

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 1/14/80

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On January 7, 1980, Special Agent (SA) [redacted] [redacted], conducted a technical surveillance at 4407 W Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (WDC). Also present during this technical surveillance was SA [redacted] of the Brooklyn-Queens Metropolitan Resident Agency and Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) [redacted]. Present at this meeting were SA [redacted] MEL WEINBERG, HOWARD CRIDEN, and U.S. Congressman JOHN MURTHA. The videotapes were produced on a Sony Betamax video cassette recorder, model SLO320, serial numbers 14884 and 14846. During this meeting, the recording was turned off at 12:30 p.m. when HOWARD CRIDEN and JOHN MURTHA asked to have a private meeting. The recording was turned back on at 12:33 p.m. when SA [redacted] returned to the room. Upon termination of the technical coverage, the tapes were initialed by SA [redacted] and thereafter turned over to SA [redacted].

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*Already in NY 87-21067
ser 799*

Investigation on 1/7/80 at Washington, D.C. File # WFO 87-23321-37

by SA [redacted] :pag Date dictated 1/14/80

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- _____

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
- SECRET
- CONFIDENTIAL
- UNCLAS E F T O
- UNCLAS

Date 1/10/80

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0005

FM FBI WASHINGTON FIELD (87-23321) (P) (C-7)

TO DIRECTOR FBI PRIORITY

1205/R

ATTN: SUPERVISOR [redacted]

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b7C

BT

UNCLAS

ABSCAM, ITSP, 00:50 pag

ON JANUARY 10, 1980, THERE IS A MEETING PLANNED BETWEEN U.S. CONGRESSMAN MURPHY FROM NEW YORK, HOWARD CRIDEN, ATTORNEY FROM PHILADELPHIA, AND LAWRENCE BUSER, IN CONNECTION WITH A PROPOSAL TO FINANCE THE PURCHASE OF A SHIPPING COMPANY IN PUERTO RICO. IT IS REQUESTED THAT \$10,000 BE MADE AVAILABLE TO BE PAID TO HOWARD CRIDEN AT THIS TIME.

ON JANUARY 7, 1980, HOWARD CRIDEN MET WITH UNDERCOVER AGENTS OF ABSCAM AND WITH U.S. CONGRESSMAN JOHN MURTHA FROM PENNSYLVANIA. THIS MEETING WAS SET UP IN ORDER TO MAKE A PAYMENT OF \$50,000 TO MURTHA IN EXCHANGE FOR HIS COOPERATION IN GAINING PERMANENT RESIDENCY FOR THE ABSCAM SHEIKS. DURING THIS MEETING, MURTHA PLEDGED HIS SUPPORT, HOWEVER, INDICATED

①-WFO

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87-23321-33
SEARCHED _____ INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED Bm FILED Bm
JAN 10 11 43 AM '80
FBI-WASH DC

Approved: CRM/R

Transmitted 1205/R

Per [signature]

FBI

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HE WOULD NOT ACCEPT MONEY AT THAT TIME. HE ALSO ADVISED THAT HE WAS AWARE THAT CONGRESSMAN MURPHY AND CONGRESSMAN THOMPSON FROM NEW JERSEY HAD ALREADY ACCEPTED MONEY AND WERE WORKING ON THE SAME PROBLEMS. SUBSEQUENT TO THIS MEETING, CRIDEN INDICATED THAT A SHARE OF THE MONEY TO BE PAID TO MURTHA WAS TO ACTUALLY GO TO CONGRESSMAN THOMPSON AND CONGRESSMAN MURPHY AND A SHARE TO HIM. HE REQUESTED THAT HE BE GIVEN HIS SHARE, WHICH WOULD HAVE AMOUNTED TO \$10,000.

Chief TOM
EDDY STRIKE FORCE OFFICER PUCCIO HAS BEEN APPRISED OF THESE FACTS AND IS IN FAVOR OF PAYING THE \$10,000 TO CRIDEN IN ORDER TO INSURE HIS CONTINUED COOPERATION.

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Approved: _____ Transmitted _____ (Number) _____ (Time) Per _____