

the 2 A.M. feeding the nursery was white with steam and the babies unconscious.

"Five of the babies died despite desperate attempts to resuscitate them; two were revived, but one of these died early this evening. The infants who died were:

"The 5-day-old son of Sergeant and Mrs. John Rigg, Raritan Arsenal, Raritan Township.

"The 9-day-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Jankowski, 23 Crampton Avenue, Woodbridge, N. J.

"The 10-day-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Ruzala, 477 Miller Street, Perth Amboy.

"The 6-day-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Hatarick, 371 Kirkland Place, Perth Amboy, who died at 7:30 this evening after having been revived earlier in the day.

"The 40-day-old daughter of an unwed mother.

"The child who was revived was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Abaray, 17 Herman Avenue, Carteret.

"Steam Valve Blew Out

"A steam valve on the nursery radiator had blown out in the interval between Mrs. Maguiness's visit at 1:30 and her return at 2 o'clock. The threads were worn and the valve had been taped with adhesive tape, which gave way under the heat and pressure, allowing the steam to fill the room."

The above letters and enclosures were discussed with Assistant United States Attorney RICHARD BURKE, of the Southern District of New York, who advised that in his opinion the letters constitute a violation of the extortion statute.

No description of the subject or victims is presently available.

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

At the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor, will attempt to locate the original letter and envelope forwarded by the National Labor Relations Board to that division. This original letter and envelope should be forwarded to the Bureau laboratory for appropriate examination and analysis.

Also through the National Labor Relations Board, will secure the original letter forwarded on October 25, 1939

NEWARK OFFICE:

At PERTH AMBOY, NEW JERSEY, will make inquiry through the Perth Amboy General Hospital and the Police authorities to determine if they have any suspects or persons arrested in connection with the matter set forth in the NEW YORK TIMES clipping which is quoted herein.

NEW YORK OFFICE:

Will conduct appropriate investigation through the Esplanade Hotel, 305 West End Avenue, in an attempt to locate the author of these letters.

Will conduct such further investigation as appears advisable.

- PENDING -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK, N. Y.**

FILE NO. **9-169**

b7C

REPORT MADE AT NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	DATE WHEN MADE 2/16/40	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2/2/40	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE JOHN ROGERS. CHAIRMAN, N.L.R.B. - VICTIM. WAGE & HOUR ADMINISTRATION - VICTIM.			CHARACTER OF CASE EXTORTION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Perth Amboy P. D. made no arrests and no one under suspicion for causing death of five babies in nursery of Perth Amboy General Hospital 10/23/39. Hospital authorities suspect no one. County Prosecutor stated incident caused by worn threads on air valve. Grand Jury indicted no one. **[REDACTED]** eliminated as writers of extortion letter. Chief MURRAY threw away letter he received in October, 1939, from individual in Northern New Jersey enclosing clipping and offering services as stationary engineer.

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REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent **[REDACTED]** New York, N. Y. 1/20/40.

DETAILS: **EBI**

On inquiry at the Perth Amboy Police Department, Agent was advised by CHIEF OF POLICE JOHN MURRAY that no arrests had been made, or anyone placed under suspicion in connection with the incident at the PERTH AMBOY GENERAL HOSPITAL, Perth Amboy, New Jersey, on October 23, 1939, in which five babies were asphyxiated by steam escaping from

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>R. J. [Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
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a nursery room radiator from which the air valve, which had been held in place by a piece of adhesive tape, was blown off when steam was raised. He further advised that the Grand Jury had gone into the matter very thoroughly without fixing responsibility on anyone.

[REDACTED]

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CHIEF MURRAY further stated that several days after the incident, he had received a letter from somewhere in Northern New Jersey, he could not recall the location but thought it was above Newark, in which the individual, who signed and dated the letter, wrote along the lines that it was "too damn bad that qualified stationary engineers were out of work and handymen did work on valves and radiators." This letter, he stated, had enclosed with it a clipping on the hospital incident from a Perth Amboy newspaper, but was thrown in the wastebasket along with several other letters from sympathizers and critics. He added that the letter might have been from Cliffside or Bloomfield, was about four pages long, in handwriting just above medium size, and contained an offer to come to Perth Amboy to help out as a qualified stationary engineer.

The Perth Amboy P. D. file on this tragedy was made available to the writer, who noted that it contained reports of the police officers as well as statements from all persons who the police and hospital board felt had anything to do with the incident; there were pictures of the nursery room and radiator valve, together with newspaper clippings commenting on the incident. According to one clipping, the County Prosecutor stated that the incident was caused by worn threads on the air valve, which someone attempted to keep in place with adhesive tape.

[REDACTED]

October 25, 1939, which is the postmarked date of the letters mailed from Washington and New York to the N.L.R.B.

Statements of the other three employees disclosed that

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the PERTH AMBOY
GENERAL HOSPITAL, stated that the hospital authorities had no
suspicions as to anyone connected with the hospital or otherwise
in connection with the nursery room incident, and that statements
had been taken from all individuals whom the Board of Directors
felt had any connection whatsoever with the matter.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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9-169

[REDACTED] the hospital incident which all the authorities feel is a closed matter.

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[REDACTED]

In view of the commonness of the name, JOHN ROGERS, and the fact that CHIEF MURRAY does not recall the locality from which the letter was received, no further investigation is being conducted by this office in this matter.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

62-55640

RE: JOHN ROGERS
CHAIRMAN, N. L. R. B. - Victim;
WAGE & HOUR ADMINISTRATION - Victim;
EXTORTION

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at New York City January 20, 1940, setting out undeveloped leads for your office to obtain original letters sent to the National Labor Relations Board in instant case.

Very truly yours,

cc New York

RECORDED

62-55640-9
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 APR 9 1940
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[illegible]

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ APR 8 1940 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK, NEW YORK ²⁹

NY FILE NO. 9-581

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK CITY	DATE WHEN MADE 5/9/40	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/9, 10/40	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] - b7C
TITLE CHANGED: JOHN ROGERS alias Isaac Kibser; CHAIRMAN, N.L.R.B., VICTIM WAGE AND HOUR ADMINISTRATION, VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE EXTORTION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Two additional letters, one dated 12/16/39 and second dated 12/28/39, both at Brooklyn, NY addressed to victims in this case typewritten by ISAAC KIBSER, Kimberly Hotel, NYC, both dealing with same matters dealt with in letters quoted in reference report. No information developed either at Kimberly Hotel or Esplanade Hotel concerning identity of JOHN ROGERS OR ISAAC KIBSER. At Esplanade Hotel authorities furnished name of [REDACTED]

At Kimberly Hotel authorities furnished name of [REDACTED] as suspect. Suspects to be located and interviewed.

- P -

REFERENCES:

b7C Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] New York City, dated 1/20/40.
Bureau letter, dated 2/19/40 (Bureau File #62-55640)

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [Signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
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DETAILS: The title in this case is marked changed to include the alias of ISAAC KIBSER, who is apparently identical with subject JOHN ROGERS.

The Bureau letter of reference transmitted two photostatic copies of a letter dated December 16, 1939 signed ISAAC KIBSER, which letter had been furnished the Bureau by [REDACTED] National Labor Relations Board, Washington, D. C. This letter is quoted as follows:

" Brooklyn ny December the 16,th,1939

Chairman of the N L R B,
Washington DC
Dear Sir

Now as there is nothing Left of the N L R B But the name You Birds Should Have it Easy Until the Over throw Comes on the Coming Election Day in 1940,at present time This Country is at an all time High as far as Production is conserved Yet we Have an all time Low Wage,Especially a Mong 36,000,Licensed Stationary Steam engineers in New york City these men are still working 12,Hours a Day 7 Days a Week,you Birds that Controlls the National Labor Board Racket Cant See this i am Quite shore and you Blind Guids of course Could not Find these Places,so for you Blind Guids i am Giveing you Rips The names of these Labor Robbing Dumps a Long with their Street NO,&, adress,at these addresses Licensed Engineers are still working 12.

Hours a Day 7 Days a week for a Lower standard of liveing then that in with their Names and street NO,&,address you blind Guids Can with the aid of a Messenger boy find these lousy dumps,Quote First comes the Hebrew Home of the aged at Howard & Duemont AVE,Brooklyn These Charity Thieves pays next to Nothing,Next comes another Bunch of Labor Robbers at 871,Bushwick AVE Brooklyn,Next comes another Labor Robbing Dump by the name of the ST,Marries Hospital at Fort washington AVE on the hill at the East End of the George Washington Bridge you can Easy Find this Bug infested Dump its so Rotten that You Blind Labor Leaders can Smell it ,Next comes a dirty Joint at 112.East 83,Street Next comes anothes Lousy Dump at 11,East 32,Street one Block from the Empire state Building.You Dum artists Should Easy find this Dump,Next comes The ST,Johns,Hospital at 420,Herkimer street Brooklyn,Next comes another Bunch of Long faced Chairity thieves that Runs the Rockaway Beach Hospital,?,at Rockaway Beach,Li The louseyest Dump that Heads the List is the ST,Johns Hospital as giveing a Bove this Bug infested Joint pays next to Nothing for

engineers,?,i could Give you many pages of these Charity Robbing Thieves Street NO,&,And address,after you Blind Labor Leaders with

the aid of a Messenger Boy investigate these Lousy joints you will see at once That all that Exists of the N L R B is the name and a Big payeing Job For a Bunch of Blind Guides, its not communist that These Labor Robbers are Squawking a bout its a Last stand to Fool you Blind guides and Mental Criples, you Dumbells Had better see that Roosevelt Runs the 3,rd time this may stay off the Over throw That is long Over dew, we are not Voteing the Republican ticket or, The Dir Hard we are not Voteing For this Little Pinheaded John Garner This Poker playeing Whiskey Drinking Evil Old man is a die Hard in Other words J P Morgan would be president and this Drunken Old Man Could get Drunk and stay Drunk for 4, Years if roosevelt is Elected 4, Years more it might stay off the Revolt thats Far Over dew Donch you think that some of you Political Ripvanwinkles Should tell The Rich Man that he has gawn to far, in fact these Wage slav Drivers Has Gawn as far as they are going Until the Fireing Squad Takes Them For that Last Mile Walk,?, These Legal Robbers should stop Worrieing a Bout the debt of the country what these Slave Exploiters now Should worry a Bout if they are still to have the Country, The Slaves are tired of seeing the Labor Racket Board Beaing Revised to Suit the Labor Robbers we are not Complaineing a Gainst Roosevelt He has Done all he can with his Rebels and diehards Under the Present Form of government he cant do no more ,, Yours truly isaac, Kibser, Kimberly Hotel, at 74, Street &, Broadway, no answer Please do something???? "

There was likewise transmitted by the Bureau an envelope postmarked New York, New York, October 25, 1939 1:30 P. M. and addressed to "Chairman, of the N, L, R, B. Washington, DC."

There were likewise transmitted two photostatic copies of a second letter dated December 28, 1939 and likewise signed ISAAC KIBSER. This letter is quoted as follows:

"Brooklyn NY December the 28, th 1939
to the National Labor Board Racket
Washington DC

Dear Sir

a Few lines to you Blind Guides at the Wheel of the National Racket labor Board if you Blind guides cant see 36,000. Licensed Steam Engineers in New york city working 12 Hours a Day for a Lower standard of Liveing then that in sing, sing, you Birds should Resign to Earl Browder of Hitler, as nothing could be worse then the Existance of a Licensed Steam engineer in New york city, we work 12 Hours a Day 7, Days a week

For so long we Begin to think that thay should do in Sing Sing as we d
 Or Make room in sing sing For us Engineers as we are tired of working
 12 hours a Day 7 Days a week?, i am shore you Wise Birds cant find thes
 Lousy chisling Dumps so i will give you the name and the Street Number
 and address Quote one of these Bug ridden dumps where life is Lower
 Then that in sing, sing, is a Lousy Bug infested Dump by the Name of
 The ST, Johns, Hospital, at 480, Herkimer, Street Brooklyn, at this Lousy
 Charity Robbing Joint these birds pays Engineers next to Nothing
 when you Get the wages below 3, Dollars a day For Engineers well we
 Begin to Sing That famous Song Sing, Sing My happy Home,
 at 871 Bushwick AVE, Queens this dump works 12, Hours a Day a Week 7
 days a Week For less then 2, Dollars a Day for Engineers, at the
 ST, Marries Hospital Fort Washington AVE, at the East End of the
 George Washington Bridge This Bug ridden Lousy joint is a Tuf Dump
 in Every sence of the word, The Hebrew Home of the Aged at Howard And
 Duemont, AVE Brooklyn, is another Jew Dump that works 12, Hours a Day,
 7 Days a Week for a Lower Standard of liveing then that in, Sing, Sing

The rockaway Beach Hospital, at Rockaway Beach is another Lousy Joint
 at 112, East 83, Street Manhattan is another Labor Robbing Joint, The
 ST, Johns Hospital, at 480 Herkimer, Street Brooklyn Heads the list of
 these Lousy Bug ridden Dumps that pa_ys nothing, For Engineers
 a Mong the many these heare given is only a Few, For you blind Guids to
 look Up as you Have no Excuse as you blind Racket Labor board Cant
 help but find these Lousy Joints with the aid of a Messenger Boy you
 Racket Board wont have any truble in findeing these Lousy joints
 if you Blind Guids in washington Expects us 36,000, Gegestered voters
 to Vote the democrat or Republican ticket in the coming Election you
 you Dumbells are going to be disapointed, ?, we all are voteing the
 socilist Labor Party ticket, Believe it or not,

Yours Truly
 issac Kibser,
 address Kimberly, Hotel, 74, &, Broadway
 Manhattan, NYC, No, answer, Please do something
 NO, answer nessary, ?,

The Bureau letter states that the letter set forth
 above dated December 16, 1939, the envelope postmarked October
 25, 1939, and the transmitted letter addressed to the Chairman
 of the National Labor Racket Board, Washington, D. C. and which
 starts: "in Colsed find First * *", were prepared on a typewriter

equipped with Pica Monogram type with a horizontal letter spacing of ten letters per inch, manufactured by the Underwood Typewriter company since 1934.

The Bureau letter also advised that the letter set forth in the reference report which begins "its always Good for a Sneeze --" was prepared on a typewriter equipped with Remington Noiseless type, Elite style, having a horizontal spacing of twelve letters per inch.

The letter quoted in this report and transmitted December 28, 1939 signed by ISAAC KIBSER was furnished the Bureau Laboratory by the Bureau for appropriate examination. The results will be incorporated in a subsequent report.

At the Esplanade Hotel, 305 West End Avenue, New York City an interview was had with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] These persons advised that there were no individuals either registered at the hotel or employed by the hotel under the name of JOHN ROGERS. They recalled, however, that sometime during the month of November, 1939 a person whom they believed to be a New York City detective appeared at the hotel to make inquiry about a JOHN ROGERS; that he had indicated to them that letter had been received signed by JOHN ROGERS to the effect that the Esplanade Hotel was to be blown up, and that as they recalled, the letter mentioned something about poor working conditions and poor salary for licensed steam stationary engineers. They were unable to recall the name of the particular detective or any place where he might be located.

During the course of further conversation with these gentlemen it was ascertained that from about the middle of July, 1939 up until the latter part of September, 1939 negotiations were pending with a local union for recognition; that there was no aggressiveness on the part of any of the employees, and that no hard feelings apparently existed between the employees and the management of the hotel. The negotiations were carried on in a peaceful and amicable manner, there being no picketing or attempts to cause strikes in connection with the negotiations. Negotiations were completed to everyone's satisfaction during the latter part of September, 1939. It would appear, therefore, that the letters would have no connection with any union activities

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inasmuch as the letters commenced in the latter part of October, 1939.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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For the purpose of completing the records, it is stated that these gentlemen, after checking records, advised that they did not know, and had never heard of any person named ISAAC KIBSER.

At Station N of the United States Post Office, 230 West 69th Street, New York City it was ascertained that there is no removal record on file for either ROGERS or KIBSER from the Esplanade Hotel.

Inquiry was made at [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Inquiry was likewise made through the Bond and Forgery Squad of the New York City Police Department where it was ascertained that according to police regulations all letters of a threatening nature must pass through that department where appropriate records are made. Upon request, [REDACTED] caused the necessary search to be made, but this resulted negatively in the location of any letter having to do with the Esplanade Hotel, the National Labor Relations Board, or with the Wages and Hours Administration, nor was any record located of a letter written by a JOHN ROGERS.

Appropriate notations were made by [REDACTED] who advised that if anything of a similar nature came to his attention, he would immediately notify this office.

At the Kimberly Hotel, 74th Street and Broadway New York City interview was had with [REDACTED]

and [REDACTED]. They advised, after checking records, that there was no indication that any person by the name of JOHN ROGERS or ISAAC KIBSER had resided at the hotel.

[REDACTED]

Interview was also had with [REDACTED] at the Kimberly Hotel who, after checking records, advised that no person bearing the name of JOHN ROGERS or ISAAC KIBSER had ever been employed at the hotel in any capacity.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

At Station N of the United States Post Office, previously mentioned, it was ascertained that there was no record of removal for either JOHN ROGERS or ISAAC KIBSER from the Kimberly Hotel.