr. Tolson ☒ ()
 Mr. E. A. Tamm ☐ ()
 Mr. Clegg ☐ ()
 Mr. Glavin ☐ ()
 Mr. Ladd ☐ ()
 Mr. Nichols ☐ ()
 Mr. Rosen ☐ ()
 Mr. Tracy ☐ ()
 Mr. Carson ☐ ()
 Mr. Gurnea ☐ ()
 Mr. Harbo ☐ ()
 Mr. Hendon ☐ ()
 Mr. Nease ☐ ()
 Miss Gandy ☐ ()
 See Me ☐ ()
 Note and Return ☐ ()
 For Your Recommendation ☐ ()
 What are the facts? ☐ ()
 Remarks:

*Why don't we
 include Page
 case? It is a
 flagrant one &
 Miller wanted
 some cases cited
 H.*

*done
 26-47
 2-26*

97 62-82627-43

Examiner for Slaying Case Aid

In a news release announcing the identification late last night the FBI gave the Los Angeles Examiner sole credit for bringing about the identification in record time.

The release explained that the Examiner, cooperating with the Los Angeles Police Department, sent the girl's 10 fingerprints to Washington over the instantaneous Sound-photo system of International News Photos.

They were sped to the FBI's identification section by the Washington Bureau of the Hearst Newspapers, where, among 104,000,000 separate fingerprints, they were identified as those of Elizabeth Short, former clerk in a military post exchange at Camp Cooke, Calif.

Thus California authorities were enabled to take up

the pursuit of the slayer, an individual so brutal that he had hacked the girl's face and torso and cut the body in two.

In the FBI Washington records the case was entered as a "spectacular identification," meaning one achieved under extraordinary circumstances.

Only rarely in the past has an attempt been made to transmit fingerprints by telegraph or telephone wires and never so successfully as in the case of Elizabeth Short.

FBI officials said the perfect clarity of INP transmission alone made it possible for FBI identification experts to reconstruct the blank spots and other defects in prints offered by the dead girl's fingers.

FBI Mead Lands

By RAY RICHARDS

Los Angeles Examiner Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—Congratulations and thanks of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the identification of a girl murder victim were extended to the Los Angeles Examiner today by the agency's director, J. Edgar Hoover.

Hoover said:

"The action of the Los Angeles Examiner in transmitting to the FBI the fingerprints of the unidentified murder victim was an excellent illustration of cooperation of the press with law enforcement.

"It is such cooperation that aids law enforcement in curbing the increase in crime."

J. EDGAR HOOVER

FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY
SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.
Zone 25

January 31, 1947

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am replying to your letter of January 28, 1947, which Mr. C. O. Lynum delivered to us, in which you request information from our records concerning the employment of Elizabeth Short.

The subject of such requests has been previously discussed with the Department of Justice; you may recall that early in 1937, your department requested access to our records for the location of individuals suspected of criminal acts. At that time, every consideration was given to the request but because of the Social Security Board's often-repeated public pledge that information furnished would be used only for the purposes of the Social Security Act, and after consulting with other governmental agencies, representatives of organized labor, and others, the request was denied. Since that time we have followed the policy of refusing to furnish confidential information from our records except for the purposes of administering the Act. An exception was made, however, in our agreement whereby your department has been furnished information when such disclosures would be in the interest of the successful prosecution of the war.

Supporting this policy Congress, in the 1939 amendments to the Social Security Act, enacted Section 1106 which provides that the records of the Social Security Board (now the Social Security Administration) shall be regarded as confidential and that no disclosures thereof may be made except as the Board may by regulations prescribe. Regulation I, adopted in conformity with this statute, prescribes what information may be disclosed and to whom.

Although I appreciate entirely your desire for such information I regret that the request, in accordance with this Regulation, is not one for which an exception may be made.

RECORDED

Sincerely yours,

162-52627-43

37 MAR 12 1947

W. L. Mitchell
Acting Commissioner

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

FROM : MR. EDW. A. TAMM

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
ELIZABETH SHORT - VICTIM
MURDER.

DATE: 1-31-47

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

You will recall we addressed a letter to the Social Security Administration requesting their assistance by furnishing record information in their possession to assist in locating a suspect in the very vicious murder of Elizabeth Short which occurred just recently in California and has received so much publicity. We are now in receipt of the reply which is a rather verbose declination based on a regulation prescribed by the Social Security Board. It is attached.

During the war, Social Security furnished us information on cases directly concerned with the "successful prosecution of the war". You will recall that just recently they wrote to the Attorney General and stated since the President's proclamation terminating hostilities, this cooperation could now be honored only when we certify that the case in question grew out of the war. We accordingly directed a memorandum to the Attorney General protesting the lack of cooperation on the part of Social Security and pointing out that we now have cases which are of at least as grave concern to the security of the country as during the war and asking him to make every effort to effect arrangements whereby we could secure this invaluable information.

There are attached for your approval a teletype to Los Angeles advising that Social Security has refused to furnish the information needed by the police and a memorandum to the Attorney General advising of this incident to supplement our previous memorandum.

Attachments

JKM:ml

cc-Mr. Ladd
Mr. Rosen

HANDLED BY
ATTORNEY

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

RECORDED

MAR 20 1947

62-63427-43

62-49264-221

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

MARCH 24, 1947

Transmit the following message to:

SAC, PHILADELPHIA

URGENT

UNSUB, ELIZABETH SHORT, WA, VICTIM, INFORMATION CONCERNING. CONDUCT INVESTIGATION
AS REQUESTED LOS ANGELES WIRE MARCH TWENTYONE.

HOOVER

CC LOS ANGELES

CJM:OD

INITIALED IN
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

COPIES DESTROYED
332 NOV 18 1964.

Tolson _____
E. A. Tamm _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Carson _____
Egan _____
Gendron _____
Pennington _____
Quinn Tamm _____
Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

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

MAR 24 1947

TELETYPE

61 MAR 31 1947

Per *gh*

MAR 24 5 59 PM '47
RECEIVED READING ROOM

K.C.
3-18 gm
3-30
Encl-20 AS

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. E. A. TAMM

DATE: 3-22-47

FROM : A. Rosen

Call: 9:15 A.M.

SUBJECT:

UNKNOWN SUBJECT; ELIZABETH
SHORT, a.k.a. Black Dahlia, Victim
 INFORMATION CONCERNING

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

Based upon the request which was made by the Los Angeles Division of our Philadelphia Office to conduct investigation in connection with the "Black Dahlia" case, I called Philadelphia and instructed them that upon the basis of the information available to the Bureau, we did not desire any additional inquiries made in this case.

The attached wire reflects that the Los Angeles Police Department desires our cooperation. They have found out through their own inquiries that the victim in the "Black Dahlia" case, Betty Short, was married to one Vetcher. Vetcher is in the Army, and although the Army reports reflect that Vetcher was present each day during the pertinent period, the Los Angeles Police Department still desires that he be interviewed.

83-121
 We have not conducted any investigation in this case and I do not think we ought to enter it at this late date. The Philadelphia Office was instructed not to conduct any investigation and unless advised to the contrary, they will not. If approved, a wire should be sent to our Los Angeles Office advising that no inquiries are to be conducted in this case as previously instructed and that, of course, our Laboratory facilities are available. There is no reason to change these plans at this time.

1 TH... WE...
 STAY OUT...

I think we might
 well do this.

Enl

2.

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

February 1, 1947

Jillson

In addition to the attached Memorandum from Mr. Tamm to Mr. Hoover and the letter from Mr. W.L. Mitchell, Acting Commissioner of the Social Security Administration, is a copy of the Memorandum which was sent to the Attorney General per the Director's instructions.

The wire mentioned in Mr. Tamm's memorandum was sent to SAC Hood pursuant to the Director's instructions.

Mr. Hoover asked that this memorandum and the copy of the memorandum to the Attorney General be left on his desk.

This is outrageous. I want careful memo prepared which I can use before Appropriations Com. on this.

rpk

RECORDED

H.

66

58 MAR 20 1947

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. E. Tamm ✓
Mr. Clegg ✓
Mr. Glavin ✓
Mr. Ladd ✓
Mr. Nichols ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Tracy ✓
Mr. Carson ✓
Mr. Egan ✓
Mr. Gurnea ✓
Mr. Harbo ✓
Mr. Hendon ✓
Mr. Jones ✓
Mr. Pennington ✓
Tele. Room ✓
Mr. Nease ✓

Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

40264

44

62-836-1-44
57 MAR 12 1947

62

PAR 1 1947

TELETYPE

CONF WASH 9 AND PHILA 1 FROM LOSA 21 3-42 PM

✓ DIRECTOR AND SAC, PHILADELPHIA URGENT

UNKNOWN SUBJECT, ELIZABETH SHORT, ~~KAKK~~ AKA 'BLACK DAHLIA', VICTIM,
INFO CONCERNING. VICTIMS MUTILATED BODY FOUND LA JAN. FIFTEEN
LAST. INFO DEVELOPED BY LAPD INDICATING THAT SERG. P.A. VETCHER,
ASN THREE TWO ONE EIGHT-THREE NINE FOUR NAUGHT, IS LIKELY SUSPECT
IN THIS MURDER. AS COOPERATIVE MEASURE AND UNLESS ADVISED TO
CONTRARY BY BUREAU, IT IS REQUESTED PHILADELPHIA INTERVIEW
VETCHER. VETCHER TRANSFERRED FROM FROT MC CLELLAN, ALABAMA ON
JAN. TWENTYEIGHT LAST TO ROOM TWO NAUGHT ONE SOUTH OFFICE BLDG.,
TWO FIVE NAUGHT TWO ARMY SERVICE UNIT, HARRISBURG, PA. AS NATIONAL
GUARD INSTRUCTOR AND PRESENTLY ~~BEING~~ BELIEVED THERE. LT. JOHN P.
ONEIL, THIRTYFOUR TUFTS ST., MEDFORD, MASS., WHICH IS ALSO HOME
TOWN OF VICTIM, RECEIVED TWO ~~POSTCARDS~~ POST CARDS POSTMARKED SEPT.
TWENTYONE LAST FROM EAST VERNON ~~P.O.~~ P.O. STATION, LA. ONE CARD
SIGNED BY VICTIM BETTY SHORT VETCHER, STATING THAT SHE WAS
MARRIED TO PETER VETCHER WHO WAS A FRIEND OF
JOHN P. ONEIL AND THAT WAS AT THAT TIME LIVING IN HOLLYWOOD AND
VERY HAPPY. SECOND CARD TO ONEIL SIGNED BY PETE VETCHER IN WHICH
HE STATED THAT HE HAD MARRIED A FORMER GIRL FRIEND OF ONEIL,
WAS HAPPILY MARRIED AND LIVING WITH HER IN HOLLYWOOD. RECEIPT OF
CARDS BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES WAS FIRST INDICATION THAT VETCHER WAS
EVER ASSOCIATED WITH VICTIM. TEL FROM BIRMINGHAM STATES THAT
OFFICIAL MORNING REPORTS CO. "B", FORT MCCLELLAN REFLECT VETCHER
~~Present~~ EACH DAY FROM JAN. ONE TO JAN. TWENTYEIGHT IN SPITE
OF THIS APPARENT ALIBI OF VETCHER LOCAL AUTHORITIES DESIRE THAT HE
BE ~~INTERVIEW~~ INTERVIEWED EXTENSIVELY AS FOLLOWS. WHEN, WHERE AND
END PAGE ONE

SL 12

62-82627-45

PAGE TWO

CIRCUMSTANCES OF MEETING VICTIM. DATE, PLACE AND LENGTH OF MARR-
IAGE AND HONEYMOON. RES^dENCE AND ALL FRIENDS OR ~~ACQUAIN~~ ACQUAIN-
TANCES SHE MAY H^aVE HAD. CIRCUMSTANC^eIS SURROUNDING THE WRITING
~~of~~ ^{of} ABOVE MENTIONED POST CARDS TO ONEIL. ALSO WHETHER OR NOT
VICTIM HAD EVER EXPRESSED FEAR OF ANY ONE TO VETCHER. IN VIEW OF
NATION WIDE PUBLICITY ASCERTAIN WHY VETCHER DID NOT VOLUNTEER

EITHER HIS MARRIAGE TO OR ACQUAINTANCE WITH SHORT. VICTIMS WHERE-
ABOUTS NOT ACCOUNTED FOR FROM JAN. NINE LAST UNTIL HER BADLY
MUTILATED BODY FOUND IN SOUTH END OF LA IN EMPTY LOT. ASCERTAIN
FROM VETCHER WHEN HE LAST SAW AND HEARD FROM SHORT AND ANY AND
ALL INFO THAT MIGHT BE OF ASSISTANCE IN INSTANT INVESTIGATION.

SUTEL INFO REQUESTED.

HCCD

END ACK PLS

Transmitted to Rile

WASH FROM LOSA 3 3-18 1054 PM

DIRECTOR URGENT

MURDER OF ELIZABETH SHORT, AKA, BLACK DAHLIA, INFO CONCERNING LOCAL
POLICE HAVE VERY LIKELY SUSPECT, SGT. P. A. VETCHER, CASN THREE TWO
ONE EIGHT THREE NINE FOUR NAUGHT, ~~XXXX~~ LAST KNOWN TO BE ASSIGNED TO
CO. B, TWENTYEIGHTH BN, THIRD RGT, FT. MC CLELLAN, ALABAMA. REQUEST
APPROPRIATE INQUIRIES BE MADE TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER INSTANT SUSPECT
PRESENTLY IN ARMY AND IF POSSIBLE, WHERE ASSIGNED DURING MONTH OF JAN-
UARY LAST.

HOOD

B

at

✓
1-3
17/8

RECORDED

SE 26

INDEXED

EX-20

32

MAR 20 1947

ack by wire
RHC: gas
3/18/47

one
ST-RN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1947

✓ The Director

Mr. Tolson

Mr. Ladd

Mr. Rosen

Mr. Clegg

Mr. Glavin

Mr. Nichols

Mr. Tracy

Mr. Harbo

Mr. Hendon

Mr. Pennington

Mr. Quinn Tamm

Mr. Nease

Mr. Coyne

Miss Gandy

Mr. Carson

Miss Gray

Miss Lyon

Miss Butcher

See Me

Records Section

Personnel Files

Send File

Bring file up-
to-date

Search, serial-
ize, and route

Reading Room

Mechanical Section

Bureau Supply Section

Mail Room

Call me re this

Note and return

File

Stamp and mail

Prepare tickler

Call these files

Edward A. Tamm

5734

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

91 &
INDEXED

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION. 3/18/47

Transmit the following message to: SAC, LOS ANGELES

URGENT

MURDER OF ELIZABETH SHORT, AKA, BLACK DAMELIA, INFO CONCERNING, RETEL MARCH EIGHTEENTH. FILES OF THE AGO INDICATE PETER ANTHONY VETCHER, ASN THREE TWO ONE EIGHT THREE NINE FOUR NAUGHT, REENLISTED NOVEMBER TWENTY, FORTY FIVE, FOR THREE YEARS AT NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, AS FIRST SERGEANT. HIS FILE REFLECTS A LETTER DATED NOVEMBER TWELFTH, FORTY SIX, FROM THE HONORABLE DANIEL J. FLOOD, MEMBER OF CONGRESS, REQUESTING THE COOPERATION OF THE WAR DEPARTMENT IN THE TRANSFER OF VETCHER TO THE NATIONAL GUARD UNIT, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, IN THE CAPACITY OF INSTRUCTOR STATING THAT VETCHER HAD ALREADY APPLIED FOR TRANSFER THROUGH OFFICIAL CHANNELS. IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO DETERMINE WHERE VETCHER WAS ASSIGNED IN JANUARY. THE LATEST ASSIGNMENT CARD IN FILE DATED NOVEMBER THIRTY, FORTY SIX, SHOWS VETCHER ASSIGNED COMPANY B, TWENTY EIGHTH INFANTRY TRAINING BATTALION, FORT MCCLELLAN, ALABAMA, HOWEVER, THERE IS A LETTER DATED FEBRUARY TWENTY FOUR, FORTY SEVEN, SIGNED BY VETCHER FROM THE OFFICE OF SENIOR INSTRUCTOR, HEADQUARTERS, ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH INFANTRY, POST OFFICE BOX EIGHTEEN, WASHINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA, ADVISING THAT THIS WAS NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS. AN ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO VERIFY THIS AS VETCHER'S PRESENT STATION BUT THE ROSTERS FOR THIS ORGANIZATION HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVED. BORN APRIL TWENTY NINTH, NINETEEN FIFTEEN, HUDSON, PENNSYLVANIA, WHITE, SIXTY NINE INCHES, ONE FIFTY TWO POUNDS, GREY EYES, BROWN HAIR, RUDDY COMPLEXION, TATTOO RIGHT FOREARM, NEXT OF KIN, MOTHER, ANNA YOROSKY, TWENTY ONE HANCOCK STREET, PLAINS, PENNSYLVANIA, RESIDENCE

SAME AS MOTHER.

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

SENT VIA

RHC:GAS

COPIES DESTROYED

888 NOV 18 1964

Received in mess unit
3/18/47 at 6:30 P.M.
MAR 18 1947
7:46 PM

HOOVER

Per

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

W. J. [Signature]
 G. I. [Signature] R

Benzedrinist Hops Up New 'Dahlia' Confession

By United Press

ST. LOUIS, March 24—A blood-stained handkerchief and a revised "confession" which may link 23-year-old Melvin Bailey with the mutilation-murder of Elizabeth (Black Dahlia) Short were en route to Los Angeles police today.

The handkerchief, given police by Bailey, was found yesterday to have been stained with human blood several weeks ago. Bailey claims it is Miss Short's handkerchief and her blood and that he carried it, as a "keepsake" after slashing and cutting her body in two with an eight inch Marine combat knife.

TO CHECK BLOOD STAINS

Bailey, who made his first confession March 18, changed his statement adding more details to the gruesome story he told of mutilating the girl's body because she refused to accompany him from Los Angeles to St. Louis.

His new statement did not correct the original discrepancy in the dates. Miss Short's body was found January 15, and police said she was dead less than 12 hours. Bailey claims he killed the girl January 13.

Los Angeles police will attempt to determine if the blood on the handkerchief is the same type as that of Miss Short.

Bailey said on the night of Jan-

uary 12 he and Miss Short began a round of nightclubs. She drank liquor, he said, while he consumed benzedrine and coffee "for a lift."

Later, Bailey said, he and Miss Short took a drive in a stolen auto. During the ride, he said, they argued about the St. Louis trip.

BURNED HIS CLOTHING

Bailey said he stopped the car along the Long Beach road near the shore. After more arguments, he knocked Miss Short unconscious and carried her body down to the beach, slashed her repeatedly across the breasts, abdomen and groin, and then cut her body in two.

He used a blanket, he said, to wash the body, dipping it in the ocean several times and returning to sponge off her skin.

Bailey said he returned to Los Angeles and drove around until he reached the intersection of a "rather broad street" and Santa Barbara Blvd. There he found a vacant lot where he placed the body, putting a white flower from her hair into her hands.

Later that morning, Bailey said he went to San Francisco and obtained an auto ride to St. Louis. He said he burned his blood-soaked clothing near Oklahoma City, but did not remember what he had done with the girl's clothing.

[Handwritten signature]

INDEXED 1-2-82627-11
 472 26 1047

APR 9 1937

MAR 24 1937

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CG-150

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

4-2-47

G. I. R. 4

EX-50 Transmit the following message to: SAC, LOS ANGELES

URGENT

U. CONDESRURTEL APRIL ONE, ELIZABETH SHORT, BLACK DABLIA, INFO CONCERNING. NAVY

INDEXED DEPARTMENT ADVISES RICHARD JOHN RICE, SEVEN FIVE TWO DASH SIX NINE DASH

NINE THREE. ARRIVED SHANGHAI, CHINA, JANUARY EIGHT BOARD USS T'USSIG.

DEPARTED FROM THERE JANUARY SEVENTEEN. ARRIVED TAI GTAO, CHINA ON

EIGHTEEN. ARRIVED GUAM FEBRUARY ONE.

HOOVER

JCH:wew

*Rec'd in mess. unit
4/2/47 at 5:30 P.M. D.E.R.*

COPIES DESTROYED

832 NOV 18 1964

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

SENT VIA

Per

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

APR 1 1947

TELEMETER

WASH FROM LOSA 7 1 1-55 PM

DIRECTOR URGENT

ELIZABETH² SHORT, AKA BLACK DAHLIA, VICTIM MURDER, INFO CONC
LOCAL AUTHORITIES DESIRE TO KNOW WHERE SUSPECT RICHARD J. RICE
ASSIGNED DURING JAN FORTY SEVEN. RICE ~~XXXX~~ PRESENTLY ASSIGNED
E DIVISION, USS TAUSSIG, DD SEVEN FOUR SIX, CARE FLEET POST OFFICE,
AND FRANCISCO, AND NS BELIEVED TO BE SEVEN FIVE ONE SIX NINE
NINE THREE. REQUEST CHECK OF ~~NAVAL~~ NAVAL RECORDS FOR DESIRED
INFO AND SUTEL.

HOOD

ACK PLS

Called Laboratory

Mr. Brown

By cew

EX-50
RECORDED
&
INDEXED

12-82627-47

ack-4-2-47
JW: [unclear]

13

One [unclear]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Mr. G. L. [unclear]

DATE: April 25, 1947

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ELIZABETH SHORT, with alias - VICTIM
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Reference is made to the Bureau's communication to Philadelphia of April 22, 1947.

In response to Los Angeles teletype dated March 21, 1947, it was ascertained that the service record of Sergeant ~~PETER H. VETCHER~~, maintained at the Twenty-eighth Division Instructors Office, Harrisburg, Pa., reflected he was assigned to Camp McClellan, Alabama from Fort Robinson, Arkansas on July 19, 1946. He left Camp McClellan on January 28, 1947 and reported to the Twenty-eighth Division Headquarters, Harrisburg, Pa., on February 6, 1947. He is presently assigned at the Senior Instructors Headquarters, 111th Infantry, P. O. Box 18, Washington, Pa. He was assigned to Headquarters, Company #1, IRTC, while at Camp McClellan until January 10, 1947, when he was carried on the records as attached until January 28, when he left for Harrisburg.

The only furloughs reported are -

November 27, 1945 to February '25, 1946
May 13, 1946 to June 2, 1946
July 19, 1946 to August 11, 1946

The information as noted above was brought to the attention of the Pittsburgh Office by teletype on March 25, 1947, said teletype incorporating the information received by this office in Los Angeles teletype of March 21, 1947, along with the fact that the Bureau, by teletype of March 24, 1947, had authorized the investigation, as was requested by Los Angeles. The results of Pittsburgh's investigation are not known to this office.

FIK:AVL
62-2223

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

EX-57

Ltr. Pgh
a f.a
Cm 1/8/47

Best
Copy

cc Mr. Rosen
Mr. Martin

May 6, 1947

SAC, Pittsburgh

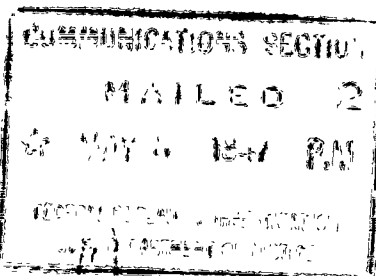
Director, FBI

RE: [redacted] ST;
[redacted], with alias, VICTIM.
[redacted]

You are requested to inform us to the results of the investigation conducted by you relative to Sergeant Peter H. Vetcher, as requested by Philadelphia Division teletype of March 29, 1947.

cc Los Angeles

RECORDED 62-2127 48
EX-19
CJH/rh



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

cc Mr. Rosen
cc Mr. Martin

SAC, Philadelphia

April 22, 1947

Director, FBI

UNKNOWN SUBJECT; ELIZABETH WARD,
IRVING ARCADE, VICTIM
INVESTIGATION CONCERNING

Please furnish by return mail the results of the investigation conducted by you pursuant to the request contained in the teletype message from the Los Angeles Division dated March 21, 1947.

cc Los Angeles

CJM/rh

RECORDED

EX-67

62-82627-49

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1947	
FBI - PHILADELPHIA	

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

May 7, 1947.
252 North Fullerton ave
Montclair N. J.

Egar Hoover.

Dear Mr Hoover. Franklin D. Roosevelt

As a Citizen of united states I suspect the
killer of the black dahlia I may be wrong. But
In 1946 I took my Social security No.
And took \$70 dollars of me he claims he's extra
In the motion picture he promised me he would make
an actor out of me he is 5 feet 8 rough face weigh
145 pound dark brown complexion black mustache and
Black hair the last time I seen him was in July 1946.
If you wish to have someone to talk to me or
write to me. I shall be very happy. If I could be
helpful to you.

Louis F. Mondaco

ack Los Angeles (incoming)
cc cc [unclear]
CD m 5/12/47

I have a pleasure to hear from you soon
with kind regards

I Remain
Louis F. Mondaco
Ret.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

162-72627-50
F B I
31 MAY 9 1947

May 12, 1947

Mr. Louis F. Monaco
252 North Fullerton Avenue
Montclair, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Monaco:

I have received your letter of May 7, 1947 furnishing information relative to an individual whom you believe may be identical with the killer of Elizabeth Short also known as the "Black Dahlia". As the investigation in this matter is being conducted by the Police Department at Los Angeles, California, I am taking the liberty of referring a copy of your letter to that organization.

Your courtesy and interest in communicating with this Bureau are appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc Newark (with copy of incoming)
cc Los Angeles (with copy of incoming) - An additional copy of the incoming letter from Mr. Monaco is furnished herewith so that you may transmit the same to the Police Department, Los Angeles, California.

RECORDED

CJM:FE

62-82637-1

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 12 1947
RECEIVED

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

116

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. ROSEN

FROM : C. J. MARTIN

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
ELIZABETH SHORT, aka Black Dahlia, VICTIM
MURDER - INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: May 16, 1947

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

The Los Angeles Division has requested authorization for investigation to be conducted by the Chicago Division as a matter of cooperation with the Los Angeles Police Department. The request is to interview three persons whose names appeared in the personal address book of the victim.

Los Angeles has also requested Chicago to furnish the facts relative to the mutilation murder of Lucille Kietzman by Soccorro Villagran, a soldier at Chanute Field, Illinois, who was questioned by the Sheriff at Urbana, Illinois, relative to his possible implication in the Elizabeth Short slaying.

OBSERVATION

On March 21, 1947, Los Angeles, upon a request of the Los Angeles Police Department, requested that Philadelphia interview Sergeant Peter A. Vetcher, husband of Elizabeth Short, and considered a likely suspect. Although the recommendation was made that we not conduct such investigation and not enter into the investigation at this late date, the Director commented "I think we might well do this."

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Chicago be authorized to conduct the three interviews. If you concur, there is attached a teletype to the Chicago Division.

Attachment

CJM/rh

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

EX-29

62-726-7-51

MAY 20 1947

MAY 15 1947

TELETYPE

TX 5-4 4 PM

WASH 10 CHICAGO 1 FROM LOSA 15

DIRECTOR AND SAC CHICAGO URGENT

ELIZABETH SHORT, AKA BLACK DAHLIA, VICTIM MUTILATION MURDER, INFO
CONCERNING. BUREAU AUTHORIZATION REQUESTED FOR CHICAGO CONDUCT
INQUIRY AS MATTER OF COOPERATION LAPD AS REQUESTED LA TEL TO CHICAGO
DATED MAY TWELVE LAST REQUESTING INTERVIEW OF THREE INDIVIDUALS
LISTED IN PERSONAL ADDRESS BOOK OF VICTIM. CHICAGO ALSO REQUESTED
FURNISH AMSD FACTS CONCERNING MUTILATION MURDER LUCILLE KIETZMAN BY
SOCCORRO VILLAGRAN, A SOLDIER AT CHANUTE FIELD CONCERNING WHICH
SHERIFF, URBANA , ILL, RELATED SUBJECT WOULD BE QUESTIONED CONCERNING
BLACK DAHLIA SLAYING, LA.

HOOD.

END

RECORDED

INDEXED

62-72627 52

29

cc Mr. Rosen
Mr. McCabe
Mr. Martin

MAY 16, 1947

SAC, CHICAGO

U R G E N T

52

RECORDED
EX-29
UNSUB, ELIZABETH SHORT, AKA BLACK DAME, VICTIM, MURDER. INFO CONCERNING.
AUTHORIZATION GRANTED TO CONDUCT INVESTIGATION OUTLINED LOS ANGELES WIRE
MAY FIFTEEN.

Hoover

cc Los Angeles (regular mail)

62-82627

GJM/rh

6-11-47

COPIES DESTROYED
332 NOV 18 1964

MAY 16 3 16 PM '47
FBI - CHICAGO

[Handwritten signature]

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

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

105
TO : MR. E. A. TAMM
FROM : R. A. Rosen
SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; ELIZABETH SHORT,
aka Black Dahlia, VICTIM
INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: May 20, 1947

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

The Los Angeles Police Department informed the Los Angeles Division that Sergeant Peter A. Vetcher was considered a likely suspect in connection with the murder of the above victim based on two postcards postmarked September 21, 1946 to John P. O'Neil, Medford, Massachusetts, the victim signing one as Betty Short Vetcher and the other signed by Peter Vetcher indicated that they were married and living in Hollywood. O'Neil was acquainted with the victim when she resided in Medford, Massachusetts. Although military records indicated Vetcher was on duty at Ft. McClellan, Alabama during the pertinent period the Los Angeles Police Department requested that Vetcher be interviewed for them. CH

Sergeant Vetcher was interviewed by the Pittsburgh Division at which time he informed that during 1946 while with the Army he was assigned the duty of returning deserters and absentees to Fort McClellan, Alabama. While in Los Angeles on September 20, 1946 he was picked up by the victim while standing on a street corner after she had commented on certain military insignia on his uniform and asked if he was acquainted with O'Neil who was also in the First Ranger Battalion. He had a date with the victim and spent the night with her in her hotel room, spending also part of the day of September 21 with the victim and her roommate whose name Vetcher could not recall. Accompanying them on this day was Sergeant Charles Moffett who had accompanied Vetcher to Los Angeles. It was on September 21 when the discussion of O'Neil came up that the victim stated that she had formerly gone with him and he was quite jealous of her and to play a joke on O'Neil she suggested that they both send postcards to him informing O'Neil that she was married to Vetcher. G.I.R.

Vetcher says further that after reading in the Birmingham, Alabama papers about the Black Dahlia murder he wrote a letter to the Los Angeles Police Department informing them of his meeting with her, fearing that his name might be found in her address book as she had noted it down when she had promised to write to him at Fort McClellan. He did not receive a reply from the Los Angeles Police Department.

Vetcher added that the victim was the type of girl who was very friendly and would talk to anyone. She appeared known to the head waiter and numerous waiters at Tom Brenneman's Restaurant. P

Vetcher could furnish no information relative to the possible killer of Elizabeth Short.

RECORDED

&

INDEXED

EX-71

50 MAY 26 1947
62-82627-53
CJM:LS:od

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

MAY 21 1947

TELETYPE

WASHINGTON FROM CHICAGO 2 21 2-52 PM:

DIRECTOR AND SAC, LOS ANGELES URGENT

UNSUB, ~~REDACTED~~ ELIZABETH SHORT, AKA BLACK DAHLIA, VICTIM,
MURDER, INFO CONCERNING. REBUTEL MAY SIXTEEN LAST AUTHORIZING
INTERVIEWS REQUESTED BY LOS ANGELES DIVISION IN ABOVE MATTER. ONE OF
PERSONS DESIRED INTERVIEWED IS ~~REDACTED~~ LOYAL JANSEN, AKA JAN JANSEN
WHO IS PHOTOGRAPHER ON STAFF OF CHICAGO DAILY NEWS WHO HAS
~~XXX~~ REPUTATION OF BEING WELL INFORMED BUT VERY INDISCREET. BUREAU
REQUESTED TO ADVISE CHICAGO DIVISION WHETHER UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES
JANSEN SHOULD BE INTERVIEWED.

MC SWAIN

LA ADVISED

END

ACK PLS

*Wire Chicago
5/21/47
egm*

RECORDED
&
INDEXED
EX-71

82/21 54

418

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

R

418

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

AIR MAIL, SPECIAL DELIVERY

TO : SAC, Los Angeles

DATE: March 27, 1947

FROM : SAC, Pittsburgh

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;

ELIZABETH SHORT, aka Black Dahlia - VICTIM

INFORMATION CONCERNING

First Sergeant ~~PETER ANTHONY VETCHER~~, ASN 32183940, Instructions Officer, 111th Infantry, Post Office Box 18, Washington, Pennsylvania, was interviewed by Special Agents EDMUND C. WELTON and JOHN S. AMMARELL at his office on March 27, 1947. During the interview with Sergeant VETCHER he furnished the following information regarding his relations with the victim:

Sergeant VETCHER stated that he was stationed at Fort McClellan, Alabama, during the summer of 1946 and was assigned the duty of traveling to all sections of the United States to pick up deserters and AWOL soldiers and to return them to Fort McClellan, Alabama. In accordance with these duties, he was directed to proceed to Fort McArthur, California in September, 1946, accompanied by First Sergeant CHARLES MOFFETT, in order to pick up an AWOL soldier and return him to Fort McClellan. Sergeant VETCHER and Sergeant MOFFETT arrived at Fort McArthur, located at San Pedro, California, on September 19, 1946. Upon their arrival they requested four days leave in order to visit Los Angeles, and were unofficially granted permission to take this leave without going through the proper Army channels. Sergeant VETCHER separated from Sergeant MOFFETT on the morning of September 20, 1946, and proceeded to downtown Los Angeles.

Sergeant VETCHER wandered around the downtown section of Los Angeles until about 1:45 P. M., when he stopped and stood leaning against the wall of a store on the corner of what he recalls was 6th and Olive Streets. While he was idly watching the passers-by, he observed the victim, accompanied by another young woman, walk by at about 2:00 P. M. After passing him, the victim turned around and walked over to Sergeant VETCHER and asked him whether he had been in the First Ranger Battalion. VETCHER at this time was wearing his Army khaki uniform with numerous overseas ribbons and with the shoulder badge of the First Ranger Battalion on his right shoulder. VETCHER stated that he told the victim that he was a member of the First Ranger Battalion, whereupon she inquired if he was acquainted with Lieutenant JOHN O'NEIL. VETCHER advised that he recalled a Lieutenant JOHN O'NEIL who had been with him in the Rangers, whereupon the victim advised him that she and O'NEIL had been childhood sweethearts in their home town of Medford, Massachusetts. She also advised VETCHER that she had heard that O'NEIL had re-enlisted in the Army but did not know where he was stationed at that time.

VETCHER stated that after this conversation he inquired of the victim whether she would give him a date for that evening. The victim agreed and

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332 NOV 18 1964

62-607-55
ENCLOSURE

SAC, Los Angeles

March 27, 1947

asked him to accompany her to her hotel. VETCHER stated that before going to the hotel, Miss SHORT introduced him to her girl friend, whose name he is unable to recall. However, he advised that the victim and this girl roomed together in the Figueroa Hotel, and he was positive that the room they maintained at the Figueroa Hotel was definitely registered in the name of the victim's girl friend. The victim, according to VETCHER, advised him that her name was BETTY SHORT.

VETCHER, the victim, and her girl friend then proceeded to the Figueroa Hotel, where they sat in the lobby for some time and talked. The victim then went up to her room to dress and VETCHER and the victim's girl friend engaged in conversation. During the conversation, VETCHER ascertained from the victim's girl friend that she was married at one time, had separated from her husband, and was then divorced. He also ascertained that this girl was employed as a child's nurse at some establishment in Hollywood or Los Angeles where people left their children when they went out in the evening. He also stated that the victim's girl friend advised him that the victim was not working, and that she planned to break up rooming with her because she did not pay any of the expenses. In addition, this girl friend stated that she lent the victim money from time to time.

VETCHER stated that he inquired of the victim's girl friend to determine if she knew where he might obtain a hotel room for the night, and she advised him that it would be extremely difficult to obtain a room. However, she suggested that since she worked nights at the child's nurse home, and that since she and the victim had twin beds, he might sleep in her bed if the victim agreed. VETCHER stated that he then told the victim's girl friend that she should talk to the victim and have her agree on this plan. VETCHER stated that the victim's girl friend then went upstairs to dress, and after some time she and the victim returned to the lobby of the hotel, at which time the victim advised VETCHER that she would show him Los Angeles that night.

VETCHER, the victim, and her girl friend then proceeded to get on a bus nearby, on which bus VETCHER sat with the victim's girl friend, and at which time the victim's girl friend told him that the victim had told her that VETCHER could sleep in their room that night. VETCHER stated that during the bus ride the victim sat in a vacant seat next to a Marine and immediately struck up a conversation with him. He stated that the victim was the type of girl who was very friendly and would talk to anyone.

SAC, Los Angeles

March 27, 1947

The victim's girl friend separated from them, and the victim and VETCHER then proceeded to the Columbia Broadcasting Station Studios, where they saw TONY MARTIN broadcast. Thereafter they proceeded to Tom Brenneman's. VETCHER stated that at the corner of Hollywood and Vine they met First Sergeant CHARLES MOFFETT, who accompanied them to Tom Brenneman's. Upon arriving at Tom Brenneman's, they observed that a number of people were waiting in line for a table, but as soon as they entered the door, the head waiter came over to the victim and escorted her, along with VETCHER and MOFFETT, to a nearby table. VETCHER stated that during the time they were at Tom Brenneman's, he observed that the victim appeared to be well known to all of the waiters there.

VETCHER related that while they dined at Tom Brenneman's, the victim's conversation returned to Lieutenant JOHN O'NEIL and she again related that he had been quite jealous of her when they were young and had told her not to have any boy friends. VETCHER stated that the victim related this in a laughing, matter-of-fact manner and thought that it was quite a joke. The victim advised VETCHER that she had seen Lieutenant O'NEIL upon his return from the Army, but had not seen him for several months. VETCHER stated that he advised the victim that he had only known O'NEIL under combat conditions and, therefore, did not know him very well. VETCHER also stated that the victim was very well dressed and caught the attention of many of the guests at Tom Brenneman's. He stated that he caught snatches of conversations of people seated in the immediate vicinity and heard some of them suggest that she must be a professional actress employed by RKO or some other studio. VETCHER advised that they departed from Tom Brenneman's establishment at approximately 12:30 A. M., September 21, 1946, at which time Sergeant MOFFETT separated from them.

VETCHER said that they rode a trolley to return to the hotel and had to walk about five blocks from the point where they left the trolley, and while they were walking back to the hotel, a black car drove up beside them and stopped. VETCHER stated that there were five men seated in the car who appeared to be dark complexioned and possibly were Mexicans, three of whom jumped out of the rear of the car and yelled, "There she is." VETCHER stated that he suggested to the victim that he beat these individuals up, but she told him the best thing to do would be to run. Accordingly, he stated, they ran and escaped from these individuals, who apparently were unknown to the victim.

SAC, Los Angeles

March 27, 1947

Upon arriving at a point approximately one block from the hotel, the victim told VETCHER to wait outside for about twenty minutes while she proceeded to her room alone since the hotel regulations were rather strict. VETCHER stated that he then waited for twenty-five minutes before entering the hotel and then immediately proceeded to her room. VETCHER was unable to recall the floor or the room number of the victim's room. He stated that upon knocking on the door, the victim immediately opened the door and he observed her dressed in a flimsy negligee.

VETCHER then proceeded to take a shower and then got into the victim's girl friend's bed. VETCHER stated that after lying in bed for a few minutes he advised the victim that he was unable to sleep, and she stated that she also was unable to sleep. VETCHER then suggested to the victim that he kiss her goodnight, at which time he proceeded to get into bed with her. VETCHER related that immediately thereafter he proceeded to make love to the victim and was successful in having relations with her. He stated that he had relations with the victim numerous times during the night. VETCHER said that at no time was the victim in a passionate mood, which led him to suggest the possibility that she was a Lesbian. In order to corroborate this statement by VETCHER, he pointed out that during his conversations with the victim, she related to him that she at one time frequently visited a wealthy woman who resides either in Hollywood or Los Angeles, and that this woman had made improper advances towards her, which she resisted.

The following morning, the victim's girl friend returned to the hotel room, and at this time arrangements were made to have VETCHER obtain a date for the victim's girl friend with his friend, Sergeant MOFFETT. It was agreed that they would meet at 2:00 or 3:00 that afternoon at the corner drugstore located directly across the street from the Figueroa Hotel.

Sergeant VETCHER and Sergeant MOFFETT were met by the victim and her girl friend at the aforementioned drugstore at about 2:00 or 3:00 P. M. on the afternoon of September 21, 1946, at which time they proceeded to have a coke in this drugstore. VETCHER stated that as they were leaving the drugstore, the victim suggested to him that each of them write a postcard to Lieutenant O'NEIL and advise him that they were happily married and living in Hollywood. He said that the victim suggested that this would be an excellent way to make Lieutenant O'NEIL jealous, and they both considered it a huge joke at the time. VETCHER

SAC, Los Angeles

March 27, 1947

related that accordingly, he purchased some postcards and stamps at the drugstore, and that they then proceeded to write the postcards and to address them to Lieutenant O'NEIL's home address in Medford, Massachusetts, and mailed them at the mail box located near the drugstore.

VETCHER and MOFFETT, accompanied by the victim and her girl friend, then proceeded to a small beer garden, located within a short distance of the hotel, where all of them proceeded to get drunk. VETCHER stated that both he and Sergeant MOFFETT suggested to the girls that all of them return to the hotel, but both girls stated that they had dates with other men for that night. The victim indicated that her date was with a man having a car, who planned to take her someplace that night. VETCHER stated that he could not recall the name of this individual although the victim mentioned it during the conversation. VETCHER stated that after it became apparent that he would not have another date with the victim, he told her that he wanted to correspond with her and wanted to see her again sometime. Accordingly, he furnished his address at Fort McClellan, Alabama, which address was noted down in a small notebook by the victim's girl friend.

VETCHER said that he and Sergeant McCLELLAN separated from the victim and her girl friend at about 7:00 P. M. on September 21, 1946, when both girls proceeded to the Figueroa Hotel. VETCHER stated that as the girls entered the hotel, he observed the victim in a heated conversation with a short, chunky, well-dressed man who appeared to be 40 or 45 years of age. VETCHER advised that he had not seen the victim since that time, and had never had any correspondence with her.

VETCHER claimed that after reading in the Birmingham, Alabama newspapers that the victim had been murdered, he wrote a letter to the Los Angeles Police Department advising them of his meeting with the victim. VETCHER stated that he feared that his name might be found in the little black book of the victim's girl friend, and, accordingly, contacted the Los Angeles Police Department as soon as possible. VETCHER advised that he had never received a reply to his letter.

SAC, Los Angeles

March 27, 1947

VETCHER stated that during his various conversations with the victim, she never expressed fear of anyone, but she did mention that Los Angeles was a tough city and that it was dangerous for a girl to be alone on the streets at night. She told him that she was afraid to be alone on the streets at night, and while they were reading a newspaper in the lobby of the Figueroa Hotel, she pointed out to him an article which featured a resume of the number of murders and rapes which had occurred in Los Angeles over a short period of time. In addition, VETCHER stated that the victim told him that she was going with a man whom she did not like very much, but she stated that she did not want to hurt his feelings by stopping to go with him. VETCHER advised that he did not know the name of this man. It may be noted that VETCHER vigorously denied that he had ever been married to the victim.

VETCHER furnished the following description of the victim's girl friend:

Race	White
Age	Approximately 21 or 22
Height	5' 2" or 5' 3"
Weight	120 lbs.
Complexion	Light
Hair	Brunette
Eyes	He observed that she appeared to have trouble with her eyes and noted that they were red most of the time. She indicated that she wore glasses at times.

VETCHER stated that he and MOFFETT departed from Los Angeles, as well as he could recall, on September 22, 1946 to return to Fort McClellan, Alabama. He denied that he was in Los Angeles from January 9 to January 15, 1947, and stated that the records at Fort McClellan, Alabama would positively establish his whereabouts during that period as having been at Fort McClellan, Alabama.

SAC, Los Angeles

March 27, 1947

Marital Status

Married SOPHIE MODLA at
Plains, Pa. in 1937, resided
with her 4 months and obtained
divorce in 1938; presently
unmarried.

JSA:HCM
62-1318

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: May 15, 1947

FROM : SAC, Pittsburgh

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;

ELIZABETH SHORT, aka Black Dahlia - VICTIM
 INFORMATION CONCERNING
 Bureau File 62-82627

Rebulet 5/8/47.

Attached hereto are copies of memorandum addressed to the Los
 Angeles Office March 27, 1947.

DDL:MAW
 62-1318
 Encl. 3

cc - Los Angeles

INDEXED
 RECORDED

EX-50

31

MAY 22 1947

G.I.R.-9

EX-50

May 20, 1947,

252 North Fullerton Ave

Montclair N.J.

Honorable Albert W. Hawkes
Senate Office Building
Washington D. C.

My Dear Senator Hawkes,

I have recieved your letter and Senator Knowland I thank you very much.

I am enclosing a letter which I have from the Federal Bureau of investigation John Edgar hoover Which I wrote Edgar hoover which I suspect the Killer The Black dahlia that this supect swindle \$75 dollars of me Which he promised he would put me in motion picture And make me famous he also took my social Security Number and My name Kindly write a letter to Edgar hoover if they have picked up this supect 5 feet 4 black hair black mustache dark brown eyes weigh 145 pounds is a key Im sending you which the suspect gave me at the time I was in California.

You could forward this key to edgar hoover.

Please send the letter back to me which John Edgar Hoover wrote to me. I have lost my discharge button.

Could I git another one.

Kindly Reply Soon
With Kind Regards
I remain

Louis T. Monoco

EXACT COPY

May 20, 1947,
252 North Fullerton Ave
Montclair N.J.

Honorable Albert W. Hawkes
Senate Office Building
Washington D.C.

My Dear Senator Hawkes,

I have recieved your letter and Senator Knowland
I thank you very much.

I am enclosing a letter which I have from the
Federal Bureau of investigation John Edgar Hoover
which I wrote Edgar Hoover which I suspect the killer -
The Black Dahlia that this suspect swindle \$75 dollars of me
which he promised he would put me in motion picture
and make me famous he also took my social security
number and my name kindly write a letter to
Edgar Hoover if they have picked up this suspect.
5 feet 4 black hair black mustache dark brown eyes
weigh 145 pounds is a boy I'm sending you which the suspect
gave me at the time I was in California.
You could forward this boy to Edgar Hoover
please send the letter back to me which John Edgar Hoover
wrote to me. I have lost my discharge button.
Could I get another one.

Kindly Reply Soon
With Kind Regards

I Remain
Louis T. Monaco
61-1157-56

ENCLOSURE

May 20 1947

May 23. 1947,
252 North Fullerton Ave,
Montclair N. J.

John Edgar Hoover
United States
Department of Justice
Washington D. C.

My Dear Edgar Hoover,

I have receipt your letter May 13. 1947.
which you stated referring a Copy of my letter
Police Department Los Angeles California.
I am forwarding you a key which I suspect
The killer Elizabeth shot the black dahlia.
This suspect gave me this key to get a room to - gether
And swindle 75 dollars in cash of me.
Which he promised me to put me in motion picture
And make me famous this suspect claimed he was an
Extra to act in motion picture R. K. O. Studio
His first name is vicent last name De. I cant,
Not remember his last name.
I wish you sent someone to see me I will explain things better.
as a letter which I wrote to
Honorable Albert W. Hawkes
I hope I could be helpful to you in anyway,

RECORDED

&
INDEXED

65-10127-56

JUN 8 1947

May I hear from you real soon
With kind regards

I remain
Louis T. Monaco
Louis T. Monaco

ENCL.

at
6/4/47

Sent
F. J. J.

May 23, 1947,

252 North Fullerton Ave.

Montclair, N. J.

John Edgar Hoover
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

My Dear Edgar Hoover,

I have receipt your letter May 13, 1947, which you stated referring a copy of my letter Police Department Los Angeles California. I am forwarding you a key which I suspect The Killer Elizabeth Short the black dahlia. This suspect gave me this key to get a room together and swindle 75 dollars in cash of me. Which he promised me to put me in motion picture and make me famous this suspect claimed he was an Extra to act in motion picture R.K.O. Studio his first name is Vincent last name De I can't not remember his last name. I wish you sent someone to see me I will explain things better. Is a letter which I wrote to Honorable Albert W. Hawkes I hope I could be helpful to you in anyway.

May I hear from you real soon

With Kind Regards

I remain

Louis T. Monoco

EXACT COPY

June 4, 1947

Mr. Louis T. Monoco
252 North Fullerton Avenue
Montclair, New Jersey

RECORDED

56

Dear Mr. Monoco:

Your letter of May 23, 1947, has been received and the contents thereof carefully noted.

Inasmuch as the murder of Elizabeth Short in Los Angeles, California, is a matter not within the jurisdiction of this Bureau, I am taking the liberty of forwarding a copy of your communication to the Los Angeles Police Department for information and consideration. A copy of your letter to the Honorable Albert W. Hawkes, Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C., is also being furnished to the Los Angeles Police Department. The key, which you transmitted with your referenced letter, is being returned herewith.

It is suggested that in the event you have any additional information which you think may have some bearing on the murder of Elizabeth Short that you communicate directly with the Chief of Police, Los Angeles, California. However, I want you to feel free to communicate with me at any time you have any information which, in your opinion, concerns the functions of this Bureau.

Sincerely yours,

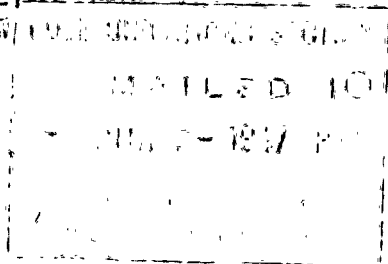
John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

62-82627

WHC:KLM

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



RECEIVED
JUN 11 3 32 PM '47

8

SAC, Los Angeles

June 4, 1947

RECORDED
Director, FBI

UN-KNOWN SUBJECT; 56
ELIZABETH SHORT, wa Black Dahlia, Victim;
INFORMATION CONCERNING

There are transmitted herewith three copies each of two self-explanatory communications prepared by Louis T. Monoco, 252 North Fullerton Avenue, Montclair, New Jersey, under the dates of May 23 and May 20, 1947, respectively. In this connection reference is made to Bulet of May 13, 1947, transmitting to your division a copy of a prior communication received by the Bureau from Mr. Monoco for transmittal to the Los Angeles, California Police Department. It is desired that one copy each of the attached letters prepared by Mr. Monoco be delivered to the Los Angeles Police Department for their information.

The Bureau will not interview Mr. Monoco in the absence of a specific request from the Los Angeles Police Department. For your information, the key referred to by Mr. Monoco is being returned to him direct.

Enclosure

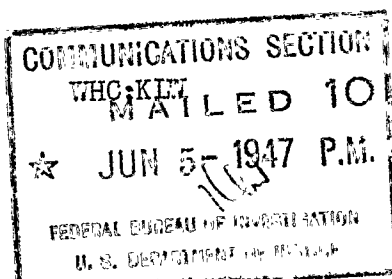
cc Newark (Enc.)

62-82627

G.I.R. 5

C 14
1-3
1-18

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



JUN 4 3 26 PM '47

[Handwritten signature]

W/R

June 24, 1947

I.I. #590 SOUND-PHOTO TRANSMISSION OF FINGERPRINTS
LEADS TO IDENTITY OF ELIZABETH SHORT

During January, 1947, the police in a Southern California city were not only confronted with the problem of solving mad butcher murders of women, but in the first instance were many times unable to determine the identity of the victims.

When the body of a young woman, severed at the waist and mutilated in other ways, was found in a vacant lot in Southwestern Los Angeles on the morning of January 15, 1947, they were again confronted with this problem. It appeared she had been dead about ten hours and the body had been placed in full view only a few feet from the sidewalk.

The authorities were practically at a standstill in their investigation until the deceased victim could be identified.

The fingerprints of the body were taken by the police, who then sought the cooperation of the Los Angeles Examiner newspaper to transmit the fingerprints by wire photo to the FBI Identification Division in Washington, D. C. Eliciting the aid of the International News Service, the newspaper transmitted the prints to its Washington headquarters. At 11 a.m. on January 16 the pictures were received by the Identification

Division. Within 56 minutes an identification was established with two fingerprint cards previously on file bearing the name of Elizabeth Short.

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

ENCLOSURE

57

Despite the fact that two of the impressions were missing entirely and three others were badly blurred, FBI fingerprint technicians were able to make an identification by searching all possible fingerprint combinations. At this time there were approximately 104,000,000 fingerprint cards on file.

One of the fingerprint cards submitted and identified as that of Elizabeth Short indicated that Miss Short was an applicant for a position as a clerk in the Post Exchange of Camp Cook, California, on January 30, 1943. The other set was submitted by the Santa Barbara, California, Police Department reflecting her arrest on September 23, 1943, on charges of violating juvenile court laws, after which she was released to the probation department.

The successful use of scientific communications equipment in this case was referred to by the Director of the FBI as follows: "The action of the Los Angeles Examiner in transmitting to the FBI the fingerprints of the unidentified murder victim is an excellent illustration of the cooperation of the press with law enforcement, and it is such cooperation that aids law enforcement in curbing the increase in crime."

The FBI was not only able to advise as to the Short girl's identification but, in addition, was able to furnish copies of her picture and a record of her past employment to the authorities and others interested.

The successful identification of Elizabeth Short prompted the Los Angeles authorities on March 11, 1947, to again

transmit fingerprints via the photo-wire service process to the FBI. From an indistinct set of ten prints, two of which defied efforts to classify, an identification was effected within 25 minutes after receipt. The unknown murder victim was identified as the Lorene Preston and Los Angeles authorities were notified of the identification the same night.

The woman had been fingerprinted as an applicant on two different occasions.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tracy

DATE: 6/3/47

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: Interesting Identification #590

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

Attached for approval is an Interesting Identification prepared in the Crime Records Section. Upon approval it is suggested this be returned to Crime Records for further handling.

Attachment

G.I.R.-1

RECORDED

15 SEP 6 1947

SEP 17 1947

25

EX-53

EX-53

1-18

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

SEP 16 1947

TELETYPE

WASH 4 FROM LOSA

16 3-50 PM

DIRECTOR

URGENT

ELIZABETH ^①SHORT, AKA BLACK DAHLIA. INFO. CONCERNING. WILLIAM
MATTHEW STEEL, WA DELBERT GUY STEELE, NSN FIVE SIX EIGHT ONE
FOUR TWO ONE PRESENTLY IN CUSTODY RIVERSIDE PD ON CHARGE OF BUR-
GLARY. SUSPECT STILL IN SERVICE OF USN AND CONSIDERED BY LA
AUTHORITIES AS LIKELY SUSPECT IN BD MURDER. DESIRE TO ASCERTAIN
THROUGH SUSPECT SERVICE RECORD HIS WHEREABOUTS ON PERTINENT
PERIOD OF JANUARY NINE THROUGH FIFTEEN, FORTY SEVEN. EXPEDITE
ANSWER AS MATTER OF COOPERATION TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

HOOD

ACK PLS

*Ref 9/18/47
CHP:lm*

*Brummell
K. G. G. G.*

INDEXED 62-82127 58
RECORDED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

September 18, 1947

Transmit the following message to:

SAC, LOS ANGELES

URGENT

RECORDED

58
RETEL SEPTEMBER SIXTEEN LAST ELIZABETH SHORT, AKA BLACK DALLIA, INFORMATION CONCERNING. WILLIAM MATTHEW STEELE, ASN FIVE SIX EIGHT DASH ONE FOUR DASH TWO ONE, TRANSFERRED JANUARY SEVEN LAST FROM NAVAL TRAINING CENTER, SAN DIEGO TO NAVAL HOSPITAL, SAN DIEGO, ARRIVING SAME DAY. TRANSFERRED BACK TO NAVAL TRAINING CENTER, SAN DIEGO, JANUARY TWENTY-TWO LAST. RECEIVED TREATMENT NAVAL HOSPITAL, SAN DIEGO, FOR DEVIATION NASAL SEPTUM. NAVAL HOSPITAL WILL HAVE RECORD SHOWING IF SUBJECT CONFINED TO BASE DURING PERIOD FROM JANUARY SEVEN TO TWENTY-TWO LAST. BUREAU INDICES REFLECT SUBJECT NO LONGER DESERTER FROM NAVY, RETURNED TO MILITARY CONTROL AUGUST TWENTY-EIGHT LAST AT LOS ANGELES.

HOOVER

GHP:cm

COPIES DESTROYED
332 NOV 18 1964

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

SENT VIA

1-138 M

Per

burn

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

OCT 1 1947

TELETYPE

WASH FROM LOSA A 3 1 4-33 P

DIRECTOR URGENT

ELIZABETH SHORT ~~SHORT~~ SHORT, AKA BLACK DAHLIA, MURDERED EVA. JAN
FIFTEEN, LAST. LT. STEPHEN WOLAK, ASN NAUGHT DASH EIGHT TWO
FIVE THREE FIVE NINE, FORMERLY ASSIGNED ~~FIVE~~ FIVE FIVE SIX AAFXX
AAF AND TRANSFERRED IN SEPT., NINETEEN FORTYSIX TO BIGGS FIELD, EL
PASO. WOLAK KNOWN TO HAVE CARRIED ON SEVERAL TELEPHONIC CONVER-
SATIONS WITH VICTIM WHILE HE ~~ASX~~ WAS STATIONED IN EL PASO.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES DESIRE TO ~~ASX~~ ASCERTAIN WHETHER WOLAK PRESENTLY
IN SERVICE AND IF SO WHERE LOCATED SO THAT HE MAY BE INTERVIEWED.

ADVISE AS MATTER OF COOPERATION WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

HOOD

ACK PLS

RECORDED

&

INDEXED

Office Memorandum

Mr. Brownwell's of

on

62-12627-59
OCT 4 1947

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

SEPTEMBER 3, 1947

Transmit the following message to:

59 SAC, LOS ANGELES URS 12

RECORDED

RE: A. JOSEPH. ONE, ELIZABETH STONE, AKA BLACK CAT. WAR DEPARTMENT ADVISES
JOSEPH RELIEVED FROM ACTIVE DUTY JANUARY THREE, LAST AT BIGGS FIELD, EL PASO,
TEXAS, AS CAPTAIN, AIR CORPS. HOME ADDRESS FORTY-SIX NORTHEAST AVENUE,
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK.

HOOVER

JOHN:ONE

1947-9-3-12-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100

EX-41

COPIES DESTROYED

332 NOV 18 1964

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

OCT 3 1947

TELETYPE

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

SENT VIA

M

Per

COMMUNICATION

MAR 17 1968

TELETYPE

White
3-16-68
JLB RT

UXWASH 1 FROM LOS ANGELES 15 10-16 AM

DIRECTOR URGENT

ELIZABETH SHORT, VICTIM, AKA BLACK DAHLIA, MURDER. MARK HANSEN

WA. MARK HANSEN, FIFTY TWO YRS, BORN DENMARK, FIVE FT. NINE, ONE
SEVENTY FIVE LBS., LT. BROWN HAIR, BLUE EYES, OCCUPATION THEATER
BUSINESS, HANSEN CONSIDERED LIKELY SUSPECT IN INSTANT MURDER.
AS MATTER OF COOPERATION LOCAL PD REQUEST CHECK OF FILES FOR
CRIMINAL RECORD OR INFO CONCERNING INSTANT SUSPECT. SUTEL.

HOOD

ACK PLS

SE 22 162-82627-60
F B I
12 MAR 18 1968

Called Ident.

Mr. Bremmell

by Com-

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION MARCH 16, 1948

Transmit the following message to: SAC
LOS ANGELES

ELIZABETH SHORT, VICTIM, AKA BLACK BULLIA, MURDER. REURTEL
MARCH FIFTEENTH LAST. SUSPECT MARK HANSEN MAYBE IDENTICAL MARK
H. HANSEN, FBI THREE FIVE THREE SEVEN TWO NAUGHT NAUGHT. FINGER-
PRINTED APRIL THIRTYEIGHT, APPLICANT ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE
LICENSE, BY STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION, LOS ANGELES, NUMBER
TWO TWO FIVE NINE SIX. ALSO FINGERPRINTED BY SHERIFF LOS ANGELES,
APPLICANT SPECIAL DEPUTY SHERIFF COMM. JUNE FORTYTHREE, DESCRIBED
THEN - BORN DENMARK JULY TWENTYFIFTH EIGHTEEN NINETYTWO, FIVE
SEVEN AND HALF, ONE SIXTYFIVE POUNDS, BROWN HAIR, BLUE EYES,
RESIDENCE SIX NAUGHT TWO ONE HOLLYWOOD BLVD. THIS SUBJECT HAS
NO CRIMINAL RECORD IDENT. DIV. FILES. CONFIRMING.

HOOVER

TELETYPE---U R G E N T

B-B-JEG

Handwritten signature

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

COPIES DESTROYED
332 NOV 18 1964

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

MAR 17 1948

7 MAR 24 1948

SENT VIA

M

Per

Handwritten initials

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA

OFFICE OF THE
CHIEF OF POLICE
C. B. HORRALL



FLETCHER BOWRON
MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF
POLICE
CITY HALL
LOS ANGELES 12
MICHIGAN 5211

IN REPLYING PLEASE GIVE
OUR REFERENCE

5.5

January 10, 1949.

C 214 222

Mr. J. E. Short

John Edgar Hoover, Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
United States Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Identification Division.

Dear Sir:

We hereby request your Abstract, Form T-2,
indicating record of LESLIE DUANE DILLON,
described as being male, caucasian, red-brown
hair which appears to be dyed, blue eyes,
5'11" to 6' in height, 145 pounds (states
he has weighed up to 160 pounds, 27 years of
age, in 1948. A copy of his fingerprints are
enclosed.

Request immediate reply by airmail, special
delivery, as subject is a suspect in an important
murder case.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours very truly,

C. B. HORRALL,
CHIEF OF POLICE.

ENCL

By

Edward Walker
EDWARD WALKER, CAPTAIN,
COMMANDING, RECORDS &
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.

EW:MB
Encl.

RECORDED - 31
INDEXED - 31
EX-25

62-82627-61

JAN 14 1949

62-82627

SPECIMENS DELIVERED IN S. F. P. B.
1-13-49
GILLIND

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. H. B. FLETCHER *WBF*

DATE: 1-11-49

FROM : J. E. MILNES

Time of Call: 10:55 p.m.
1-10-49SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
BLACK DAHLIA MURDER CASE
Los Angeles, California
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Pennington	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

George J. Mannina of the Hearst Newspapers called. He said that the police had located a suspect in the above case by the name of Jack Sand, with aliases Leslie Dwane Dillon and J. S. Dillon. He stated that the organization was supposed to get a set of the suspect's fingerprints in Los Angeles and send them to Los Angeles by wirephoto, whereupon he would deliver them to the FBI for searching. He said that he hadn't received the prints as yet and it didn't appear that he was going to get them. I explained to him that we would make such searches only for recognized police agencies. He said that he understood that.

ACTION:

None. This is being prepared in order that the Identification Division may be alert for such prints if and when they are received.

JEM:cmw

1-11-49-3:30 PM

Fingerprint of Leslie Dwane Dillon FBI 4927549
who is probably identical with the subject
compared with the latest fingerprints in this
case but no identification effected -
Wire photo not received to date - 1-11-49

RECORDED - 102

INDEXED - 102

COPIES DESTROYED
332 NOV 18 1964

58 JAN 1949

213

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

74734

Date recorded: 1-19-49 10:00 AM

Single Fingerprint Report

Case: RE: BLACK DAHLIA
ELIZABETH SHORT
MURDER

Number: 62-82627-61 ✓

Specimens: The fingerprints of suspect LESLIE DUANE DILLON, submitted for comparison with the latents previously submitted in connection with the above-entitled case.

Examination requested by: C. B. Horrall, Chief of Police, Los Angeles, Calif.
Att: Captain Edward Walker, Records and Identification
Date received: 1-18-49 rmd Division

Date of reference communication: 1-10-49

Examination requested: Fingerprint

Result of examination:
AMSD

Examination by: Ground

Evidence Noted by:

*Fpts. of above individual compared
latents instant case. 1/14 JS
Dictated 1-14 JS*

61 FEB 1 1949

1-225

January 14, 1949

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

Mr. C. B. Horrall
Chief of Police
Los Angeles, California

Attention: Captain Edward Walker
Records and Identification
Division

RE: BLACK DAHLIA
ELIZABETH SHORT
MURDER

My dear Chief:

Reference is made to your letter of January 10, 1948 submitting a set of fingerprints of Leslie Duane Dillon, a possible suspect in connection with the above-entitled case, your reference #C 214 222.

You are advised that a search of the fingerprints submitted through the Bureau's main fingerprint files, has disclosed a prior fingerprint record for this individual as FBI 4927549, a transcript of which is enclosed.

I am Assuring you of my desire to be of assistance in these matters,

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure
ABG:AMB
62-22627

RECORDED - 119

62-22627-63
F B I
71 JAN 25 1949

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 7
JAN 14 1949 PM.
RECEIVED
JAN 14 1949

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Gandy _____

in

Mar 18, 1950.

(Date)

To Hon Judge Medina

(Name)

W. S. Courthouse, Foley Square.

(Address)

Sir:

There was a murder committed in California in 1946, and yet the murderer is still at large. The person killed was known as the "Black Salis" and she was a show girl.

The person who killed her, is serving time at this institution, and you'll know him by a tattoo that he has on his right arm. The tattoo reads as follows, "13 Lucky number". He is a Spanish fellow from Porto Rico, known as Fredy.

A word to the wise...

62-92177-64

ENCLOSURE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: May 26, 1950

FROM : James M. McInerney, Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

JMM:JFB:mlm

SUBJECT: Unknown subject

We are transmitting herewith for whatever action you deem appropriate a letter from an inmate of the Federal Correctional Institution, Danbury, Connecticut. This letter was sent through the prisoner's mail box and transmitted to the Criminal Division by the Bureau of Prisons. The writer alleges that the perpetrator of the "Black Dahlia" murder is presently an inmate of the Federal Institution at Danbury, Connecticut, and states that he can be identified by certain tattoo marks and that the alleged murderer is a Puerto Rican named ~~Frede~~ Fredy.

Encl. No. 69827

RECORDED - 96

INDEXED - 96

EX-81

COPIES DESTROYED

332

NOV 18 1964

EX-81
memo to Los Angeles
6-8-50
ara

62-83627-64
CIT
11/17

INCLOSURE

Nº 69827

FROM

Department of Justice

7-849

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

SAC, Los Angeles

June 8, 1950

Director, FBI

10-1

UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
ELIZABETH SHORT, AKA "BLACK DAHLIA" -
VICTIM, MURDER, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
JANUARY 15, 1947
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING
RESEARCH

RECORDED - 96

EX 21

Enclosed is a copy of a memorandum dated May 26, 1950, from the Department together with a copy of an enclosed letter dated May 18, 1950, from an anonymous prisoner who furnishes information relating to the above-captioned case.

As a matter of police cooperation, it is requested that the contents of the letter from the unidentified prisoner be made available to appropriate local law enforcement authorities in Los Angeles.

Enclosure

cc - New Haven, with copy of memorandum and enclosed letter.

ARA:mu

NOTE: See 62-82627

Tolson
Ladd
Clegg
Glavin
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Harbo
Mohr
Tele. Room
Nease
Gandy

JUN 8 1950

JUN 8 7 17 PM '50
FBI
RECEIVED READING ROOM
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (62-2928)

DATE: February 26, 1952

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
 ELIZABETH SHORT, aka "Black Dahlia," - VICTIM
 Murder, Los Angeles, California,
 January 15, 1947
 POLICE COOPERATION

The Los Angeles Police Department continues its investigation into the unsolved murder of ELIZABETH SHORT. On February 25, 1952, Lieutenant KARL LEE, Homicide Division, Los Angeles Police Department, called attention to the article entitled, "The Master Impostor: An Incredible Tale," written under the by-line of JOE MC CARTHY, which was published in the January 28, 1952, issue of "Life" Magazine on page 79. This article narrates the activity of FERDINAND WILLO DEMARA, JR., was. Dr. Joseph C. Cyr, Robert L. French, Cecil R. Hamann, who had posed as a surgeon and thus had entered the Canadian Navy as a surgeon-lieutenant, and had allegedly performed numerous surgical operations in the Korean area, although he has had no formal medical education, and was an impostor using the credentials of Dr. CYR, of Grand Falls, New Brunswick, Canada.

The article mentions that DEMARA's home is on State Street, Lawrence, Massachusetts, the residence of his parents. He is about 30 years of age. The magazine account of DEMARA's activities contains an admission by him that he had been arrested by FBI agents in or near Olympia, Washington, as a deserter from the U. S. Navy, dates not given, possibly while he was employed as an instructor of psychology at St. Martin's College, Lacey, Washington. He was then shipped, according to the story, to the U. S. Disciplinary Barracks in San Pedro, California, during which time it was alleged that the U. S. Army "caught up with him" and discharged him as a deserter from that military service. He allegedly conducted his own defense at the Navy court-martial, yet was unsuccessful and spent 18 months in the disciplinary barracks. Upon his release it was alleged that he then returned to the residence of his parents in Lawrence, Massachusetts.

The magazine story states that DEMARA served as an orderly at a sanatorium of the Brothers of St. John of God in Los Angeles, California, prior to the time he traveled to the state of Washington, where he was apprehended on the desertion charge. Lt. LEE has stated that it is possible DEMARA was at the sanatorium under the name of Mr. ROBERT L. FRENCH. The Los Angeles Police Department does not have the dates of this service at the sanatorium, which institution is apparently located at 2445 South Western Avenue, Los Angeles. The police have made no inquiry at the sanatorium and desire to delay such inquiry until more definite dates can be ascertained. It is suggested

L-L/sae
 AIRMAIL

RECORDED - 21

INDEXED - 23

COPIES DESTROYED

832 NOV 18 1964

62-82127-65
 3/27
 10-11
 10-11

L. A. 62-2928

that the investigative file on DEMARA's desertion may contain information as to his travels prior to his apprehension and may include dates of his stay at the sanatorium.

The files of the Los Angeles Office contain no identifiable record concerning DEMARA under his true name or any of the three aliases.

It has been a contention of the Los Angeles Police Department detectives that the person who murdered ELIZABETH SHORT had some training or knowledge of surgery or a related science, due to the manner in which the body of the victim was mutilated and bisected at the waist. Lt. LEE requested that the files of the Bureau be reviewed to ascertain, if possible, the dates when DEMARA was in California, and when he might have been released from Navy barracks at San Pedro, a suburb of Los Angeles. The Los Angeles Police Department has indicated no data reflecting DEMARA is a suspect in the Black Dahlia killing, and desires to know whether DEMARA might have a provable alibi for his location on January 15, 1947, which would eliminate him as a possible suspect in this murder.

As the Bureau has in the past furnished considerable assistance on this case to the Los Angeles Police Department, it is requested that Bureau files and records of the Identification Division be reviewed for data of possible assistance to the Los Angeles Police Department regarding FERDINAND WALDO DEMARA, JR.

RECORDED - 24
62-2928-65

SAC, Los Angeles (62-2928)
Director, FBI

March 21, 1952

97828

UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
ELIZABETH BENTLEY, aka "Black Dahlia," - VICTIM
Murder, Los Angeles, California,
January 1947
POLICE COOPERATION

Reurlet 2/26/52, concerning Ferdinand Waldo Demara, NSN
2244729; ASN 11018396, WAS., Fred Demara, Dr. Robert Linton French.

Demara was the subject of a Deserter-Selective Service
investigation in which Boston was the office of origin and which
resulted in the subject's apprehension on October 31, 1946 by Bureau
Agents and representatives of the Sheriff's office of Thurston County,
Washington, at St. Martins College, Lacey, Washington. At the time of
his apprehension he was employed as an instructor in psychology and had
a commission as a deputy sheriff of Thurston County, Washington.

Information concerning the subject about the time of the
captioned murder reflects that on November 18, 1946 the Officer in
Charge of the Brig, Pier 91, 13th Naval District, Seattle, Washington,
advised that the subject was there and was being held awaiting dispo-
sition. The Department of the Navy, in advising the Bureau of the
subject's most recent exploits, indicated that Demara was tried by
court-martial in 1948.

A review of the Bureau file reflects that subject was inter-
viewed at the time of his apprehension on the desertion charge, at
which time he stated that he left Erie, Pennsylvania, during March
or April, 1946 and traveled to Los Angeles where he stayed at the
St. John of God Sanatorium, Western Avenue. Subject stated he stayed
at the Sanatorium approximately three months and upon leaving there
went to St. Martins College, Lacey, Washington. The investigation
reflected that subject first appeared at St. Martins College on July
6, 1946. This would indicate that Demara was in Los Angeles for
approximately three months, from some time in March or April until
early in June, 1946.

There are enclosed herewith two copies of the identification
record of Demara under FBI number 3683715. This information is
provided for whatever use may be made of it by the Los Angeles Police
Department.

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Alden _____
Belmont _____
Laughlin _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

Enclosure

COMM - FBI

MAR 22 1952

MAILED 27

TWO: 1k
61 APR 4 1952

RECEIVED READING ROOM
MAR 21 4 01 PM '52

Handwritten initials: JY, Rok, JY

CSH
12

[Redacted]

MARCH 14, 1975

b7c

O Elok Dahlia

Dear Sir:

I would like to request information
or newspaper clippings on the murder
case of the "BLACK DAHLIA TRIALS".

Ack 3-12-75
esh: dsh

The information will be used on an
English report on journalism.

Please send as quickly as possible,
thank you for your time.

Sincerely Yours.

[Redacted]

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

FEDERAL BUREAU of INVESTIGATION

(In care of Washington D.C.)
(Airmail)

101

REC 44

62-82627-66

MAR 14 1975

Plck
CORRESPONDENCE

March 13, 1975

REC 44 62 826 27 - 666

b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter was received on March 7th. Inasmuch as the murder of Elizabeth Short was a matter not within the jurisdiction of this Bureau, I am unable to furnish you the information you requested. This case was handled by the Los Angeles Police Department and you may want to contact that Department for any assistance it may be able to furnish you.

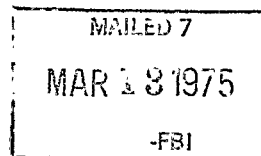
Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley

Clarence M. Kelley
Director

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The "Black Dahlia Trials" was a recent television program about the brutal murder of Elizabeth Short in Los Angeles, California, January 15, 1947. Elizabeth Short was given the nickname of "Black Dahlia" because of her black hair and fondness of sheer black clothes.

Assoc. Dir. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____
Asst. Dir.: esh:dsh (3)



esh

esh

[Handwritten mark]

MAR 25 1975

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES • REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK

1901		1721	
1. FULL NAME Elizabeth Short		DISTRICT NO. _____ REGISTRAR'S NO. _____	
2. PLACE OF DEATH: (A) COUNTY Los Angeles (B) CITY OR TOWN Los Angeles (C) NAME OF HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION Found on Norton between Norton and Colliseum (D) LENGTH OF STAY: (SPECIFY WHETHER YEARS, MONTHS OR DAYS) IN HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION unknown IN THIS COMMUNITY unknown IN CALIFORNIA 9 mo (E) IF FOREIGN BORN, HOW LONG IN THE U. S. A. _____ YEARS		3. USUAL RESIDENCE OF DECEASED: (A) STATE California (B) COUNTY Los Angeles (C) CITY OR TOWN Los Angeles (D) STREET NO. unknown	
3. (E) IF VETERAN, NAME OF WAR no 3. (F) SOCIAL SECURITY NO. unknown		20. DATE OF DEATH: MONTH January DAY 14 OR 15 YEAR 1947 HOUR _____ MINUTE _____	
4. SEX female	5. COLOR OR RACE cauc	21. MEDICAL CERTIFICATE I HEREBY CERTIFY, THAT I ATTENDED THE DECEASED FROM _____ 19____ TO _____ 19____ THAT I LAST SAW H. _____ ALIVE ON _____ 19____ AND THAT DEATH OCCURRED ON THE DATE AND HOUR STATED ABOVE.	
6. (B) NAME OF HUSBAND OR WIFE _____ 6. (C) AGE OF HUSBAND OR WIFE IF ALIVE _____ YEARS		22. CORONER'S CERTIFICATE I HEREBY CERTIFY, THAT I HELD AN AUTOPSY, INQUEST OR INVESTIGATION ON THE REMAINS OF THE DECEASED AND FIED FROM SUCH ACTION THAT DECEASED CAME TO _____ DEATH ON THE DATE AND HOUR STATED ABOVE.	
7. BIRTHDATE OF DECEASED July 29, 1924 MONTH _____ DAY _____ YEAR _____ 8. AGE 22 YRS. 5 MOS. 16 DAYS IF LESS THAN ONE DAY OLD HRS. _____ MIN. _____		IMMEDIATE CAUSE OF DEATH Shock DUE TO Concussion of the brain + lacerations of the face	
9. BIRTHPLACE Hyde Park, Mass.		OTHER CONDITIONS (INCLUDE PREGNANCY WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF DEATH) _____	
10. USUAL OCCUPATION Waitress		MAJOR FINDINGS: OF OPERATIONS _____ DATE OF OPERATION _____	
11. INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS restaurant		OF AUTOPSY As above	
12. NAME Cleo Alvin Short		PHYSICIAN UNDERLINE THE CAUSE TO WHICH DEATH SHOULD BE CHARGED STATISTICALLY	
13. BIRTHPLACE Virginia			
14. MAIDEN NAME Phoebe M Sawyer			
15. BIRTHPLACE Maine			
16. (A) INFORMANT Phoebe Sawyer (B) ADDRESS 115 Salem St., Medford Mass.		23. IF DEATH WAS DUE TO EXTERNAL CAUSES, FILL IN THE FOLLOWING: (A) ACCIDENT, SUICIDE, HOMICIDE, OR HOMICIDE homicide (B) DATE OF INJURY 1/14/47 (C) WHERE DID INJURY OCCUR Los Angeles, California CITY OR TOWN _____ STATE _____ (D) DID INJURY OCCUR IN OR ABOUT HOME, ON FARM, IN INDUSTRIAL PLACE, OR IN PUBLIC PLACE? Unknown WHILE AT WORK? no (E) MEANS OF INJURY struck with unknown instrument	
17. (A) removed (B) DATE 1-1-47 BURIAL, CREMATION OR DISPOSAL in Cem. Berkeley Cal (C) PLACE in Cem. Berkeley Cal 18. (A) EMBALMER'S SIGNATURE Byrd P. Hall LICENSE NO. 1473 (B) FUNERAL DIRECTOR Pierce Brothers ADDRESS 700 N. Washington Blvd. BY groves REGISTRAR		24. CORONER'S OR PHYSICIAN'S SIGNATURE Ben H. Bissell (SPECIFY WHICH) Ben Edwin O. Russell ADDRESS Los Angeles, Calif. DATE 1/14/47	
19. (A) JAN 27 1947 (B) _____ DATE FILED _____ REGISTRAR'S SIGNATURE Charles Weissburd DEPUTY REGISTRAR		U. S. DEPT. OF COMMERCE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS	
STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH			

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

This is to certify that this document is a true copy of the official record filed with the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk.

Charles Weissburd
CHARLES WEISSBURD
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

NOV 2 - 1992
19-0998245

This copy not valid unless prepared on engraved border displaying the Seal and Signature of the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk.

ANY ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE



REGISTRY DIVISION, CITY OF BOSTON

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Reg. 7
Certificate No. 083698

CERTIFIED COPY OF RECORD OF **BIRTH** IN OFFICE OF THE CITY REGISTRAR

CC

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that I hold the office of.....City Registrar of the City of Boston, and have the custody of the
Records of Births, Marriages and Deaths required by law to be kept in said City; and I certify that the following facts appear on said Records:

No. 11509 Date of Birth July 29, 1924 Name of Child Elizabeth Short

SEX	COLOR	NAME, SURNAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER	NAME, MAIDEN NAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER
Female	White	Cleo A. Short Gloucester, Va.	Phoebe M. Sawyer Millbridge, Me.
PLACE OF BIRTH		RESIDENCE OF PARENTS	
Boston Ma		Boston Ma	
OCCUPATION OF PARENT		NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT	
Salesman		C. E. Bryant	
DATE OF RECORD		M. D.	
August 9, 1924			

I further certify that by annexation, the Records of the following-named cities and towns are in the custody of the City Registrar of Boston:—

	ANNEXED		ANNEXED
East Boston.....	1637	Charlestown	}.....1874
South Boston.....	1804	Brighton	
Roxbury.....	1868	West Roxbury	
Dorchester.....	1870	Hyde Park.....	1912

Date of amendment: _____

WITNESS my hand and the SEAL of the CITY REGISTRAR

on this APR 29 1993 A. D. 19.....

Judith A. McCarthy

City Registrar

By Chapter 314 of the Acts of 1892, "the certificates or attestations of either Assistant City Registrar shall have the same force and effect as that of the City Registrar."

Kyle J. Wood



Dear Mr. Gray,

I would like a copy of the fingerprint card on a former civilian military employee named Elizabeth Ann Short. They would have been taken sometime during her stay at Camp Cooke, California (now Vandenberg Air Force Base), after she applied for work there on January 30, 1943.

She is the subject of a documentary that I am doing, and was also, the victim of a Los Angeles murder in the 1940's. I would like to have a copy of her prints, for not only reference material, but also, for use in the documentary itself, showing the image on screen for no more than a couple of seconds, if I decide to include it.

I have enclosed a copy of her birth certificate, and her death certificate.

Her Social Security Number is #022-18-4750.

Thank You.

Telephonically contacted Mr. Wood on 6/25/93 and advised him that a name check of the FBI ID Criminal and Civil Files was conducted without locating any fingerprint record identifiable with Ms. Short (Deceased 1947). Advised Mr. Wood that it is FBI ID policy to destroy the fingerprint card(s) of deceased individuals 7 years after notification of the death. Bu Files reflected arrest of Ms. Short by Santa Barbara, CA, P.D. and murder investigation handled by Los Angeles, CA, P.D. Mr. Wood was referred to those agencies for possible copy of Ms. Short's fingerprints. Mr. Wood appreciated quick response and advised that no written response is needed.

ENCLOSURE

NOTE: Bu File # is re: Ms. Short's murder is 62-HQ 82627.

WPA
FBI CTIS DIV.
6/25/93