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12 "Before I had coffee with Arthur he
13 had come to my shop at about 7:00 PM or 7:30
14 PM on April 24, 1959 when he asked if he could
15 ride home with me as his car was broken down.
16 I told him I would take him home and told him
17 at this time that there was to be a meeting out
18 from Poplarville concerning Parker who raped a
19 white woman. I asked him if he wanted to go
20 with me and he said he would go.

21
22 "After having coffee at about 8:30 PM
23 I asked him to try his car which started and I
24 followed him towards his home. His car stopped on
25 him and he left it at [REDACTED] store and got
26 in with me in my pick-up truck and we drove on to
27 my house. I told him on the way to my house that
28 I wanted to see [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] Service
29 Station about buying some cows. After arrival at
30 home I parked my truck and after going in the
31 house for a few minutes we got in my Oldsmobile
32 and drove to Poplarville. We went to [REDACTED]
33 filling station and did not see [REDACTED]
34 truck. We then drove on to the [REDACTED] cafe where
35 I parked at the side of the cafe on the south side
36 of the street headed toward Main Street. I sat
37 in the car talking to Arthur Smith for a few
38 minutes and I then got out and went in the cafe
39 for coffee. I asked Arthur Smith to join me but
40 he said he would stay in the car on account of
41 his clothes being torn. While in the cafe I saw
42 the following persons: Francis Barber, M. J.
43 Wheat, J. P. Walker, [REDACTED] and the
44 waitresses [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. There
45 was no mention of this time by anyone at the meet-
46 ing. I then went to my car where Smith was
47 still waiting and while going to my car I saw
48 'Petey' Carver who I thought was an older man since
49 he was wearing a gun. I called Carver to the car
50 and I believe he sat down on the back seat. I
51 asked him did he know anything about the meeting
52 to be held that night concerning Parker. He said
53 he did not. I told him I heard that was going to
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11 be a meeting but I didn't know for sure. Carver
12 then got out of the car and Smith and I drove to
13 the meeting place. We did not follow anyone and
14 were not followed by anyone at this time.
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16 "Upon arrival at the meeting place I
17 saw about eight cars and one pickup truck parked
18 on the right side of the road. There were no
19 cars to my recollection on the left and I parked
20 near a tree located almost in front of a house.
21 I do not know who lives in this house. I didn't
22 see anyone as I drove up to this place. I got
23 out of my car and started walking back to where
24 these cars were parked. I don't remember if Smith
25 got out of my car or not. As I approached the
26 cars I heard someone say 'there's Grip'. I did not
27 recognize this person nor could I recognize his
28 voice. I asked what this meeting was all about
29 and someone said it concerns Parker. I talked to
30 these men a few minutes and would estimate there
31 were fifteen to eighteen people in this group.
32 I did not recognize any of them, and heard some-
33 one say that all of the crowd was not there yet.
34 I then went back to my car saying that I was going
35 back to town. I do not recall whether Smith was
36 still sitting in the car or if he got in at the
37 time. As I was walking back to my car a man follow-
38 ed me and said he would ride back to town and come
39 back with me. I cannot recall this man's name but
40 I believe he is a Davis. I would describe this
41 man as being about forty-five years old, approxi-
42 mately six feet tall, and would weigh about one
43 hundred and sixty five or seventy pounds. He had
44 a hatchet type face and was slender build.
45 I do not recall how he was dressed. The three
46 of us returned to [unclear] and parked at about
47 the same place I had parked before. [unclear] got out and
48 went to the star cafe alone. Smith and this man
49 were still in the car. I went to the cafe to get
50 coffee and stayed about twenty minutes. I recall
51 speaking to [redacted] who was working as a
52 waitress at the cafe.
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11 "When I first came to the star cafe
12 before going to the meeting place it was approxi-
13 mately 9:15 PM. After going to the meeting and
14 returning to the Star Cafe it was about 9:45 PM.
15 I stayed in the Star Cafe about twenty minutes
16 after which I returned to my car.

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18 "Smith and the person who rode to
19 town with us were in the car when I returned.
20 I got in and we drove back to the meeting place.
21 Upon arrival at the meeting place this second
22 time there were cars parked on both sides of the
23 road. I parked on the left side of the road near
24 a boat at the head of the line of cars. I would
25 say that there were about fourteen cars and two
26 trucks there including my car. I would say that
27 in my opinion there were about thirty or more
28 persons there in this group. I believe that the
29 man that rode out to town and back with Smith and
30 me got out of my car and I got out and we walked
31 back to where the group was standing. I do not
32 recall whether Smith got out of the car at this
33 time or not. I believe this was about 10:30 or
34 10:45 PM. As I approached the cars two men
35 stopped me. Someone in the crowd behind these
36 two men said 'that's Crip come back'. I did not
37 know the identity of the two men and did not
38 recognize the voice of the man who spoke. I
39 passed on by these two men and stood within about
40 five feet of the group. I saw no guns, masks,
41 gloves or clubs. I did hear the rumors and that
42 some of these people had guns and I heard one say
43 he had a mask. I recall saying to this group that
44 somewhere out there in that community was an old
45 man who had asked me about my spotted horse
46 last year while we were both in Poplarville. I
47 told them to tell him if they knew him that if
48 he would come to my house I would sell him the
49 horse or trade him the horse for cattle. A man
50 standing to my right whose voice sounded like an
51 old man said he would see me in a few days about
52 the horse or something similar to that. I took
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12 this to be Mr. Lee the man I had previously
13 talked to or some of his relations because he
14 knew what I was talking about. I believe that
15 while I was standing there I heard Arthur Smith
16 say something to me during the time we were
17 there. There was general talk about what we
18 were going to do with Barker. I said that the
19 river was up as I had crossed it recently. I
20 said this because someone had just remarked or
21 asked what we were going to do with Barker if
22 we got him, and someone else said the river
23 would be a good place for him.

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25 "I made the remark that I was going back
26 to town and someone said 'we are going to use
27 your car.' I objected to this but they insisted
28 and said 'we are going to use it.' I told them
29 my car was about out of gas and they said they
30 would gas my car up not to worry about it. I
31 asked where I would get my car back and they said
32 at the cross roads. I asked what cross roads and
33 someone said at the Pura Oil station on the
34 Bogalusa road. I told them that Barker was a
35 sick man and had no business being in anything
36 like that and someone told me to take Barker and
37 drive his car and take him back to town. When
38 Barker and I started to get in his car, a dove
39 colored or grey 1959 Chevrolet sedan, I heard
40 some dogs bark. I thought the dogs were on a
41 truck we walking by. I believe this was a 1 ton
42 truck cream colored. As I started to get in
43 Barker's car I heard someone say 'he's going home.'
44 I believe it was [redacted] voice. I have

45 [redacted] been [redacted] closely associated with
46 [redacted] I believe I recognized his voice.
47 As I pulled to the left get in Barker's car
48 turned around I saw this same truck [redacted] going
49 North. I believe this was an International truck.
50 I drove Barker's car and we went to Bogalusa.
51 As I passed the group someone said I could get my
52 car after midnight. I would estimate this was
53 about 11:15 PM. We stopped at the [redacted] how-
54 ever they were closing. I spoke to [redacted] who
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12 was cleaning up and then returned to Barker's
13 car. We drove to the filling station called
14 the 'cheap station' across from the City Hall
15 and bought three dollars worth of gas. We then
16 drove to the intersection of highway 26 and U.S.
17 highway 11 where we turned north for about one
18 quarter of a mile and parked at a filling
19 station where we talked for about twenty minutes.
20 We then returned to the vicinity of the hospital,
21 by coming in on highway 26 to Julia street and
22 turned right and proceeded to the street just
23 north of the courthouse and hospital. We turned
24 right where I saw a 1956 Chevrolet black in color
25 containing four men. I did not recognize anyone
26 in this Chevrolet. I believe this is the same
27 car I saw at the meeting place when I was not by
28 the two men near the group. In front of this
29 Chevrolet I saw my Oldsmobile. I saw four men
30 sitting in my car. I saw J. P. Walker sitting
31 under the steering wheel in the driver's seat.
32 I did not recognize any of the other three men.
33 I asked the men in my car if they had gotten the
34 keys to the jail yet and they said they had not.
35 I then went to the other car and they said they
36 had not gotten them. The reason I asked this
37 question was because at the meeting I had heard
38 someone say they were going to break into the
39 Sheriff's office to see if they could get the keys
40 to the jail. I got back in Barker's car with
41 Barker and would estimate the time to be about
42 11:40 PM. I turned left, went behind the hospital,
43 turned left again and proceeded to Main street.
44 I turned left and proceeded north. As I went north
45 on Main street I saw a car parked directly across
46 the street from the Standard Oil Service Station
47 which is located on the North East corner of the
48 court house. I do not know the time, color or the
49 color of it but do recall it contained four or
50 five men. I went to the Amoco Service station
51 formerly known as Kester's Truck Stop. [REDACTED] b7c
52 I went in and got coffee. I saw [REDACTED]
53 R. J. Wheat, E. P. Orr and 'Petey' [REDACTED]. I
54 asked the time and someone in the group pointed

the clock out to me and I saw it was 11:50 AM. Carver and the group he was with left the cafe at 12:10 AM and Barker and I left at 12:15 AM. We then went down to the Bogalusa highway and turned left and went to Julia street and turned right and drove between the hospital and the court house where we turned left and drove past the south entrance of the court house. I saw as we passed the south entrance that one of the doors of the court house was open. I then went on to Main street turned left and went out the Bogalusa road. We drove on to the cross roads and parked at the Pure Oil Station. I pulled in and parked and in a very few seconds my Oldsmobile pulled in and parked between Barker's car that I was driving and the highway. A man wearing blue denim pants got out of the passenger side of the front seat of the Oldsmobile and while running to Barker's car said 'let's get the hell out of here.' Arthur Smith got out of the right rear of the Oldsmobile, I believe, and got into the right front seat of the Oldsmobile. I got out of Barker's car and as I was going around the left rear of the Oldsmobile I ran into an individual whom I believe had gotten out of the left rear of the Oldsmobile. I do not recall seeing the driver and do not know who was driving the Oldsmobile. I got in the Oldsmobile on the driver's side and drove in front of Barker's car and then turned south on what is known as River Road. Barker stayed in his car and Arthur Smith was the only other person in the Oldsmobile with me at this time. I did not see the direction taken by Barker's car and do not know who was driving Barker's car. We drove directly to Arthur's house and let him out and then returned to my home arriving there at 12:57 AM. I immediately went to bed.

"The next morning I noticed there was a small spot of blood on the floor board and blood smeared on the outside over the right rear door.

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11 This was on Saturday morning. I tried to get
12 the blood off with a wash cloth. At about ten
13 AM on Sunday Arthur Smith and I washed the car
14 with soap and water.

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16 "I have not been contacted by anyone
17 regarding the abduction of Parker who to my
18 knowledge was in any way involved in the
19 abduction. The only person I have talked to
20 regarding the abduction of Parker who I know
21 to have been possibly involved is Arthur Eugene
22 Smith who is my nephew by marriage.

23
24 "I have read this statement of this &
25 eight other type-written pages. I have put my
26 initials by all corrections & insertions. I
27 have put my name on each of the other eight pages.
28 This statement is true & correct to the best of
29 my knowledge.

30
31 /s/ CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS REYER

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33 "Witnesses:

34 [REDACTED], Sp. Agent,
35 F. B. I., New Orleans, La., 5-14-59
36 [REDACTED], Special Agent,
37 F. B. I., B'ham, Ala., 5-14-59."

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40 On May 15, 1959, REYER was contacted by SA's
41 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and shown a photograph of L. C. DAVIS. b7c
42 He identified DAVIS as the individual who had ridden from
43 the meeting place on the Higgins Road, the night of April
44 24, 1959, to Poplarville, Mississippi, in REYER's Oldsmobile
45 and [REDACTED] with him to the meeting place. REYER
46 then stated that who [REDACTED] stood in the car of FRANCIS
47 BARKER on the north side of the [REDACTED] Hospital
48 about 11:30 AM on April 24, 1959, he had observed an
49 individual whom he now identifies as L. C. DAVIS walking
50 from behind a black 1956 Chevrolet to the courthouse front
51 lawn. REYER stated that when he stopped at [REDACTED] car at
52 the north side of the hospital he had stopped next to his,
53 REYER's 1957 Oldsmobile and there was a 1956 black Chevrolet
54 parked immediately to the rear of the Oldsmobile. He
55 followed L. C. DAVIS across the courthouse lawn to the
56 front porch of the courthouse where DAVIS disappeared from
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view behind a column. MEYER stated he then returned to the car of BARKER and proceeded to the Amson Service Station for coffee. MEYER stated he recognized J. P. WALKER as the driver of his 1957 Oldsmobile but denied recognizing any other occupant of the Oldsmobile or the 1956 black Chevrolet. MEYER stated that he had made inquiry of the occupants of both the Oldsmobile and Chevrolet as to whether or not they had obtained the keys to the jail but denied that he and BARKER had had anything to do with obtaining the keys or making arrangements for securing the keys. He stated that he had no knowledge of any arrangements or plans being made to obtain the keys to the jail. He steadfastly maintained that FRANCIS BARKER remained in his presence from the time he drove BARKER's car away from the meeting on the Wiggins Road at approximately 10:30 PM on April 24, 1959, until approximately 12:30 AM the morning of April 25, 1959, except for the short interval of time that he, MEYER, followed L. C. DAVIS in front of the courthouse.

On May 14, 1959, MEYER was again contacted by SA's [redacted] and [redacted] at his home in McNeill. He stated that he now recalled following L. C. DAVIS to the front of the courthouse the night of April 24, 1959, and that DAVIS attempted to open a window of the Sheriff's Office; that DAVIS commented the window was stuck and that together they walked around the south side of the courthouse and in between the courthouse and the hospital in returning to the cars. MEYER stated that he got into BARKER's car and did not notice what action was taken by L. C. DAVIS. At this time MEYER made available his 1957 Oldsmobile for examination and it was noted that the tail and brake lights were in operating condition. MEYER stated that no repairs had been made to the tail and brake lights on his 1957 Oldsmobile since April 23, 1959. b7c

On May 18, 1959, SA's [redacted] and [redacted] learned from [redacted] that [redacted] was in the hospital at Pictoune under the care of [redacted] and that no visitors were allowed. b7c

May 8, 1959, SA's [redacted] and [redacted] contacted E. F. Orr, Town Marshal, Poplarville, Mississippi, concerning the alleged presence of "CRIP" REYER and FRANCIS BARKER at the Amoco Service Station cafe on the night of April 24, 1959. Orr advised he was not acquainted with anyone named "CRIP" REYER or CRISS REYER, unless this person was identical with a man known to him as "LEFTY" REYER whom he had not seen for several months. He further stated he had heard generally in the community that a man named BARKER from around McNeill, Mississippi, had a heart attack and died on or about April 30, 1959. He stated he was acquainted slightly with this man, whom he had not seen in some time.

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Orr stated that during the time he was in the Amoco with WHEAT, [redacted] and CARVER he did not speak with anyone other than in his own party and he did not recall having been spoken to by anybody. He stated he definitely was not touched or greeted by anyone identifiable to him as REYER or BARKER.

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On May 8, 1959, [redacted], Poplarville, Mississippi, advised SA's [redacted] and [redacted] that after he, Orr, WHEAT, and CARVER were seated at the Amoco cafe he noted "CRIP" REYER sitting on a counter stool beside Mr. FRANCIS BARKER. He went on to state that they remained at the cafe until about midnight, or possibly a little later, during the course of which "CRIP" REYER carried on a conversation with either Orr, CARVER, or WHEAT. He did not recall whom REYER talked to or what was said, but that REYER did not talk to him.

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About midnight, Orr, CARVER, WHEAT, and [redacted] left the cafe in CARVER's car. He did not recall CRISS REYER attempted to talk to any of them as they were leaving. He did not recall that CAR REYER was driving that night and had not recalled seeing REYER since that night.

[redacted] advised SA's [redacted] and [redacted] on May 11, 1959, that about 1959, on the night of April 24, 1959, he recalled having seen CARVER, "CRIP" REYER and J. P. WALKER in the Star Cafe.

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On May 8, 1959, ROBERT JAMES WHEAT, RFD, Poplarville, Mississippi, advised SA [redacted] and [redacted] that he was at the [redacted] Cafe on the night of April 24, 1959, with RAY CARVER, [redacted] and B. F. ORR. He observed [redacted] REYER and FRANCIS BARKER, first becoming aware of them when REYER came by their table and spoke to B. F. ORR, slapping him on the back or touching him on the shoulder as he spoke to him. He could not recall what REYER said to ORR, but thought it was just some non-committal remark, such as "Hi ya Cuz." REYER did not speak to anyone else at their table and went over to the counter where he sat down. While REYER was at the counter he carried on some general conversation with someone at their table, but WHEAT said he could not recall the conversation and did not know exactly whom he was talking to at their table. He stated that when they left the cafe at about midnight BARKER and REYER were still at the counter and he did not see REYER again that night. b7c

HAROLD PIERRE CARVER, [redacted] Poplarville, Mississippi, advised SA [redacted] and [redacted] on May 14, 1959, that on the night of April 24, 1959, he had coffee at the [redacted] Cafe located on Main Street, with R. J. WHEAT and [redacted] at approximately 9:30 PM. He advised that [redacted] ("Crip") was also in the Star Cafe at the above mentioned time. CARVER stated that after coffee had been finished and WHEAT and [redacted] had left to return to Local 119 Junior College where they are employed, he saw "Crip" REYER's Oldsmobile automobile in the street near the cafe which he recalls as being occupied by REYER, a person he believes to have been [redacted] and another individual. [redacted] to him when he would guess to be approximately 30 years of age, about five feet seven or eight inches in height, and a heavy build. CARVER stated REYER called him to the automobile which he entered and sat with these men for a short time. He stated that REYER made the comment that someone was liable to get killed because "all them nigger lawyers" being in the court case. CARVER stated he told REYER not to tell him anything and to go. b7c

stated that REYER also remarked something to the effect they were thinking about taking "that nigger" out of the jail. CARVER says at this point, he left the automobile and did not converse with them further; however, he did not take REYER's remark seriously and did not believe that he was part of the plan to take a Negro prisoner from the jail.

CARVER states that he did not tell Marshal B. F. ORR of the remarks made by "Crip" REYER earlier in the evening. He stated that ORR accompanied him, WHEAT and [REDACTED] to the Amoco Cafe on U. S. Highway No. 11 in the northeast portion of the city limits of Poplarville where they had coffee. He advised that while the group was having coffee at the Amoco Cafe, a Mr. BARKER and "Crip" REYER entered the cafe and one of them, whom he believes was REYER, spoke to Marshal B. F. ORR or to the group. He states he could not recall any specific comment made by REYER and states there is a possibility that his comment was merely a greeting to ORR.

[REDACTED] Mississippi, on May 11, 1959, admitted implication in this matter to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. He also admitted that he went to the meeting on the Wiggins Road with C. C. REYER, that REYER's car was to be used to transport PARKER and that he and REYER regained possession of the Oldsmobile at Crossroads, Mississippi, following the abduction. He admitted assisting REYER in washing stains off the Oldsmobile which appeared to be blood on Sunday, April 26, 1959. Details regarding [REDACTED] participation are set forth below.

On May 16, 1959, L. C. DAVIS, Route 2, Box 189, Poplarville, Mississippi, advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that he knew C. C. REYER as a prize fighter of years ago who now works as a barber in McNeill, Mississippi. DAVIS denied he had been with REYER or in the car of REYER the night of April 24, 1959. He related that he had been contacted a few days after the abduction of PARKER by REYER who came to his house seeking to buy cows.

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12 B. NAME [REDACTED]

13 RESIDENCE [REDACTED], Mississippi

14 OCCUPATION [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

15 AGE [REDACTED]

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18 Mississippi, whose statements concerning his part in the
19 abduction of PARKER from the Pearl River County Jail have
20 been set forth previously in this document. [REDACTED] originally
21 advised of the participation of [REDACTED] in the
22 abduction when interviewed on May 2, 1968. [REDACTED] was
23 advised that [REDACTED] accompanied him to Bogalusa on that
24 night, driving out to the meeting place on the Bogalusa Road,
25 riding back into town with [REDACTED] and returning to
26 the meeting place. [REDACTED] remained at Bogalusa,
27 Mississippi, where [REDACTED] obtained his automobile which had
28 been taken from him for the purpose of transporting PARKER.
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32 [REDACTED] was originally inter-
33 viewed on May 7, 1968, at Bogalusa, Mississippi, at which
34 time [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] advised that
35 he denied any participation in the abduction of PARKER. [REDACTED] was
36 interviewed on May 11, 1968, at which time [REDACTED] advised
37 that [REDACTED] accompanied SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
38 to Bogalusa, Louisiana, for the interview.

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41 At this time [REDACTED] furnished the following
42 statement concerning his activities: [REDACTED] advised that
43 he read the statement wherein [REDACTED] was said to have
44 been in the presence of [REDACTED] at this
45 time [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] was so
46 could think of no discrepancies in the statement and was
47 not certain whether he should sign it without consulting
48 an attorney inasmuch as his education was not high and
49 very thorough understanding of what he was doing.

"Eogalusa, La.

"May 12, 1959

I, [REDACTED] make the following statement to [REDACTED] whom I know to be Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This is a free and voluntary statement on my part and no promises or threats of any kind have been made to me. I know I do not have to say anything at all at this time and have been told that any statement I do make can be used against me in a court of law. I have also been told of my right to talk to a lawyer before making this statement.

"I am [REDACTED] years of age and have finished four years of schooling. I presently work [REDACTED] Miss. On Friday, April 24, 1959, I returned home from work about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. About 4:30 o'clock that day my wife came home with my 1947 Black, Chevrolet Tudor sedan and I immediately left alone to go hunting East of McNeill, Miss.

"Between six and six-thirty o'clock that afternoon I returned to McNeill, Miss. and went to the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] told me to wait around, that he wanted to see me and I waited about ten minutes or more for a customer to leave. I waited outside the shop alone, and he came out and asked me if I wanted to go with him to move that nigger. I understood this to mean the Parker nigger that had raped a white girl and [REDACTED] had been talk that he would be turned loose [REDACTED] there be no niggers on the jail that would try him. [REDACTED] moving [REDACTED] I know it was planned to take him out of jail and [REDACTED] of him. [REDACTED] said a group was to meet East of McNeill, Miss., on the Williams road that night and he was going. I agreed to go along and we left McNeill, I driving my car and [REDACTED] driving his pickup truck. We were going to take my car home but it broke down near [REDACTED] tore near my home, where we left

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11 it and proceeded in the truck to [REDACTED]
12 Here we got into the 1957 Red [REDACTED] Oldsmobile
13 four-door sedan belonging [REDACTED] and he drove
14 to Poplarville, Miss.

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16 "When we got there he drove to the
17 Star Cafe, the Greyhound bus depot and I recall
18 a bus arriving but don't know what time it was.
19 [REDACTED] said he was going to get some coffee and
20 I waited in the car and did not see him go into
21 the cafe or talk to anyone at that time. On the
22 way to Poplarville I asked [REDACTED] what was going
23 to be done and he said we would just go to the
24 meeting to be from Hesseill. Then we left the
25 Star Cafe, he drove his car out the Higgins high-
26 way East several miles where we were to turn left
27 on a gravel road but he missed the turn and we
28 had to come back. We were not following anyone
29 and did not notice anyone following our car. We
30 turned into the gravel road and traveled a short
31 distance out of sight of the highway and came upon
32 a group of cars parked on both sides of the road.
33 Chris drove past these cars a parked in front on
34 the left side. There were fifteen or twenty cars
35 parked there and a group of probably thirty men
36 or more standing on the right side of the road.

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38 [REDACTED] left the car, leaving his keys
39 in the ignition and walked over to the group of
40 men. He said nothing to me and [REDACTED] half-hour
41 or more I also left the car and went to the group
42 to see what was going on since I could hear
43 nothing from the car. When I arrived [REDACTED] was
44 [REDACTED] got everyone together to [REDACTED]
45 meeting [REDACTED] had some talk about using
46 car to carry the [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] heard [REDACTED]
47 his car was too light color. But [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
48 to use his car. They had already [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
49 to get into the Court House and [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
50 talking about going through a window to [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
51 get the keys and open the doors. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] ask
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or gloves on and I did not see or hear anything about these, nor could I identify anyone talking except [REDACTED]. The group was then talking about someone to go inside and several men volunteered but I don't know who was picked or how selections were made and do not know anyone who agreed to go.

"In addition to regular passenger cars, I saw two pick-up trucks, one light blue, make unknown, with a stake body & the other a black truck with nothing on the back, make unknown. I think the blue truck was a Ford but I could not recognize either of them.

"I was standing near [REDACTED] about the time the meeting was breaking up and heard him say that Francis Barker was too sick to be mixed up in this, that he was going to get him out of there. He told me he was to get his car back at the cross-roads on highway 26 near the East end of the Pearl River bridge. He said nothing about who was to use the car and since I knew the nigger was to be hauled in it, I did not want to ride in it. I saw five men get into [REDACTED] Oldsmobile, none of whom I knew, all being rather tall. The driver was about forty years old, five-foot six or seven and weighed about one hundred and sixty pounds. He appeared to be dark complexioned, was wearing regular overalls with bib and shoulder straps and a cap with a long bill. Everyone in the Oldsmobile was wearing a hat or cap but I could not recognize any of them.

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"I went to a black, 1955 or 1956 Chevrolet sedan where three men were seated and was invited to join them and did so although I did not know any of them. The driver was a young man in his twenties, black hair, five foot six, weighed one hundred fifty pounds. He said he was from Mill Creek, Miss., but did not say where he lived. The man sitting with me in the back was a small man, quite young and reminded me of the family around Poplarville but I cannot say for sure he was a [REDACTED] boy.

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"We left the scene about midnight, after being there some two hours, during which time no one left & probably three more cars arrived. We left the meeting a few cars at a time and evidently the drivers know where to park. The car I was in parked near the Standard Service Station on the north side of the Court House near the main street, headed West. We were to watch for any outside trouble on this side & if anyone came, keep them from going into the court house. We had no guns or clubs in this car that I saw. While parked here [redacted] drove by in Barker's Chevrolet and stopped to talk to us about the plans. We could not see anything going on at the South door of the Court House but after a few minutes, heard the Oldsmobile leave that area, headed West. We left in our car to follow it, going one block, turning right and one block further, turning left onto highway 26 headed towards Bogalusa. When we got to the highway the Oldsmobile had already reached the highway and was headed for Bogalusa. It ran a red-light at highway 11 and continued on West and we also ran this red-light and followed some distance behind. I do not know what time this was but remember riding around Town a few minutes before parking to wait for twelve o'clock so believe it was shortly after twelve midnight when we left town.

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"The plan was to throw the nigger in the river but I know of no plan to kill in firm. We never did get close enough to the Oldsmobile to see how many men were in it or whether or not the nigger was in it. We stayed within sight of the tail lights all the way to the Pearl River bridge. The plan was to throw him in on the bridge but I believe that cars headed East at that time prevented the Oldsmobile from stopping and did not let it stop on the bridge. As we crossed the bridge, the Oldsmobile had pulled off to the right and was making a U-turn on highway 26 on the Mississippi side to return to Mississippi. We continued on past the

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12 Oldsmobile before we turned around and lost sight
13 of it. We never did see it stop on the bridge at
14 any time or see what happened to the nigger.

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16 "We continued on to the cross-road,
17 some two miles East of the bridge in Mississippi
18 where the Oldsmobile was waiting at a service
19 station. I left the Chevrolet here and approached
20 the Oldsmobile and saw that five men were in it
21 but not the nigger. I got into the Oldsmobile on
22 the right rear side and did not see what direction
23 the Chevrolet took. This was the same group of men
24 in the Oldsmobile that I had seen get in it earlier
25 but I did not recognize any of them.

26
27 "Since [redacted] was not at the cross-roads,
28 we headed East on highway 26 toward Poplarville and
29 met him driving [redacted] car, accompanied by [redacted]
30 We turned around and followed him to the cross-roads
31 where the five men got out and [redacted] got in. We
32 then left for home and the next day [redacted] told me
33 he had taken these men to the tourist camp on highway
34 11 to the right as you approach Poplarville from
35 Bogalusa.

36
37 "As I got into the Oldsmobile, I saw some
38 blood on the top of the Oldsmobile on the right,
39 rear side. I didn't look in the back seat and went
40 to work Saturday so didn't see it. On Sunday
41 I was returning from [redacted] and [redacted] asked me to
42 help him wash it and at that time I saw dark stains
43 on each back door panel, back seat and cushion and
44 the floor. [redacted] said nothing about anything
45 in the Oldsmobile that had to be disposed
46 of.

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48 [redacted] has never said anything about [redacted] or [redacted]
49 who any of these men are and I do not know the names
50 any of them except [redacted] He has never said anything
51 about where the gloves or marks came from.
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At first when the investigation started, [redacted] said to stick to the story that we were home. Later he told me he had been questioned, that the FBI knew I was one of the men and was going to question me. He told me therefore to say I went to the meeting and some men used a gun on me and forced me to go with them.

"I state that this statement of [redacted] and seven other pages written by Special Agent [redacted] have been read to me, that I understand it all and it is all true and correct to the best of my memory.

"The above statement read to [redacted] by SA [redacted], in the presence of [redacted] at which time he stated it was all true & correct but refused to sign it without benefit of counsel.

"/s/ [redacted]
"/s/ [redacted]

On May 13, 1959, [redacted] was interviewed by SA's [redacted] and [redacted] at his residence at Natchez, Mississippi. He stated that he furnished more detailed information regarding his activities on the night of April 24, 1959.

On this Friday afternoon, April 24, 1959, [redacted] after getting home about 4:00, got into his 1947 Chevrolet and went hunting. He stayed out in the woods alone until approximately 6:00 PM, at which time he returned to [redacted] and stopped to see his [redacted]. [redacted] told him to get in the car, that he wanted to see him. After waiting about 15 minutes, and all the customers had left, [redacted] came outside and asked me if I wanted to see [redacted]. [redacted] said to move that nigger." When [redacted] said that, [redacted] understood that he meant the "nigger" who had raped the white girl, and that there had been talk that the "nigger" would be turned loose in the area.

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11 were no "niggers" on the jury that would try him. [REDACTED]
12 indicated that by "moving him" he knew it was planned to
13 take the "nigger" out of the jail and get rid of him.
14 [REDACTED] advised him that a group was to meet East of
15 Poplarville, Mississippi, on the Wiggins Road that night
16 and that he, [REDACTED] was going, at which time SMITH agreed
17 to go along.
18

19 They left [REDACTED] Mississippi, [REDACTED]
20 driving his 1947 Chevrolet, and [REDACTED] got in his truck,
21 stating that he was going to stop to see [REDACTED]
22 He did not tell [REDACTED] the reason he was contacting [REDACTED]
23 [REDACTED] while on his way home, had trouble with his Chevrolet
24 and stopped at [REDACTED] store and within a short period
25 of time, [REDACTED] came along and they left [REDACTED] car there
26 and drove to [REDACTED] house in [REDACTED] town. Upon
27 arriving at this house, he got into [REDACTED] 1957 red and
28 white Oldsmobile four-door sedan and waited for [REDACTED] to
29 feed his dog and bring in several quarts of milk. [REDACTED]
30 came out, and they then left for Poplarville.
31

32 When they arrived in Poplarville, [REDACTED]
33 parked the car by the Greyhound Bus Depot, got out of the
34 car, and headed towards the cafe, asking [REDACTED] if he would
35 like to accompany him for some coffee. [REDACTED] declined the
36 invitation for the reason that his trousers were split up
37 the back.
38

39 [REDACTED] did not see [REDACTED] go into the cafe,
40 nor did he see him stop and talk to anyone. About 20
41 minutes later, [REDACTED] returned to the car. However, [REDACTED]
42 in the absence of [REDACTED], did not see or talk to anyone on
43 the street, nor did anyone approach the car while he was
44 present.
45

46 [REDACTED] then drove out from the cafe out
47 Highway 26 toward Wiggins, Mississippi. [REDACTED] driving a
48 short distance out of Poplarville, [REDACTED] located he
49 missed the road he was supposed to turn on, turned around,
50 and came back. This road they finally turned on was a
51 gravel road which more or less curved off of Highway 26.
52 After traveling up this gravel road a short distance, they
53 came upon several cars parked on both sides of the road,
54 with a group of men congregated on the right side of the
55 road.
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road between a row of cars and the fence. [redacted] drove his car completely through this row of cars and parked some distance on the left side of the road past a house. At this point, [redacted] got out of his car and [redacted] remained in the car. [redacted] does not recall whether or not [redacted] took the keys to the Oldsmobile with him. [redacted] recalls [redacted] walked over to the group of men, and he remained in the car approximately 20 to 30 minutes, after which time, becoming rather curious as to what was taking place, he got out of the car and joined the group of men.

[redacted] said when he approached the group of men, he only recognized two of these men, one being [redacted] and the other [redacted]. At this time, he did not recognize anyone else, nor did he note any firearms, gloves, or any other type of equipment that may have been used in the Friday night incident.

After several minutes with the crowd of men, [redacted] went back to his car and [redacted] followed. On this occasion, another man came along [redacted] in the car with them. [redacted] got behind the wheel, [redacted] in the middle and the third man sat in front on the right side. He described this third individual as approximately six feet, age 30-40, weight 150-180 pounds, a thin man, wearing brown khaki pants and discolored turkey hants during the time he was in the car. [redacted] was of the opinion that this individual resided in the area where the shooting took place. He estimated that this took place between 9:00 and 10:00 PM.

[redacted] drove the automobile back to replace-
ment [redacted] parked in approximately the same location
[redacted] were a little closer to Main Street.
[redacted] got out of the car, but [redacted] no recollection as to why
or where he was going. [redacted] and [redacted] other individual
remained in the car. [redacted] did not see [redacted] in the
cafe, nor did he see him talking to anyone. About 10
minutes later, [redacted] returned to the car. [redacted] [redacted]
to the car, [redacted] met PATE CARVER, the [redacted] [redacted], who
came to the car and got into the back of the car. At this
time, [redacted] asked PATE CARVER if he knew about "getting

the nigger out of the jail tonight." To this question, PETE CARVER denied he had any knowledge that this was going to take place. [REDACTED] did not hear [REDACTED] ask CARVER to get out of town or leave the immediate area of the courthouse nor did he give him any other type of instructions. CARVER then got out of the Oldsmobile and [REDACTED] drove back to the meeting place just off of highway 26 toward Higgins. At this time, the car was occupied by the same three individuals who came from the meeting place-- [REDACTED] and the unknown individual.

Upon arriving at the scene, [REDACTED] parked his car in approximately the same location, just the line of cars to the left. At this time, all three men got out of the car and joined the group of men. [REDACTED] walked over and more or less acted as spokesman and tried to encourage the men to get "this activity started so they could get it over." At this time, [REDACTED] recognized [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] among the group of men. It was at this time that they would use [REDACTED] car to transport the "nigger" from the jail to the Pearl River. [REDACTED] sort of objected originally because of the color of his car, but finally consented to let them use his car. [REDACTED] indicated he heard no conversation in which assignments were made to drive cars, to get the keys at the Sheriff's Office, or to enter the jail. He further indicated that he did not see any firearms, however, he did note one man carried a short billy-type club. He indicated he did not see any gloves, however, he noted two men had some type of masks. He could not state what these were the type that completely covered the head or had a string around the forehead, but stated the masks did contain slits for the eyes and came down far enough to cover the chin. He was unable to state the type of material of which these masks were made. He described one of the individuals who had a mask as a short, heavy-set individual, approximately five feet six inches tall, weighing approximately 160 pounds, and whose age was 30-35. He could not recall how this individual was dressed, but did note that he was husky and had unusually large arms. He described the second individual who had a mask as being five feet nine inches tall, weighing 160 pounds, appearing to be approximately 35 years old.

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12 [redacted] related that the group began to break
13 up and get into the various automobiles, none of which he
14 could specifically describe, with the exception of [redacted]
15 car and [redacted] car, however, he believed there
16 were two pickup trucks on the scene. One he described as
17 a light blue or gray with a stake body and the other a
18 black pickup truck, make unknown. He did not notice the
19 license plates on any of the cars parked in the vicinity
20 of the meeting and it was his recollection that possibly
21 the license plate on the car of [redacted] had been bent
22 upward. He did not note any particular license plate as
23 having been covered with any type of material in an attempt
24 to hide identity of cars and, to his knowledge, no license
25 plates were removed from any of the cars.
26

27 [redacted] was advised by an individual, whose
28 identity is unknown to him, to get into another car. At
29 this time, he got into what he described as a 1968 or 1969
30 Chevrolet, which was occupied by three other men. He
31 described the dashboard to be black in color and also be-
32 lieved the seat covers were black. He could give no fur-
33 ther distinguishing characteristics of the inside of this
34 car. He got into the back of the car, which he believed was
35 black, and recognized the man in the back with him as a
36 [redacted] but did not know his full name. He described this
37 individual as a very young man, about the age of 20, with
38 light colored hair. He was unable to describe the type
39 of clothes worn by this [redacted] described
40 the driver of this car as a [redacted] 30-35 who is
41 married to a [redacted] near [redacted]
42 Mississippi. [redacted] was not able to describe the person
43 man in front of this Chevrolet with the exception that he
44 was a [redacted] man between 30-35. [redacted] was unable to
45 state the [redacted] of either of the men in the front of
46 the car had been wearing.
47

48 [redacted] further related that [redacted] as to knowledge
49 as to the individuals who left the scene in [redacted]
50 car, nor was he able to state the number of [redacted]
51 who may have ridden in [redacted] car back to [redacted]
52 He observed [redacted] enter the car [redacted]
53 and said these two proceeded to Poplarville [redacted]
54 driving the car. He did not observe anyone else [redacted]
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in the car of [REDACTED] at this time. He was not able to state how [REDACTED] returned to Poplarville.

[REDACTED] related that they left the scene about midnight and after arriving in the town of Poplarville, rode around for ten or 15 minutes, attempting to delay before actually getting to the courthouse square.

[REDACTED] said they finally parked alongside the Standard Service Station just off of Main Street at the courthouse square. From this particular position, he was unable to view the South side of the courthouse. He related further that while they were in this position, there was no conversation being had among the men in the car. After remaining in this position for a short while, they then proceeded down this side street, heading toward Bogalusa, crossing over Julia Street, and in the middle of the next block, stopped the car to park to talk to [REDACTED] who was still with [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] does not recall any specific conversation with [REDACTED] but they had only momentarily stopped in this position. They then drove to the next corner and turned left, going several blocks, turning left again, and finally coming back on Julia Street and took up a position diagonally across the street from the South entrance of the courthouse. While parked in this position, he observed a group of men dragging the "nigger" out of the South entrance of the courthouse, and placing him in [REDACTED] automobile. He related that at this time, he was paying more attention to a man who was walking from the hospital toward the group of men putting the "nigger" in the car. For this reason, he was unable to state the exact number of men or the identity of any of the men, nor was he able to state the actual number of men who were gotten into [REDACTED] car with the "nigger." In regard to the [REDACTED] from the hospital toward the group handling the "nigger", [REDACTED] was unable to give any type of description of this individual, giving as his reason the fact that he, [REDACTED] was "blinded."

[REDACTED] related that he did not particularly observe whether or not the corner street light was on, nor

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12 did he observe whether or not a light was on in the
13 furniture store.
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15 [redacted] stated after the "nigger" was placed
16 in [redacted] car, it then took off and headed west one block,
17 turning right, behind the hospital, proceeding on to
18 Highway 26, turning left. Just after [redacted] car took
19 off, the car he was in was driven straight ahead on this
20 street to Highway 26. He related that when crossing the
21 street on the South corner of the courthouse square, the
22 car took a terrific jolt when it hit a bump in the road.
23 Upon reaching Highway 26, he observed that [redacted] car
24 was just about reaching Highway 11 and [redacted] through the
25 red light, heading toward Bogalusa. [redacted] related that
26 they followed [redacted] car all the way to Bogalusa and at
27 no time did this car stop until it reached a point just
28 over the Pearl River Bridge and was in the process of
29 making a turn to head back to the Mississippi side in front
30 of the Legion Club. At this point, the car which [redacted] was
31 in passed [redacted] car and drove about three-quarters of a
32 mile further on into Bogalusa. At this point, this
33 Chevrolet turned around and headed back toward Poplarville,
34 driving on until they reached the Crossroads located at the
35 intersection of Highway 26 and 43 and pulling into the Pure
36 Oil Station where [redacted] car was sitting. At this
37 point, [redacted] got out of the Chevrolet, walked over to
38 [redacted]'s car, and entered the right back door after
39 one of the men got out to let him in. He then slid over
40 to the center of the back seat and this man got back into
41 [redacted]'s car. [redacted] pointed out that this individual
42 who got out of [redacted] car to let him in was the same
43 individual who rode with him and [redacted] from the
44 [redacted] place to the Star Cafe [redacted] to the meeting
45 [redacted] on the evening. [redacted] related that the
46 Chevrolet with the [redacted] three [redacted] in it then took off,
47 the direction of which [redacted] does not recall. He stated that
48 upon getting in [redacted]'s Oldsmobile, [redacted] recognized
49 one individual, the driver whom he identified as [redacted]
50 [redacted]. He related that he did not recall seeing any other
51 other men with the exception of the man who let him in as
52 being the individual described above. [redacted] believed there
53 were two or three men in the front seat and two other men
54 in the back seat.
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[redacted] related that [redacted] then drove the Oldsmobile from the Pure Oil Station, headed toward Poplarville on Highway 26, and that after driving a short while, recognized [redacted]'s car headed in the opposite direction, at which time [redacted] turned the Oldsmobile around and followed the car back to the crossroads of Highway 26 and 43, where they both stopped at the Pure Oil Station. At this point, [redacted] got out of the back of [redacted] car and got into the front seat. [redacted] got out of [redacted] car, came over to his car, and got under the wheel, at which time they left the area via Highway 43 heading South on what is known as the Henley Field Road. [redacted] stated that the individuals who were in [redacted] car got into [redacted] car and believed they headed toward Poplarville, Mississippi, on Highway 26. He did not notice that there was anyone else in the car when it arrived, other than [redacted] and [redacted].

[redacted] advised that information previously furnished to the effect that he had contacted [redacted] the next day at which time [redacted] told him upon arriving at the Magnolia Tourist Court in Poplarville, Mississippi, he had let the men riding with him get out of his car was erroneous and that he had not actually seen [redacted] the next day. He did see [redacted] in McNeill, Mississippi, before [redacted] death, but there was no mention made of the abduction of PARKER on the night of April 24, 1959. SMITH stated that [redacted] did make the statement on this occasion that he was "scared."

[redacted] worked on Saturday, April 25, 1959, as usual, and on Saturday evening, he went to McNeill, Mississippi, where he saw [redacted]. At this time, [redacted] mentioned the incident and did not give him any instructions as to what he was to do in the event he was interviewed by investigation officials. On the next day, Sunday, April 26, 1959, he went back to [redacted] home, at which time he noted [redacted] was washing his 1957 red and white Oldsmobile. [redacted] stated that he had washed the car already, but [redacted] was going to wash it again. [redacted] assisted [redacted] in washing the car on Sunday, April 26, 1959, and pointed out the fact that it was

11 he who removed the back seat from the car and scrubbed
12 it. Before washing the car, [redacted] observed there was a
13 handprint in blood on top of the automobile of [redacted]
14 located just to the rear of the right back door. He said
15 the car was scrubbed with soap and water.

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18 On May 14, 1959, [redacted] was
19 interviewed at Poplarville, Mississippi. At this time he
20 identified from a photograph [redacted], as
21 having been one of the men at the meeting held on the
22 evening of April 24, 1959, just off Highway 26 towards
23 Wiggins, Mississippi.

24 In addition to the information already fur-
25 nished by [redacted] he related that the only information he
26 wished to add was regarding a man who got into the 1955 or
27 1956 Chevrolet when this car was parked in front of the
28 lawyer's office building diagonally across the street from
29 the courthouse. He related that after the "nigger" was
30 put in [redacted] car he recalled that one of the men at
31 [redacted] car came running over to the car he was in and
32 opened the back right door and got into the back of the
33 car. He moved to the middle of the seat to allow this man
34 to have room; at this time he noted this man was wearing
35 a handkerchief over the lower part of his face. He de-
36 scribed this handkerchief as plain white, without any kind
37 of design or figures thereon. This man took off the hand-
38 kerchief and believed put same in his pocket. [redacted] said
39 he did not recognize this man nor had he ever seen him
40 before, but he may be able to recognize him if he sees him
41 again. He does not recall whether or not this man was
42 wearing gloves.

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44 [redacted] related that one of the individuals he
45 recalled seeing at the meeting place of Highway 26 was
46 [redacted]. He explained he knew this man from prior
47 contact with him some months ago when he [redacted] sold
48 pecans to [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]. He
49 believed this man lived in the Jackson area, but could
50 give no further description of him.

On May 15, 1959, SA's [redacted] and [redacted] contacted [redacted] at his residence, at which time he was shown photographs of various individuals. [redacted] identified a photograph of L. C. DAVIS as the individual who rode in REYER's car from the meeting place to the Star Cafe in Poplarville and who was also present in C. C. REYER's car when Night Marshal PETE CARVER got into the car when parked near the Star Cafe on the night of April 24, 1959. He stated this individual then rode back to the meeting place.

[redacted] stated that with respect to the photograph of GEORGE RESSER, he could not be positive but is quite certain that this individual was one of the men sitting in the front seat of the black Chevrolet and rode in this car from the meeting place to Poplarville, from the jail to Pearl River Bridge and back to Crossroads.

[redacted] stated he last saw this person at the Crossroads where he remained in the Chevrolet when [redacted] got into [redacted] automobile. He was not certain whether or not this is the person who talked about his wife being from Mill Creek area, claiming that this individual sat in the front seat of the Chevrolet, in his opinion, somewhat alike. He stated he has not seen this individual before or since, that he is not personally acquainted with him and there was no indication that he is the owner of the Chevrolet.

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[redacted] observed a photograph of [redacted] and stated that this is the person he previously identified as [redacted] a person he observed at the meeting. This is the person who was wearing regular overalls, with the bib and shoulder straps, and he advised he observed this [redacted] only at the meeting and knows nothing further concerning [redacted] identity or activities. [redacted] stated that it is his recollection that this person arrived after the meeting was underway in one of the last cars to appear.

After looking at the photograph of [redacted] [redacted] he stated he could not identify this person, that the general make-up of the man seemed to resemble the man in the back seat of the Chevrolet but the facial features did not seem to be identical. This is the person he previously mentioned as possibly being a member of the [redacted] family.

On May 16, 1959, [redacted] willingly accompanied SA's [redacted] and [redacted] to [redacted], South, Poplarville. He was asked to observe the individuals present. At the scene were [redacted] and an unidentified male customer with his wife and child. These individuals were in the yard at this scene, at which time [redacted] definitely identified [redacted], as one of the two individuals sitting in the front seat of vehicle he was in the night of the abduction, which vehicle followed the Oldsmobile in which victim was transported. The observation distance was no more than sixty yards on a clear, sunny day at about 11 o'clock AM, May 16, 1959. [redacted] does not know [redacted] by name, has not associated with him in any respect in the past prior to April 24, 1959, and could furnish no information concerning his activities. On this occasion, [redacted] was wearing work clothes and no hat.

[redacted] was then driven to the residence of [redacted] who is the [redacted] Mississippi, where the personal vehicle of [redacted], was parked. This is a 1958 Ford Fairlane, four-door sedan, two-tone green, 1959 Mississippi license [redacted]. From close observation, [redacted] stated quite definitely that this was not the vehicle he had ridden in the night of April 24, 1959.

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[redacted] was unable to further identify the vehicle he had ridden in that night, but stated that in his opinion there was no resemblance between this vehicle and the vehicle of [redacted]

Without prompting, [redacted] was asked to direct Agents to the scene of the meeting to which he had been taken the night of April 24, 1959. He directed Agents east on Highway 26 from Poplarville toward Wiggins, Mississippi, and approximately six miles from Poplarville, directed Agents to turn left on a gravel road. Approximately two hundred yards down this road, he pointed out the meeting place, almost directly in front of the residence at this place, the occupant he stated he does not know. He related the car he was riding in, that of [redacted] had been parked on the left side of this road and

pointed out an overturned rowboat, light in color, which he stated he had observed on the occasion of the meeting.

It is to be noted that this meeting place has been identified by other witnesses as being in front of the residence of L. C. DAVIS, the place pointed out on this occasion by [REDACTED]

HAROLD PIERRE CARVER, Night Marshal, Poplarville, Mississippi, advised SA [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on May 14, 1959, that on the night of April 24, 1959, he had coffee at the Star Cafe located on Main Street, with R. J. WHEAT and [REDACTED] at approximately 9:30 PM. He advised that OLLIE RYAN ("Crip") was also in the Star Cafe at the above mentioned time. CARVER stated that after coffee had been finished and WHEAT and [REDACTED] had left to return to Pearl River Junior College where they are employed, he saw "Crip" REYER's Oldsmobile automobile in the street near the cafe which he recalls as being occupied by REYER, a person he believes to have been [REDACTED], and another individual unknown to him whom he would guess to be approximately 30 years of age, about five feet seven or eight inches in height, and of heavy build. CARVER stated REYER called him to the automobile which he entered, and sat with these men for a short time. He stated that REYER made the comment that someone was liable to get killed Monday "with them nigger lawyers" being in the court room. CARVER states he told REYER not to tell him anything about it. He stated that REYER also remarked something to the effect they were thinking about taking "that nigger" out of jail. CARVER says at this point, he left the automobile and did not converse with them further; however, he did not take REYER's name and did not believe that he was part of the plan to [REDACTED] a prisoner from the jail. b7c

On May 14, 1959, L. C. DAVIS, [REDACTED] 199, Poplarville, Mississippi, advised SA [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] upon observation [REDACTED] that he knew [REDACTED] as a [REDACTED] hunter he had seen during the last [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] ignorance of his name. At this time DAVIS denied any part whatsoever in the abduction or murder of [REDACTED]. b7c

On May 15, 1959, the Latent Fingerprint Section of the Identification Division of the FBI advised that the unidentified latent prints found on REYER's Oldsmobile were not identical with any of the fingerprints of ARTHUR EUGENE SMITH.

C. NAME JEWEL HAYSEL ALFORD
RESIDENCE Poplarville, Mississippi
OCCUPATION Deputy Sheriff and Jailer,
Pearl River County,
Mississippi; Part-owner
C & A Cafe; Part-owner
Schulz Eddy Shop
AGE 40

JEWEL HAYSEL ALFORD was interviewed on April 25, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] and on May 4, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] b7c
During these interviews, ALFORD furnished information concerning the maintenance of the keys to the jail and his activities on April 24, 1959, and the morning of April 25, 1959.

ALFORD denied any knowledge of the identity of PARKER's abductors and denied that he had received any information either prior to or subsequent to the abduction which might assist in identifying the persons responsible for taking PARKER from the jail. He added that he had no suspects and did not believe that members of the mob were from the vicinity of Poplarville, stating that if they were, they would have removed PARKER from the jail when he was first brought to Poplarville. He claimed that he remained at home on the night of April 24, 1959, after 8:30 PM and returned about 10:30 PM. He stated that he did not know of the removal of PARKER until he received a call from Sheriff MOODY between 2:00 and 3:30 AM, April 25, 1959.

Details concerning the interview of ALFORD on April 25, 1959, and May 4, 1959, are set out on pages 64 through 69 of this memorandum.

On May 12, 1959, CHARLIE JAMES MOODY, a prisoner in the Pearl River County Jail, advised that on April 23, 1959, JEWEL ALFORD brought a visitor to the jail.

and in a joking manner said that he had brought a doctor for [REDACTED]. According to MONDY, [REDACTED] had been requesting the services of a doctor for some ailment. MONDY said that the man with ALFORD looked around the Negro tier of the jail, without entering the tier door, and then the two of them left. b7c

MONDY said that ALFORD came to the jail at approximately 7:00 PM on April 24, 1959, and was alone as far as he could recall. He did not return to the jail again until after PARKER's abduction. MONDY stated positively that he did not see ALFORD or anyone else give the jail keys to anyone who might have a connection with the abduction. MONDY said he knew there was a rumor going around that the jailer had given the keys to the gang but he had no information whatsoever to support such an allegation.

On May 14, 1959, [REDACTED] of the Pearl River County Jail, on April 24, 1959, furnished a signed statement to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. In this statement [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] had told him on several occasions prior to April 24, 1959, that if anyone came to the jail for PARKER he should point PARKER out to them and make sure that they got the right Negro. [REDACTED] that about 12:25 AM, April 25, 1959, he heard keys rattling in the door leading from the cell block into the court room and upon hearing this noise, he got up from his bunk and walked over by the steps leading up to the court room door. The door opened and an unidentified man entered the jail followed by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] said he was certain of his identification of [REDACTED] because he recognized a gun which he held in his right hand. b7c b7D

Further, right after [REDACTED] entered the jail, according to [REDACTED] he leaned over to [REDACTED] and said "Be quiet boy." [REDACTED] said he immediately recognized [REDACTED] voice.

[REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] was wearing a pair of light tan, low-quarter dress shoes, which he recognized

shoes he had frequently [redacted]. He was wearing a blue chambray work shirt and [redacted]. Over his head was what appeared to be a [redacted] scarf which was completely draped over his head and down his shoulders outside of his shirt. There were small slits in this scarf for eye holes [redacted] said [redacted] saw that appeared to be [redacted] protruding from inside this scarf. He said that [redacted] shirt sleeves were rolled down and he was wearing white cotton gloves with a blue elastic band at the wrist. [redacted] was wearing an old [redacted] hat with the [redacted] pulled down and the crown [redacted] at the top.

[redacted] said that WALKER, LEE and ALFORD walked up the steps to the barred door at the head of the stairway at which time WALKER asked the Negro prisoners where PARKER was. When he was told as to the location of PARKER, WALKER unlocked the door and he, LEE and ALFORD went to the control box at the center of the second tier which operates the door to the maximum security cell where PARKER was lodged.

WALKER operated the control box and opened the door leading to PARKER's cell, whereupon he, LEE and ALFORD went toward PARKER's cell and out of sight of [redacted].

[redacted] described hearing the struggle in PARKER's cell and stated that from the sound it appeared that the struggle moved from the north cell to the south cell. He said that he saw WALKER and LEE drag PARKER out into the corridor of the upper tier, followed by JAMES ALFORD. He stated that WALKER was hitting PARKER with a [redacted] man's club, LEE was hitting him with a piece of [redacted] ALFORD was hitting him with a broom. He said that [redacted] the [redacted] of the broom broke and there- after ALFORD picked up a piece of the handle and hit PARKER with it several times. WALKER said that [redacted] and LEE dragged PARKER down the stairs from the upper to the lower tier of cells, PARKER grabbed the railing alongside the steps and ALFORD kicked his hands loose. WALKER [redacted] dragged PARKER into the court room followed by ALFORD and an unidentified man.

The complete statement furnished by [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] is set out on Pages [REDACTED]

On May 15, 1959, [REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that in his opinion prisoners [REDACTED] and CHARLIE MONDY could definitely identify [REDACTED] as one of the men who went into the jail for PARKER.

[REDACTED] stated that about a week after PARKER's abduction from the jail, [REDACTED] instructed him to shine a pair of brown, low-quarter dress shoes which he, [REDACTED] thought were the shoes worn by [REDACTED] on the night of the abduction. [REDACTED] instructed him to put a gloss shine on the shoes and to use a dark Esquire polish. In the process of shining the shoes, [REDACTED] said he saw two dark stains on the right shoe each of which was about the size of a ten penny nailhead. He said he immediately concluded that the stains were blood stains and that in polishing the shoes he apparently eradicated these stains. He said that prior to shining the shoes he showed them to [REDACTED] and they discussed the possibility that the stains were PARKER's blood.

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On May 21, 1959, [REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that he had no reason whatever for implicating [REDACTED] in the abduction other than his desire to tell the truth. He said that except for the fact that he had agreed to tell the complete truth he would take a year in the penitentiary before implicating [REDACTED]. He explained that [REDACTED] had befriended him in the jail, had frequently given him money from his own pocket and had given him extra privileges not enjoyed by the other prisoners.

On May 13, 1959, [REDACTED] furnished a signed statement to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] concerning her knowledge of the abduction of M. C. PARKER. In this statement [REDACTED] said in part:

"About three days later I discussed Parker being taken from the jail with [REDACTED]

He told me that he recognized [redacted] as being one of the mob who took Parker from the jail. He told me that [redacted] was wearing a black hood and was the man who was carrying the gun.

"About that same day, exact date not recalled, [redacted] came into the jail and set down on the steps leading into the jail and changed shoes. He put on a pair of shoes which he had previously left for [redacted] to polish and left the pair he had been wearing with [redacted] to be polished. [redacted] set these shoes on a night stand within arms reach of my cell. As I sat looking at these shoes I noticed some dark stains around the sides of these shoes which appeared to be blood. As I continued to look at these shoes without saying anything, [redacted] apparently noticed that I had observed the stains on the shoes and he asked me 'what does that look like.' I said 'It looks like blood.' [redacted] said 'I'm sure does.' I believe it was the next day that [redacted] polished the shoes at which time he used a certain stain polish. This stain or polish seemed to make the shoes darker in color than they were originally.

"Sometime after [redacted] had told me that he had recognized [redacted] as being a member of the gang who took Parker from the jail, he told me not to mention anything to anyone regarding the Parker case as these Masonic people stick together."

The complete statement furnished by [redacted] is set out on pages [redacted]

On May 14, 1959, [redacted] advised SA's [redacted] and [redacted] that [redacted] told her, while discussing [redacted] abduction, that [redacted] was [redacted] few days after the incident [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]

"Yes you were wearing a black hood and carrying a gun."
[redacted] then stated "That's right. [redacted]"

On May 17, 1959, [redacted] Pearl River County Jail, was interviewed at the Mississippi State Penitentiary, Parchman, Mississippi, by SA's [redacted] and [redacted]. He was shown a group of pictures and identified one of these as a picture of [redacted]. He said he did not recognize ALFORD as being one of the men who participated in the abduction but recognized [redacted] while he was incarcerated in the Pearl River County Jail.

On May 20, 1959, CHARLIE JAMES MONDY said that he could in no way identify [redacted] as being in the mob which entered the jail to abduct PARKER. b7c b7D

On May 14, 1959, [redacted] was interviewed by SA's [redacted] and [redacted]. During the course of this interview, [redacted] stated he had information indicating that a man named PARKER may have been involved in the abduction of PARKER. He said he also had information concerning the Oldsmobile automobile which had been used in connection with the abduction, but before furnishing the details of this information he wished to discuss the matter with Sheriff MOODY. Following a discussion with Sheriff MOODY, [redacted] furnished the following statement:

"Poplarville, Miss.

"May 14, 1959

"I, [REDACTED], furnish the following voluntary statement to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I have been advised that I do not have to make a statement and that any statement I make can be used against me in a court of law. I have been advised that I have the right to consult an attorney. No threats or promises have been made to me to obtain this statement. I reside in [REDACTED], Miss. I was born on [REDACTED] at [REDACTED], Miss. I was at my home in [REDACTED], Miss. on the night of 4/24/59 watching television. Sometime between 11:00 and 11:30 PM on 4/24/59 I heard a knock on my door. I got up from my chair, went to the door and opened it. [REDACTED] was standing in my yard about [REDACTED] feet from the door. He said, '[REDACTED] come out - my wife wants to see you.' At that point I think I then reached back into the house and picked up my shirt and put it on. I then went out of the house. I noticed that [REDACTED] was then standing beside an automobile parked at the curb directly in front of my house. He had the left rear door of the car opened and was standing beside it. The car was facing East which meant that it was actually parked on the wrong side of the street. I walked up to this car and stuck my head in the open door. At this time [REDACTED] either shoved me slightly from the rear with his hand or knee forcing me to fall forward to the rear of the car. At this time I heard a man in the car say, 'Get in.' I sat on the back seat in the middle. There was one man already seated on the right rear side and after I sat down [REDACTED] sat along side of me on the left rear side. [REDACTED] was in the front seat. I recognized the driver as [REDACTED] and the man in the passenger's side as [REDACTED]. I think I recognized the man sitting to my right as [REDACTED]. None of them wore masks. I saw no hands and saw no gloves. After we

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all got in the car all the doors were shut. One of the men said 'We've come after the nigger and want the keys.' Another man said [REDACTED] we don't want any trouble we just want the [REDACTED] b7c One of them said 'We don't want to tear up the courthouse or destroy any of the property.' At that time I said, 'I'll get the keys for you, but I'm not going with you to get the nigger.' One of the men said 'We just want the keys.' I told them I would go get the keys at the Sheriff's Office and throw them on the Sheriff's desk in his office. One of the men said there was four or five more cars around the courthouse. I told them to tell the persons in these cars to get away from the courthouse and that I then would get the keys. They had previously mentioned jail keys so I knew that was what they were referring to. I saw no firearms of any kind. I do not know which of the men made the various statements while in the car. I could not tell which of these men was the leader. I got out of the car, went back into my house and told my wife that there was a man outside who wanted to get a man named Green out of jail. I meant by this that Green was to be released as someone had made his bond. I then came out of my house and walked to my own car which was parked in my driveway alongside the house. As I started my car I noticed the car with the four men pull off in an easterly direction. I drove directly to the courthouse and parked my car at the curb directly in front of the sidewalk which leads to the street from the south door of the courthouse. As I parked my car I observed the four men already parked on the street directly along the south side of the Public Health building. They were being easy. I then went into the courthouse through the south door, using my key to unlock the door. I went to the Sheriff's Office, took the jail keys from the filing cabinet and threw them on the Sheriff's desk. I then left the courthouse through the south door locking it behind me. I got in my car and drove to Main street where I made a left turn,

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12 [redacted] pointed out that while none of the
13 men specifically threatened him in any manner should he
14 not [redacted] he knew from their con-
15 versation that should he refuse to furnish [redacted] they
16 would attempt to take them by force, and, [redacted] from
17 the past reputation of [redacted] and [redacted]
18 he knew they would not hesitate to do him or his family
19 bodily harm in the event he disclosed their identities or
20 the reason for their contact with him at this time.

21
22 [redacted] pointed out that he drove from his
23 home to the courthouse in his 1959 Nash Rambler station
24 wagon, which is two-tone tan and brown in color.

25
26 [redacted] stated that he did not dare mention
27 to his wife the real reason for his going to the courthouse
28 that night and did not dare ask her to phone the sheriff
29 to tell him of what was taking place because she has pre-
30 viously suffered a nervous breakdown, is currently extreme-
31 ly nervous, and he felt that if he told her anything of the
32 matter, "it would kill her right then."

33
34 He said it was through fear of reprisals
35 against him and his family that he had not furnished any-
36 one this information previously.

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38 [redacted] said he has not been contacted by any
39 of the four men who came to his home subsequent to that
40 night.

41
42 [redacted] stated that if it were necessary for
43 him to testify in court concerning the above information,
44 he would have to leave the Poplarville area
45 permanently in order to avoid possible physical violence
46 to himself or his family.

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48 On May 15, 1959, [redacted] advised
49 SA's [redacted] and [redacted] that she worked
50 at the Magnolia Courts until approximately 10:30 PM on
51 April 24, 1959, when she went home, arriving there shortly
52 after 10:30 PM. A few minutes after arriving at home,
53 there was a knock at the door and her husband went to the
54 front door and stepped out onto the lawn. She said she did

not see the person who had knocked at the door but did hear the man call her husband by name. She said that after her husband went out to the front lawn he shut the door behind him and was gone for a few minutes. When he returned to the house he put on his shirt and told her that he was going to let a man named GREEN out of jail as his fine was being paid.

Mrs. [REDACTED] said that her husband was gone from home about eight to ten minutes and upon returning home he remained there until he received a call from Sheriff MOODY advising him that PARKER had been taken from the jail.

Mrs. [REDACTED] said that she was not aware of the fact that her husband had made [REDACTED] available to the abductors until Sheriff MOODY advised her on May 13, 1959. She said that the Sheriff told her that her husband had been forced to do this at gunpoint by some masked men and he feared reprisals against his family if he talked about it. She said that she was fairly certain that when her husband went to the jail on the night of April 24, 1959, he did not take his gun with him as she did not recall his going to the bedroom to get the gun from the closet.

On May 16, 1959, [REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that he owns a .38 caliber Colt snub-nose revolver, nickel-plated, with white plastic handles. He said he has owned this gun approximately a year and a half and it is the gun [REDACTED] he also owns a .38 caliber Smith & Wesson revolver, nickel-plated with bone handles. He said this gun is ordinarily [REDACTED] who is [REDACTED] in an [REDACTED] gun is either maintained in an automobile owned by him and [REDACTED] or at [REDACTED] house. He said he has not had this gun in his possession for at least six months.

[REDACTED] made available the above mentioned revolvers which were photographed.

D. NAME FRANCIS M. BARKER (deceased)
RESIDENCE McNeill, Mississippi
OCCUPATION Rabies Control Officer,
Mississippi Board of Health
AGE 50

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS REYER, McNeill, Mississippi, first implicated FRANCIS M. BARKER in this case when he was interviewed by SA's [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] on May 8, 1959. In a signed statement, which is set forth on page 183, which he furnished on May 14, 1959, to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], he advised that FRANCIS BARKER came to his [REDACTED] on April 24, 1959, shortly after noon and told him there was going to be a meeting out on the Wiggins Road east of Poplarville that night concerning PARKER who was in jail at Poplarville. BARKER asked him if he wanted to go and gave him directions how to get to the meeting place. On arriving at Poplarville that night with ARTHUR EUGENE SMITH, he saw FRANCIS BARKER in the Star Cafe. At the meeting near the Wiggins Road east of Poplarville, when it was decided to use REYER's car, he told the persons present that BARKER was a sick man and someone told him to take BARKER and drive his car and take him back to town. He drove BARKER's car to Poplarville, stopped at the Star Cafe, which was closing, and then drove with him to the filling station across from City Hall, where he bought \$3.00 worth of gas. He then drove north on Highway 11 to a filling station where he and BARKER [REDACTED] for approximately twenty minutes and then returned to the [REDACTED] of the hospital, proceeding to the street just north of the courthouse and hospital. He drove up alongside of his Oldsmobile and, after asking whether anyone had obtained the keys to the jail, he drove [REDACTED] BARKER's car with BARKER to the Amoco Service Station, where he and BARKER went in and had coffee. He states he and BARKER were in the cafe until about 12:15 AM, when they drove back into town past the courthouse and, as they passed the south entrance, noted that one of the doors of the courthouse was open. They

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then drove on out the Bogalusa Road to Crossroads, Mississippi, and parked at the Pure Oil Station. In a few seconds, REYER's Oldsmobile pulled into the station and a man got out of the passenger's side of the front seat of the Oldsmobile and ran over to BARKER's car. REYER got out of BARKER's car and got into his own with ARTHUR SMITH, who had been in the back seat of the Oldsmobile and who then got into the right front seat. BARKER stayed in his car and REYER did not see the direction taken by BARKER's car after REYER turned south on what is known as the River Road.

[REDACTED], Mississippi, furnished information in a statement made May 12, 1959, given to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] which is set forth on pages [REDACTED] and more detailed information on pages [REDACTED] on May 13, 1959, to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], regarding [REDACTED] part in this case. [REDACTED] related that, when he and [REDACTED] reached the meeting east of Poplarville, [REDACTED] stayed in the car for awhile and then got out and approached the group of men, recognizing one of them as [REDACTED]. After going into town and returning to the meeting again, the persons at the meeting decided to use [REDACTED] car. As the meeting broke up, he observed [REDACTED] enter the car of [REDACTED] and did not see anyone else riding in the car or [REDACTED] at that time. He related that after going into Poplarville and after having been parked alongside the Standard Service Station, the car in which [REDACTED] was riding crossed Julia Street and in the middle of the next block stopped, at which time [REDACTED] was observed still to be with [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] car. He next observed [REDACTED] at the Pure Oil Station at Crossroads, Mississippi, when [REDACTED] got out of [REDACTED] car and came over to [REDACTED] Oldsmobile, in which [REDACTED] was then riding. He did not notice anyone else in the car of [REDACTED] when it arrived at the Pure Oil Station, other than [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

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[REDACTED] Pearl River County, in a statement furnished to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] which is set

forth in its entirety on pages [redacted] advised that, between 11:00 and 11:30 PM, on April 24, 1959, he heard a knock on his door. When he opened it, he observed [redacted] standing in his yard about twelve or fifteen feet from the door and [redacted] asked him to come out, that [redacted] wife wanted to see him. When he went out he noticed [redacted] standing beside an automobile parked at the curb directly in front of [redacted] house. The left rear door of the car was open and, as he stuck his head in the open door, [redacted] either shoved him slightly from the rear with his hand or knee, forcing him to fall forward in the rear of the car. He recognized the driver of the car as [redacted] the man in the passenger's side in the front as [redacted] and the other man as [redacted]. He was informed that they had "come after the nigger" and wanted the keys. [redacted] states that he left them, went to the courthouse, [redacted] and then left the courthouse, returning home. On May 16, 1959, [redacted] reiterated to SA's [redacted] and [redacted] that he was positive of his identification of [redacted] as the man who came to his house the night of April 24, 1959, with three other men to obtain the [redacted]. It is to be noted that this is in conflict with [redacted] statement to the effect that [redacted] was with [redacted] from the time they left the meeting east of Poplarville until [redacted] got his Oldsmobile back at Crossroads, Mississippi, about 12:35 AM, on April 25, 1959.

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HOUSTON AMACKER, Route 3, Poplarville, Mississippi, a janitor at the Pearl River County Courthouse, advised SA's [redacted] and [redacted] on May 2, 1959, that he saw FRANCIS BARKER at the Star Cafe on the night of April 24, 1959, and also met J. P. WALKER.

B. P. ORR, Town Marshal, Poplarville, Mississippi, was interviewed on May 8, 1959, by SA's [redacted] and [redacted] concerning the alleged presence of CRIP REYER and FRANCIS BARKER at the Amoco Service Station Cafe on the night of April 24, 1959. ORR stated he had heard generally in the community that a man named BARKER from around McNeill, Mississippi, had a heart attack and died on or about April 30, 1959. He stated he was

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12 acquainted slightly with this man, whom he had not seen in
13 some time. He advised that, during the time he was in the
14 Amoco cafe with WHEAT, [REDACTED] and CARVER, he did not
15 speak with anyone other than in his own party. He stated
16 he did not recall having been spoken to by anybody. He
17 stated he definitely was not touched or greeted by anyone
18 identifiable to him as REYER or BARKER.

19
20 On May 14, 1959, HAROLD PIERRE [REDACTED]
21 Night Marshal, Poplarville, advised SA's [REDACTED]
22 and [REDACTED] that, when the group he was with,
23 namely WHEAT, [REDACTED] and ORR, were having coffee at
24 the Amoco cafe on the night of April 24, 1959, a Mr. BARKER
25 and "CRIP" REYER entered the cafe and one of them, whom he
26 believes was REYER, spoke to Marshal B. F. ORR or to the
27 group. He states he could not recall any specific comment
28 made by REYER and states there is a possibility that his
29 comment was merely a greeting to ORR.

30
31 [REDACTED] on May 8, 1959, advised
32 SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that after he, CAR-
33 VER, ORR, and WHEAT were seated in the Amoco cafe on the
34 night of April 24, 1959, he noted "CRIP" REYER sitting on
35 a counter stool beside Mr. FRANCIS BARKER. b7c
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36
37 On May 11, 1959, [REDACTED] informed
38 SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that, when he arrived at the Star Cafe
39 in Poplarville at about 10:00 PM, on April 24, 1959, he sat
40 at a table with FRANCIS BARKER. He recalled having talked
41 with BARKER, who is now deceased, about a school pupil at
42 McNeill, Mississippi. He stated emphatically that no men-
43 tion was made to him by BARKER or anyone else concerning a
44 thing to be held that night. He advised he left the cafe
45 and returned to the school, without having ob-
46 served the mode of transportation utilized by J. P. WALKER,
47 who had picked up the coffee truck, BARKER, or anyone else.
48 at the cafe.

49
50 On May 8, 1959, ROBERT JAMES WHEAT, RS,
51 Poplarville, informed SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that, on the night
52 of April 24, 1959, he observed "CRIP" [REDACTED] and FRANCIS
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BARKER in the Amoco Cafe and he recalled REYER speaking to B. F. ORE. He recalled that REYER and BARKER were sitting together at the counter and that, while REYER was at the counter, he carried on some general conversation with someone at their table. When he, [REDACTED] CARVER and ORR left the cafe, BARKER and REYER were still at the counter.

ROBERT JAMES WHEAT advised SA [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on May 11, 1959, that on the night of April 24, 1959, he arrived at the Star Cafe between 9:00 and 9:30 PM with [REDACTED]. They were joined at a table by FRANCIS BARKER with whom WHEAT discussed purchasing a horse. When he and [REDACTED] were leaving the cafe at approximately 9:45 PM, he observed J. P. WALKER and FRANCIS BARKER standing together near the cash register in the cafe.

JOHN P. WALKER, 216 North First Street, Picayune, Mississippi, when interviewed by SA [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] JR., on May 14, 1959, advised that since his daughter is married to a son of FRANCIS BARKER of McNeill, Mississippi, he visits the BARKER residence quite frequently and, on April 24, 1959, went to McNeill, Mississippi. He advised BARKER was home and wanted to go to Poplarville. In addition to BARKER, his nephew, [REDACTED] was there. [REDACTED] had to make a trip to Mobile that night and was going to borrow a car from BARKER to make the trip, but instead [REDACTED] borrowed WALKER's new Oldsmobile. At approximately 6:00 PM that night, WALKER and BARKER proceeded to Poplarville in BARKER's 1958 light cream or tan colored Chevrolet four-door sedan. WALKER advised that he drove the car, that they went directly to Poplarville and that they visited around the Star Cafe. He stated that he [REDACTED] with BARKER constantly during the evening visiting various individuals around town, that they went no where after arriving in Poplarville, except to the home of [REDACTED] when they heard the house was on fire there. [REDACTED] stated that, when they left Poplarville, they went directly to McNeill, but on reaching there determined that BARKER had not yet returned from Mobile, so they continued on to Picayune to the bus station for coffee. At approximately 12:30 AM, April 25, 1959, they returned to BARKER's residence, where WALKER obtained his personal vehicle and then returned to Picayune.

Mississippi, advised SA [redacted] and [redacted] on May 15, 1959, that at about 7:00 PM, April 24, 1959, FRANCIS M. BARKER and J. P. WALKER came to his home in WALKER's late model blue Oldsmobile. BARKER informed him that a phone call had been received from Mobile that [redacted] was in Mobile en route to Poplarville from Virginia, where she had been visiting her husband in the Armed Services and she wanted [redacted] to drive her car to Mobile and return her to Poplarville. [redacted] informed BARKER in the presence of WALKER that he did not believe that [redacted] old model Chevrolet would make the trip; whereupon, J. P. WALKER volunteered to let him use his Oldsmobile for the trip to Mobile and return. [redacted] stated that he, his wife and oldest son drove from the [redacted] residence in [redacted] Chevrolet to the home of FRANCIS BARKER, picked up J. P. WALKER's Oldsmobile about 8:00 PM. [redacted] contended that he arrived at the BARKER residence in Mobile a few minutes prior to 1:00 AM, April 25, 1959. [redacted] stated that he did not see J. P. WALKER or FRANCIS BARKER either at 8:00 PM, when he picked up WALKER's car for the trip to Mobile, or just prior to 1:00 AM, when he returned WALKER's car to BARKER's residence, at which time he, [redacted] his wife and son transferred to [redacted] car and drove to [redacted] home.

[redacted] waitress at the Star Cafe, advised SA [redacted] and [redacted] on May 14, 1959, that she knew FRANCIS M. BARKER and that on several occasions over the ten-day to two-week period prior to April 24, 1959, BARKER had been in the cafe as [redacted] by J. P. WALKER, whom she also knew. She was unable to [redacted] whether they were in the cafe on the evening of Friday, April 24, 1959, but believed they were there about 9:00 to 9:30 PM, although [redacted] did not say definitely that they were in the cafe on that date.

[redacted] advised SA [redacted] and [redacted] that the hours at the Star Cafe are from 11:00-11:30 PM. [redacted]

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12 advised that she knew FRANCIS M. BARKER and that J. P. W.
13 of Picayune, Mississippi, was a frequent associate of BAR.
14 She related that BARKER and WALKER had been in the Star Ca
15 where she works as a waitress, several nights during the
16 week of April 24, 1959, but she was unable to state which
17 nights and at what times they were in the cafe. On those
18 occasions, when she saw FRANCIS BARKER come into the cafe,
19 he had never been accompanied by anyone but J. P. WALKER.
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21 FRANCIS M. BARKER died at Picayune, Mississippi,
22 April 30, 1959.
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| E. NAME | JAMES FLOREN LEE, SR., also known as Floren Lee |
| RESIDENCE | Route 3, Pistol Ridge Community, Lumberton, Mississippi |
| OCCUPATION | Minister of Slade Missionary Baptist Church, Pistol Ridge Community, Lumberton, Mississippi, farmer |
| AGE | 58 |

On May 6, 1959, JAMES FLOREN LEE, SR., Route
3, Lumberton, Mississippi, advised SA [REDACTED]
and [REDACTED] that on April 24, 1959, he was clearing
a building on [REDACTED] property. b7c

LEE stated he has a 1957 Chevrolet, black
with white top with a white streak from the middle to the
rear, which he purchased from [REDACTED] Mr. LEE
stated he has no license plate for this automobile. He
was told that prior to his purchase of the car it had been
sold to a [REDACTED] boy, who took the license plate off, and
put it on a Ford. LEE, SR., stated he paid for a duplicate
license at the Sheriff's Office in Poplarville, but he does
not have it yet. b7c

LEE stated, upon returning to his own home
from the [REDACTED] property, he had difficulty with his
automobile stopped alongside the highway. He estimated
this was about 3:00 to 4:00 PM, but it could have been
later. His son came along and wanted to see what the
difficulty was, but LEE, JR., did not tell him where he had
been. LEE, SR., stated he was able to drive the automobile
to his home and LEE, JR., came over early on the morning of
April 25, 1959, to fix it. LEE, JR.'s wife and son came
over with him. LEE, SR., did not know whether he sent some-
one over to LEE, JR.'s home that morning or told him to b7c

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12 repair the car or not. He was of the opinion he had told
13 LEE, JR., the previous evening to come over early the
14 following morning to fix it. LEE, SR., said the diffi-
15 culty with this car was that the high gear was stripped.

16
17 LEE, SR., stated LEE, JR., and his wife had
18 been having marital difficulties for some time and the
19 daughter-in-law would mention to them when LEE, JR., would
20 go out with another woman. On the day following the
21 abduction of PARKER, LEE, JR.'s wife remarked that LEE, JR.,
22 was at home that night. LEE, SR., stated it is his opinion
23 that his son was home on the night of the abduction of
24 PARKER.

25
26 On May 8, 1959, SA's [REDACTED] b7c
27 and [REDACTED] requested permission of JAMES FLORIAN
28 LEE, SR., to search his automobile and same permission in
29 writing was granted.

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31 The search of the automobile disclosed
32 nothing of pertinence to the investigation; however, it
33 was noted that there was kept on the floor immediately in
34 front of the front seat a large caliber shotgun, double-
35 barrel, which LEE advised was loaded with buckshot. In
36 the glove compartment and in ash trays in the back seat were
37 additional shells for this gun.

38
39 On May 8, 1959, JAMES FLORIAN LEE, SR., was
40 interviewed at his residence, Route 3, Lubberton, Mississippi,
41 by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] b7c
42 When he was questioned concerning
43 his actions on the day of April 24, 1959, he advised he had
44 already furnished that information to Agents of the FBI and
45 he did not care to discuss the matter further. He said the
46 people of the area know him and his beliefs and maybe some
47 of them considered him a "crank," but that he was of the
48 definite opinion that the NAACP and the Communists were
49 responsible for the abduction of PARKER and that they were
50 fast bringing to a climax the racial situation which would
51 erupt in an all-out war within this country. He continued
52 along these lines, stating that he had been telling the
53 people of the area of his beliefs in this matter. He
54 commented that he had been preaching in the churches of the

area for a number of years and continued to serve wherever his services were needed.

LEE said, if a hearing was held in the PARKER matter, that then he would furnish his own witnesses to establish his whereabouts on April 24, 1959, and not prior thereto.

[REDACTED] advised SA [REDACTED] on May 9, 1959, that the FBI had the right men and wanted to know why they did not close in on them and solve the case. He was asked who it was the FBI had and he said "LOREN LEE and his son, JEFF LEE." He was asked what made him think the FBI had these two men and he stated, "I just know that the FBI is interested in these men."

On May 14, 1959, CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS REYER, McNeill, Mississippi, furnished a signed statement to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] which statement is set forth on page 183. In this statement, when he was speaking about the meeting being held near the Wiggins Road east of Poplarville, he said, "I recall saying to this group that somewhere out there in that community was an old man named LEE who asked me about my spotted horse last year while we were both in Poplarville. I told them to tell him, if they knew him, that, if he would come to my house, I would sell him the horse or trade him the horse for cattle. A man, standing to my right, whose voice sounded like an old man, said he would see me in a few days about the horse or something similar to that. I took this to be Mr. LEE, the man I had previously talked to or some of his relatives, because he knew what I was talking about."

On May 14, 1959, [REDACTED] McNeill, Mississippi, was shown [REDACTED] LEE, SR., by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. SMITH identified the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, who has been one of the men at the meeting held on the evening of April 24, 1959, just off Highway 26 south of Wiggins. He was not able to name this individual.

On May 14, 1959, [redacted] in an unsigned statement furnished to SA's [redacted] and [redacted]

[redacted] advised that, on the evening of April 24, 1959, when he was called to a car by [redacted], he recognized as the driver of the car [redacted] and the man in the passenger's side in front as [redacted]. He also recognized [redacted]. These men informed him that they had "come after the nigger and want the keys."

On May 14, 1959, [redacted] Mississippi, advised SA's [redacted] and [redacted] that [redacted], was planning to use as an alibi for his whereabouts on April 24, 1959, the fact that he was confined to a hospital at Lumberton, Mississippi.

On May 14, 1959, [redacted], a [redacted] in the Pearl River County Jail, furnished a signed statement to SA's [redacted] and [redacted]. In this statement [redacted] alleges that, when the men entered the jail, the first man through was an individual whom he had seen on a number of occasions standing around in front of the Poplarville Furniture Company. This man was followed by a second man, whom he immediately recognized as [redacted], owner of [redacted] at Picayune, Mississippi, and a candidate for Sheriff of Pearl River County. [redacted] was closely followed through the door by a man, whom he recognized as [redacted], a [redacted] who resides east of Poplarville. Right behind [redacted] was [redacted] the [redacted] at the Pearl River [redacted]. The fifth man to come to the door he recognized as [redacted], who operates [redacted] in [redacted]. He stated that [redacted] and [redacted] walked up the stairs to the barred door at the head of the stairway, went out to the second tier and to the control box in the center of the second tier, which operated the door to the maximum security cell on the north end of the tier where M. C. PARKER was lodged. After the door to PARKER's cell was open, he saw [redacted] and [redacted] go toward PARKER's cell and go out [redacted]. He heard a crash and the sound of a scuffle and then heard the scuffling move

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from the north cell to the south cell. He saw [redacted] and [redacted] dragging PARKER out into the corridor of the upper tier, followed by [redacted]. They were dragging PARKER by his heels, [redacted] pulling PARKER by his right leg and [redacted] pulling PARKER by his left leg. [redacted] was, at the same time, hitting PARKER with a policeman's club, a long, smooth wooden club, and [redacted] was hitting PARKER with a piece of dressed wood about fourteen inches long. He said [redacted] appeared to be favoring his left arm as he dragged PARKER and believed that [redacted] must have been hit by PARKER on this arm.

[redacted] went on to relate that, as [redacted] and [redacted] started dragging PARKER down the stairs from the upper to the lower tier of cells, PARKER grabbed with his hands to the railing alongside the steps. [redacted] kicked his hands loose. When they reached the landing at the door leading to the courtroom, PARKER grabbed again with his hands to the railing and the curly-headed man kicked his hands loose. As they reached the door, PARKER begged the men to let him up so he could walk. When he made this statement, [redacted] said, "Hell, no, you won't walk," and at the same time reached back with his stick and struck PARKER on the head with the stick. [redacted] stepped back into the courtroom and [redacted] and [redacted] dragged PARKER out, followed by [redacted] and the curly-headed man. b7c b7d

[redacted] described [redacted] whom he has known practically all his life, as a white male, in his late fifties, about five feet, ten inches tall, and weighing about 155 to 160 pounds. On this occasion, [redacted] was wearing an old pair of blue dungaree pants and blue chambray work shirt. He was bareheaded, wearing high-topped work shoes and he had a red-and-white checked bandana across the lower part of his face from the bridge of his nose to his neck. [redacted] shirt sleeves were down and buttoned, and he wore a pair of white cotton work gloves with blue wristbands.

On May 14, 1959, the records of the Lumberton Citizens Hospital, Lumberton, Mississippi, were checked by SA's [redacted] and [redacted]. The records reflected that [redacted] Mississippi, age [redacted] years, born [redacted] (no year listed), in Mississippi, was admitted to the hospital at 3:20 PM, on April 25, 1959, and discharged at 1:00 PM, May 1, 1959. His physician was reflected as Dr. [redacted]

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12 The medical history for this hospitalization
13 was as follows:

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15 [redacted] year old white male neurotic who
16 has psychosomatic chest pain came
17 into the office today, 4/21/59, with
18 a history of being hit on the head
19 and left hand by a falling piece of
20 lumber while he was tearing down a
21 small shed the day before. He
22 complained of being weak on the left
23 side. The weakness being confined to
24 the left arm and leg. He also stated
25 that the head wound bled profusely. He
26 was not knocked unconscious but com-
27 plained of being 'groggy' for several
28 hours. Scratches on left hand said to
29 have been caused by nails in the same
30 piece of lumber that fell on head.

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31
32 The hospital record reflected a physical
33 examination was given to [redacted] and on his head was a
34 "small bruise with slight break in skin over left mastoid
35 bone."

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37 Regarding his extremities, the record reflected
38 "weakness in left arm and leg. 3 scratches on dorsum of
39 left hand about 1 - 2" long."

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41 The attending physician's impression was
42 recorded as " ? cerebral concussion vs skull fracture."

43
44 The hospital record also contained the results
45 of X-rays conducted by [redacted] M. D.,
46 which are as follow:

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47
48 "Examination of the roentgen films of the
49 skull made at the lateral PA and oblique positions fails
50 to reveal any evidence of fracture or bone injury. The
51 mastoid cells are well demonstrated and normal. A study
52 of the skull reveal a normal pattern and no evidence of any
53 other pathology is seen.

Impression. These roentgenograms of the skull are normal."

The records of the Lumberton Citizens Hospital further reflected that [redacted] who was hospitalized from April 25, 1959 to May 1, 1959, was also hospitalized March 28, 1959, and discharged from that place April 3, 1959. His diagnosis was neuralgia and arthritis.

On May 14, 1959, Dr. [redacted] Lumberton, Mississippi, furnished the following signed statement to SA's [redacted] and [redacted]

"Lumberton, Mississippi
May 14, 1959

"I, Dr. [redacted], hereby furnish the following voluntary statement to [redacted] and [redacted] who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. No threats, promises or rewards have been made to me to cause me to furnish this statement which I understand may be used in a court of law. I am willing to testify concerning the contents of this statement.

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"On Thursday, April 23, 1959, at about 5:00 PM to 5:15 PM, [redacted] a [redacted] years of age, who lives in the vicinity of [redacted], Mississippi, came to my office in Lumberton. He said he was having chest pains and had been doing carpentry work that day. I suggested he might be emotionally upset and he replied that the men he was working with were discussing a negro raping a white woman and indicated this may have been bothering him. He did not mention the names of the negro, the white woman, the men who were talking about it or where he was working with these men. At this time [redacted] made no comment about having been chased by a group of negroes at any time.

"After examining [redacted] I prescribed a sleeping pill for him and suggested he go to bed. He then left my office.

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12 "On Saturday, April 25, 1959, [REDACTED]
13 accompanied by his wife, came to my office at about 3:00
14 PM. Just prior to this time, someone at Citizens Hos-
15 pital, Lambertson, called me at my office and advised that
16 [REDACTED] was at the hospital because of an injury. Upon
17 determining that [REDACTED] was capable of coming to my
18 office I instructed the hospital to have him do so. b7c

19
20 "Upon examining [REDACTED] at this time I
21 observed a small scab surrounded by a slight blue swelling
22 on his head back of his left ear near the mastoid area.
23 From observing the scab it appeared that there had been a
24 cut in the skin about $\frac{1}{4}$ " in length.

25
26 "I also observed three scratches on the back
27 of his left hand. The scratches were about $\frac{1}{4}$ " apart and
28 ran across the left hand in the direction of the little
29 finger of his left hand. Two of the scratches were each
30 about 2 (two) inches long and the third scratch was about
31 one inch long and were scabbed over. The scratches
32 appeared to have been approximately $\frac{1}{8}$ " deep and $\frac{1}{8}$ "
33 across.

34
35 [REDACTED] told me he received the above-
36 described injuries while tearing down a building or shed
37 the day before, Friday, April 24, 1959. He said a falling
38 piece of timber hit him on the head and the scratches were
39 caused by nails protruding from the timber. He did not
40 say where or with whom he might have been working when he
41 was injured. b7c

42
43 [REDACTED] said he did not have his injuries
44 treated by a doctor on April 24, 1959, the day he said
45 he was injured, because he did not consider them
46 serious enough. He decided to come to the hos-
47 pital and consult with me on April 25, 1959, because his
48 left arm and left leg felt weak.

49
50 "To the best of my recollection [REDACTED] b7c
51 was wearing a khaki trouser and dress shirt, [REDACTED]
52 of which I do not recall, when he appeared at my office
53 on April 25, 1959. There was no blood on his clothes so
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"the best of my recollection. [REDACTED] mentioned at this time that her husband bled considerably from the injuries and had a lot of blood on his shirt.

"After preliminary examination and consultation on April 25, 1959, with [REDACTED] I had him admitted to Citizens Hospital, Lumberton, for further examination such as X-Rays and general physical check-up. I did not consider [REDACTED] hospitalization absolutely necessary and had him admitted to the hospital because he requested it. I authorized his release from the hospital on May 1, 1959. [REDACTED] complaints of physical weakness were not in keeping with weakness I would expect from a brain injury and my findings were not indicative of Mr. Lee having suffered a brain injury.

"While [REDACTED] was a patient of mine from April 25, 1959, until his release from the hospital, he gave no indication that he had any knowledge of the abduction of the negro, Parker, from the County Jail in [REDACTED] Mississippi.

"I have read this statement consisting of six pages, have initialed each of the first five pages and any corrections on all pages. This statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge as evidenced by my signature below.

"/s/ [REDACTED] M. D.
MISS.

"Witnesses:

"/s/ [REDACTED] Special Agent, F.B.I., New Orleans, La.,
May 14, 1959.

"/s/ [REDACTED] Special Agent, F.B.I., Memphis, Tenn.,
May 14, 1959."

On May 18, 1959, [REDACTED] Mississippi, advised SA's [REDACTED] that he saw [REDACTED] at Citizens Hospital, [REDACTED] on the day that he, [REDACTED] was discharged, April 29, 1959. He stated that he occupied [REDACTED] across

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██████████ He said that in his conversation with
the latter complained about a pain in the back of his
head and explained that he ██████████ was tearing down a shed
or house when a piece of 2X4 lumber fell and hit him on
the head. ██████████ was not certain, but had some
recollection that ██████████ said the building he was tearing
down when he was injured belonged to a widow.

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attorneys in the courtroom and had made the statement that, if either of them attempted to drink from the water cooler located in the courtroom, he expected to knock the attorney down right in the courtroom.

[REDACTED] said there have been discussions among citizens of Pearl River County concerning WALKER's candidacy for Sheriff and it is obvious that, with a certain element, he was gaining strength as a candidate on the basis of his open hostility to Negroes and his sympathy with the persons responsible for the abduction of PARKER. [REDACTED] said that he felt WALKER was capable of participating in the abduction and felt reasonably sure he was using the tension caused by the PARKER case as a means to further himself politically on the apparent belief that a majority of the people are not in favor of any investigation to identify the abductors.

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CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS REYER advised SA [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], on May 11, 1959, that he recalled J. P. WALKER at the Star Cafe in Poplarville on the evening of April 24, 1959, at about 9:00 or 9:30 PM. He said that this was the only time during that evening he saw J. P. WALKER and that, if WALKER was involved in the PARKER abduction, he, REYER, had no knowledge of it.

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CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS REYER furnished a signed statement to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on May 14, 1959. In this signed statement, REYER stated that on the night of April 24, 1959, at approximately 9:15 PM, he went to the Star Cafe in Poplarville, where he saw FRANCIS PARKER, R. J. WHEAT and J. P. WALKER. He denied that at this time there was any discussion of a meeting to plan the abduction of PARKER. REYER said that he then went south of Poplarville to a meeting place, remained for a few minutes and returned to the Star Cafe, arriving there at about 9:45 PM. He remained at the Star Cafe for approximately twenty minutes and returned to the meeting place. At this time there were approximately fourteen cars at the meeting place and approximately thirty persons present. At the meeting, it was decided that REYER's car should be used to transport PARKER from the jail. At approximately 11:15 PM, REYER

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left the meeting with FRANCIS BARKER in BARKER's car and went to Poplarville. REYER drove around Poplarville for approximately thirty minutes and then proceeded to the street north of the courthouse and hospital, where he saw a 1956 Chevrolet and his 1957 Oldsmobile parked at the curb. He saw four men sitting in his Oldsmobile and the only one he recognized was J. P. WALKER, who was sitting under the steering wheel in the driver's seat. REYER asked the men in his car if they had obtained the keys to the jail, but they said they had not. REYER then proceeded in BARKER's car to the Amoco Service Station on Highway 11, north of Poplarville, where he remained until approximately 12:15 AM, April 25, 1959. He and BARKER then drove back to Poplarville, passed the south entrance to the courthouse, and then to the Bogalusa Road. They proceeded to Crossroads, where they parked at the Pure Oil Station. A few seconds later, REYER's Oldsmobile pulled into the station, but REYER did not see the driver and does not know who was driving the Oldsmobile at that time. REYER switched from BARKER's car to his Oldsmobile at the Pure Oil Station and proceeded home.

The complete statement of REYER is set out on pages 183-190.

[REDACTED] was interviewed by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], on May 13, 1959. He advised that he rode to the meeting south of Poplarville on the night of April 24, 1959, with [REDACTED]. This meeting was for the purpose of planning the abduction of M. C. PARKER.

[REDACTED] stated that he and [REDACTED] remained at the meeting for just a few minutes and returned to Poplarville. They then returned to the meeting and at this time he recognized [REDACTED] as one of the group in attendance at the meeting. He stated, as the meeting began to break up, he, [REDACTED] got into a 1955 or 1956 Chevrolet, which was occupied by three other men, whose identities were unknown to him. He did not see [REDACTED] leave the meeting and was unable to state how [REDACTED] travelled from the meeting to Poplarville. He said that he left the scene of the meeting

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about midnight and rode around Poplarville for ten or fifteen minutes finally parking beside the Standard Service Station just off Main Street at the Courthouse Square. After remaining in this position for a short time, they proceeded down a side street, crossed Julia Street and in the middle of the next block stopped the car to talk to [REDACTED] who was with [REDACTED] in PARKER's car. They then drove to Julia Street and took up a position diagonally across the street from the south entrance to the courthouse. While parked in this position, [REDACTED] observed a group of men dragging PARKER from the south entrance of the courthouse and placing him in [REDACTED] automobile. After PARKER was placed in the car, the automobile took off and headed west one block, turned right behind the hospital, proceeded to Highway 26 and turned left.

Immediately following the departure of [REDACTED] automobile the car in which [REDACTED] was riding proceeded north on Julia Street to Highway 26 at [REDACTED] observed that [REDACTED] car at that time was on Highway 11, heading in the direction of Bogalusa. [REDACTED] related that the car in which he was riding followed PARKER's car all the way to Bogalusa and at no time did [REDACTED] car stop until it reached a point just over the Bogalusa Bridge and made a "U" turn in front of the Legion Club. At this point, the car [REDACTED] was in passed [REDACTED] car and drove about three-fourths of a mile further on Highway 11 where the driver turned around and headed back toward Poplarville. The driver then proceeded to Crossroads located at the intersection of Highways 26 and 48 and pulled into a Pure Oil Station, where [REDACTED] car was waiting. [REDACTED] said that he left the Chevrolet in which he was riding to [REDACTED] Oldsmobile. He believes that there were [REDACTED] in the front seat and two other men in the back seat when he left the Oldsmobile, and the only one he recognized was the driver, [REDACTED] he identified [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] related that [REDACTED] then drove the Oldsmobile from the Pure Oil Station, headed south on Poplarville on Highway 26 and, after driving a short distance, recognized [REDACTED] car proceeding in the opposite

direction. At this time [redacted] turned the Oldsmobile around and followed [redacted] car back to Crossroads, where both cars stopped at the Pure Oil Station. [redacted] got out of the back seat of [redacted] car and into the front seat and [redacted] left [redacted] car and entered the driver's seat of the Oldsmobile. The other occupants of the Oldsmobile entered [redacted] car and [redacted] believes they proceeded toward Poplarville on Highway 40.

[redacted] said that he and [redacted] left the Pure Oil Station via Highway 43 in a southerly direction.

A complete account of the information furnished by [redacted] on May 13, 1959, is set out on pages [redacted]

On May 14, 1959, [redacted] Pearl River County Jail, advised SA's [redacted] and [redacted] that, between 11:00 and 11:30 p.m., on April 24, 1959, [redacted] appeared at his home and told him that his, [redacted] were wanted to go [redacted] in a car parked in front of [redacted] home. As [redacted] walked to the car, [redacted] shoved him, forcing him to walk forward into the rear of the car. There were two men in the front of the car, one of whom was [redacted] who was the driver, and the other was [redacted] the person sitting to the right of [redacted] in the front seat of the car. [redacted] thought was [redacted]. One of the men said, "We want you after the nigger and want the keys." Another man said, [redacted]. We don't want any trouble, we just want the keys. [redacted] said he agreed to get the keys for them.

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[redacted] then left the car and returned to his home. His wife he was going [redacted] and proceeded to [redacted] court in his own car. [redacted] parked his car at the curb in front of the sidewalk leading to the south door of the courthouse and, as he walked, [redacted] the car containing the above-mentioned four men. [redacted] on the street alongside the south side of the Public Health Building facing east. [redacted] said he entered the courthouse, went to the [redacted] took the [redacted] on the [redacted]

filing cabinet, threw them on the [REDACTED] and left the courthouse through the south entrance locking it behind him. He entered his car and went directly home. He described the car in which [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were riding as a two-tone Oldsmobile, which he believed was a 1956 model. He stated that he did not participate in any manner in the removal of PARKER from the jail.

[REDACTED] pointed out that, while none of the men specifically threatened him in any manner should he refuse the keys to the jail, he knew from their conversation that, if he refused, they would attempt to take them by force and, further, from the past reputation of [REDACTED], he knew they would not hesitate to do bodily harm to him and members of his family in the event he disclosed their identities.

The complete statement furnished by [REDACTED] on May 14, 1959, is set out on pages [REDACTED]

On May 14, 1959, [REDACTED] furnished a signed statement to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] concerning his observation of the abduction of M. C. PARKER from the Pearl River County Jail on the morning of April 25, 1959. At the time of the abduction, [REDACTED] was a [REDACTED] in the Pearl River County Jail.

In this statement, [REDACTED] identified [REDACTED] as one of five men who entered the Pearl River County Jail to forcibly take PARKER from the jail. He described [REDACTED] as the [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] Mississippi, and a [REDACTED] for [REDACTED] of Pearl River County. He stated that [REDACTED] had the [REDACTED] and inquired of one of the Negro prisoners as to where M. C. PARKER was located. Upon being told of the location of PARKER, [REDACTED] unlocked the door at the head of the stairway, went to the second tier and proceeded to the control box which operates the door to the maximum security cell where PARKER was lodged. He then opened the door leading to PARKER's cell and entered the cell with [REDACTED], and [REDACTED].

[redacted] described hearing a scuffle in PARKER's cell and subsequently saw [redacted] and [redacted] drag PARKER out into the corridor of the upper tier. [redacted] was pulling PARKER by the right leg and [redacted] was pulling him by the left leg. [redacted] was hitting PARKER with a policeman's club, which [redacted] described as a long, smooth wooden club. [redacted] and [redacted] dragged PARKER down the stairs from the upper to the lower tier of cells and, when they reached the landing at the door leading to the courtroom, PARKER grabbed the railing. As they reached the door PARKER begged the men to let him up so he could walk; whereupon, [redacted] said, "Hell, no, you won't walk," and at the same time struck PARKER on the head with his stick. [redacted] and [redacted] then dragged PARKER out into the courtroom and out of sight of [redacted]

[redacted] stated he has known [redacted] and described him as being six feet one or two inches tall, weighing about 200 pounds, with red hair and a red face. He said that on the night of April 24, 1959, [redacted] was wearing khaki work pants and shirt, white cotton gloves with a blue elastic wristband and a red bandana across the lower part of his face. He was bareheaded and was wearing brown shoes. He described [redacted] as being forty-five to fifty years of age.

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The complete statement furnished by [redacted] is set forth on pages [redacted]

[redacted] was interviewed by SA's [redacted] and [redacted], at [redacted] Louisiana, on May 14, 1959. He advised that he had no objection

to discussing the abduction of M. C. PARKER, but would not go to Poplarville, Mississippi, for an interview since he feared that he would be observed by newspapermen and the resulting publicity might adversely affect his current campaign for the office of Sheriff in Pearl River County. At the outset of the interview, WALKER was advised that he did not have to make a statement, that any statement he made could be used against him in a court of law and that he had the right to obtain the services of an attorney.

WALKER advised that he had a general recollection of his activities on the night of April 24, 1959, stating at the outset that he had nothing to do with the PARKER incident and knew nothing about it until the following morning in Picayune. He stated that, in the course of his campaigning for Sheriff, he had been out in the country during the afternoon of April 24, 1959, specifically along the Crossroads section between Picayune and Crossroads, Mississippi. He stated that since his daughter is married to a son of FRANCIS BARKER of McNeill, Mississippi, he visits the BARKER residence quite frequently and, on this date, April 24, 1959, went to McNeill, Mississippi. He advised BARKER was home and wanted to go to Poplarville and, in addition to BARKER, [REDACTED] was there and [REDACTED] had to make a trip to Mobile that night for some unknown reason and was going to borrow a car from BARKER to make this trip. WALKER stated that, instead of using one of the two cars BARKER owns, [REDACTED] borrowed WALKER's new Oldsmobile, but could not explain why he would loan his car to a person who was no relative of his or why [REDACTED] could not have used the 1958 [REDACTED] of BARKER. WALKER continued that approximately 8:00 p.m., that night, he and BARKER proceeded to Poplarville in the light-colored or tan-colored Chevrolet, four-door sedan, of BARKER. WALKER stated he drove the car; that they went directly to Poplarville and visited around the Star Cafe, parking the vehicle on the side street on the south side of the cafe. He advised he was with BARKER constantly during the evening visiting various individuals around town, none of whom he could name at this time and stated that he could recall no incident that would identify [REDACTED]

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anyone he may have contacted that night. He advised they went no where after arriving in Poplarville, except to the home of [REDACTED] when they heard that the house was on fire there. He stated BARKER accompanied him on this trip, that they returned to town shortly thereafter and remained in and near the Star Cafe until about midnight or shortly thereafter when they departed for McNeill to get his car. He stated that at all times he had the keys to BARKER's car, that he could recall loaning them to no one and is certain that BARKER did not use the car himself that night since naturally he would have accompanied him since they had come to town together. He advised that he is certain that BARKER did not attend any meeting outside of Poplarville and definitely he did not, nor did he ride with BARKER or anyone else in any other car down Highway 26 toward Bogalusa.

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WALKER continued that, when they left Poplarville, they went straight to McNeill down Highway 11, but determined that [REDACTED] had not yet returned from Mobile so both of them continued on to Picayune to the bus station where they had a cup of coffee. He stated that it was approximately 12:30 AM, Saturday morning, April 25, 1959, when he returned to BARKER's residence in McNeill and obtained his personal vehicle and again returned to Picayune, where he remained the remainder of the night, seeing no one. He stated, since that time, he has heard numerous rumors about the PARKER incident, has no information whatsoever as to who may have been involved, but definitely had nothing to do with it himself.

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It was then pointed out to WALKER that of individuals had been observed in the BARKER Chevrolet [REDACTED] that the car had evidently been elsewhere other than Poplarville, but he insisted that such could not have been the case, that he and the car were in and around Poplarville, but not outside the city limits except for the one trip. When an effort was made to pin down his movements and contacts more specifically, WALKER became extremely agitated and accused Agents of accusing him of lying. It was pointed out that the only purpose of the questions was to determine where the confusion lay with respect to the use of this particular vehicle and [REDACTED]

WALKER stated he had nothing more to say, that evidently his story was not to be believed in any event. He refused to alter his story in any way, could furnish no one who could substantiate his story and terminated the interview with the statement that no further purpose could be served by continuing it. He refused to furnish any background information, stating he could not see where this would assist in the investigation, that the FBI already had his fingerprints from Army service, furnishing only a birthdate of June 24, 1918, at Picayune, Mississippi, and his Army Serial Number 6384416.

In connection with information furnished by J. P. WALKER, it is noted that on May 15, 1959, CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS REYER steadfastly maintained that FRANCIS BARKER remained in his presence from the time he, REYER, drove BARKER's car away from the meeting on the Higgins Road at approximately 11:30 PM, April 24, 1959, until approximately 12:30 AM, April 25, 1959, except for the short interval of time that he, REYER, followed L. C. DAVIS to the front of the courthouse.

On May 15, 1959, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] that he is [REDACTED] [REDACTED] he was acquainted with J. P. WALKER, candidate for Sheriff, Pearl River County, and that J. P. WALKER's stepdaughter was married to LARRY BARKER, FRANCIS M. BARKER's son. He also advised that LARRY BARKER was employed by J. P. WALKER in the latter's body shop at Picayune, Mississippi. He stated he last saw J. P. WALKER at the funeral of FRANCIS M. BARKER April 30, 1959, and that since that date has had no contact with J. P. [REDACTED] telephonically or in person.

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[REDACTED] stated that at about dark or approximately 7:00 PM, Friday, April 24, 1959, FRANCIS M. BARKER and J. P. WALKER, in the latter's late model blue Oldsmobile, came to his home at [REDACTED] Mississippi. He said BARKER told him that a telephone call had been received indicating a mobile telephone call from [REDACTED] who [REDACTED]

was married to a sister of BARKER. [REDACTED] said that BARKER told him [REDACTED] was in Mobile en route to Poplarville from Virginia, where she had been visiting her husband in the Armed Services, and that she requested him, [REDACTED] to drive her car to Mobile and return her to Poplarville. [REDACTED] said he told BARKER in the presence of WALKER he did not believe [REDACTED] old model Chevrolet would make the trip; whereupon, J. P. WALKER volunteered to let him use his new Oldsmobile for the trip to Mobile and return, and it was arranged that [REDACTED] would pick up the Oldsmobile at BARKER's residence as soon as he had had his dinner and was prepared to go.

[REDACTED] stated he, his wife and eldest son drove from the [REDACTED] residence in [REDACTED] Chevrolet to the home of FRANCIS LUMPKIN and there left [REDACTED] car and picked up J. P. WALKER's Oldsmobile. He said Mrs. BARKER came to the BARKER residence porch at the time they transferred cars and it was about 8:00 PM when they set underway from Poplarville to make the trip to Mobile. [REDACTED] stated he traveled north from McNeill to the intersection of Highway 11 South at Poplarville and old Highway 11 which joins with Highway 26 and which route caused him to circumvent Poplarville proper. He said he continued eastward on Highway 26 to Biggins, Durdale and Mobile and returned by the same route.

[REDACTED] contended that he arrived at the BARKER residence after returning from Mobile a few minutes prior to 1:00 AM, Saturday, April 25, 1959. [REDACTED] was questioned as to what automobiles he had observed in front of the BARKER residence at McNeill when he went to pick up J. P. WALKER's car and when he left it there sometime later. [REDACTED] said he did not recall whether or not any cars were parked in front of BARKER's residence. He stated he could not even remember whether BARKER's own automobiles, of which he has two, were parked in front of the residence. [REDACTED] stated he did not see J. P. WALKER or FRANCIS BARKER either at about 8:00 PM when he picked up WALKER's car for the trip to Mobile, or just prior to 1:00 AM, or the next morning when he returned WALKER's car to the BARKER residence. He established this time by a statement made by

his wife, who said, "It's one o'clock," at which time she set the clock before retiring.

[REDACTED] was questioned as to whether or not he had seen any meeting of persons or collection of automobiles at any particular place along his trip on Highway 11 or Route 26 to Mobile on the evening of April 24, 1959. [REDACTED] contended he had no information that the abduction of M. C. PARKER was to take place and said he did not learn of it until late Saturday afternoon, April 25, 1959.

[REDACTED] did not offer any reason why WALKER made available his late model Oldsmobile, but said that WALKER was close to the PARKERs by marriage and he had heard him say that [REDACTED] car would not make the trip to Mobile.

[REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] his wife and son and he transferred [REDACTED] car at WALKER's residence and he drove [REDACTED] to the home of her aunt across the road from his own home on [REDACTED] and that on arrival at home it was noted by his wife that it was 1:00 AM.

On May 2, 1959, HENRY AMACKER advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that on Friday, April 24, 1959, he worked at his regular duties leaving the Pearl River County Courthouse at about 6:00 PM. He had dinner and then went to the Star Cafe, Poplarville, where he met FRANCIS PARKER and J. P. WALKER. At about 8:00 PM, the fire whistle sounded and AMACKER went with WALKER in WALKER's car to follow the fire engine. They traveled out the Calusa Road to the White Sands Community and proceeded to the house of [REDACTED] which was on fire. He stated he and WALKER returned to Poplarville at about 9:00 PM, going to the Star Cafe, where AMACKER remained until about 9:30 PM, at which time he went home.

On May 11, 1959, R. J. WHEAT advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that, while teaching his night class at Pearl River Junior College on the night of April 24, 1959, he heard the Poplarville fire whistle at about 8:30 PM.

Immediately thereafter he was contacted by [REDACTED] who stated that the fire appeared to be in [REDACTED] neighborhood. WHEAT said that he and [REDACTED] went in WHEAT's car to the residence of [REDACTED] which house was virtually destroyed by fire when they arrived. WHEAT recalled seeing a number of people at the fire, one of whom was J. P. WALKER. WHEAT stated he and [REDACTED] then proceeded to the Star Cafe, where he saw a number of individuals, including "FLAT" AMACKER and J. P. WALKER. He was of the impression that AMACKER was with WALKER and WHEAT recalls having no conversation with WALKER, but seemed to recall that WALKER had picked up the coffee check at his table. WHEAT stated that, as he and [REDACTED] left the Star Cafe at approximately 9:45 PM, he observed J. P. WALKER and FRANCIS BARKER standing together near the cash register at the cafe.

[REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on May 11, 1959, that he and J. P. WHEAT went to the Star Cafe in Poplarville at about 10:00 PM and sat at a table with FRANCIS BARKER. After they were seated, [REDACTED] noted that PETE CARVER, "BOB" RAY and J. P. WALKER were in the cafe. [REDACTED] recalled that J. P. WALKER came over to their table and picked up the coffee check which he paid. He stated that he and WHEAT left the cafe together at about 10:15 PM, and did not have any information as to the type of car being used by WALKER and BARKER. He could recall having no conversation with J. P. WALKER, other than to thank him for paying his check.

[REDACTED] waitress in the Star Cafe, Poplarville, Mississippi, advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on May 14, 1959, that she was acquainted with FRANCIS BARKER on several occasions over a one-day to two-week period prior to April 21, 1959, he was in the cafe accompanied by J. P. WALKER. She was unable to state definitely whether BARKER or WALKER was in the cafe on the evening of April 21, 1959, but believed they were there at around 8:00 or 9:00 PM.

SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] contacted J. P. WALKER at his request at [REDACTED] Mississippi, on May 16, 1959. WALKER apologized for having

lost his temper on the previous interview, but refused to discuss the abduction of PARKER with the Agents. He said that he would recontact them if he desired to make any type of statement.

The service record on file at the Department of Defense, Military Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri, for [REDACTED] Army Serial Number [REDACTED] reflects the following:

[REDACTED] entered the United States Army on June 26, 1936, and deserted on February 1, 1938, at Fort Benning, Georgia. He was discharged not honorably as a Private on April 10, 1941, from this enlistment due to desertion.

It was subsequently determined that he had re-enlisted in the United States Army on October 2, 1940, at New Orleans, Louisiana, under the name [REDACTED] Army Serial Number [REDACTED] (this number subsequently changed to [REDACTED]). He was honorably discharged from this enlistment as a Private on June 22, 1943, on a Certificate of Disability for Discharge due to fistula, oro-antral, acute. This disability was secondary to removal of dentigerous cyst of maxilla. The above disability was shown to incapacitate him for military service due to the progressive nature of the disease which would require frequent and prolonged hospitalization. b7c

Also, at the time of his discharge, he was diagnosed as constitutional psychopathic state, inadequate personality. No details for this diagnosis were shown.

On July 24, 1950, he enlisted in the Mississippi State National Guard, Serial Number [REDACTED] under the name [REDACTED] and entered on active duty in the United States Army on [REDACTED]. He was honorably discharged as a Sergeant on [REDACTED] due to hardship.

He was convicted by a summary court-martial on August 2, 1937, for neglecting to take proper prophylactic

after illicit sexual intercourse; sentenced to confinement at hard labor for one month and forfeiture of \$12.00 of his pay. He was also convicted by a summary court-martial on September 1, 1942, for being drunk and disorderly under such circumstances as to bring discredit on the military service. He was sentenced to forfeit \$20.00 of his pay. He was also convicted by summary court-martial on December 31, 1942, for being drunk and disorderly and was again sentenced to forfeit \$20.00 of his pay.

On May 15, 1959, the FBI Latent Fingerprint Section advised that the unidentified latent fingerprints found on the rear-view mirror of the 1957 Oldsmobile owned by C. C. REYER are not identical with the fingerprints of [REDACTED], Army Serial Number [REDACTED]

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G. NAME [REDACTED]

RESIDENCE [REDACTED]

Mississippi

OCCUPATION [REDACTED]

AGE [REDACTED]

HAROLD PIERRE CANVIER, JR., Night Marshal, Poplarville, advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on May 6, 1959, that he had heard from [REDACTED] individuals whom he refused to identify, that a [REDACTED] boy and [REDACTED] both of Gum Pond area of Pearl River County were possibly members of the mob which entered the jail on the night of April 24, 1959, and abducted JACK C. PARKER.

On April 27, 1959, W. C. MOODY, Sheriff of Pearl River County, advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that he recalled that a [REDACTED] and a stranger were in the Pearl River County Courthouse on April 14, 1959, the day after M. C. PARKER was brought to the Pearl River County Jail. MOODY advised that they made no inquiry of him as to PARKER but asked Pearl River County Attorney WILLIAM STEWART if PARKER was in jail and if he had a photograph of PARKER as they had not seen him.

On April 27, 1959, WILLIAM STEWART, Attorney, advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that he recalled [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] being in the Pearl River County Courthouse on April 14, 1959. He said they asked him if PARKER was in jail. When he was talking to them, he showed them a photograph of PARKER he had taken with a Polaroid camera. STEWART said that their action did not make him suspicious as they showed no more interest than "a thousand others."

On May 7, 1959, [REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] husband went to New Orleans on May 6, 1959, for back employment. She stated she did not have an address for him in [REDACTED]

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13 New Orleans and did not know when he would return to
14 Poplarville. She stated that [REDACTED] owns no
15 automobile, but that he went to New Orleans in their
16 1959 3/4 ton Chevrolet Pick-up Truck. She stated that
17 on the night of April 24, 1959, her husband was home
18 until about 7:00 PM. when he went to the home of a
19 neighbor, [REDACTED] returning home at approximately
20 11:00 PM. She stated that the first she knew of the
21 abduction of PARKER was when it was announced over the
22 radio on the morning of April 25, 1959.

23
24 On May 9, 1959, [REDACTED] was inter-
25 viewed by SA's [REDACTED] at the
26 residence of his father-in-law, [REDACTED]
27 He stated that his permanent address
28 is [REDACTED] Mississippi.

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30 [REDACTED] advised that he recalled an occasion
31 when he was in the courthouse at Poplarville, Mississippi,
32 talking to [REDACTED] about M. C. PARKER. He was
33 unable to recall the date of this contact, but said it was
34 a few weeks prior to the abduction of PARKER and that he
35 did not know at the time whether PARKER was in the Pearl
36 River County Jail. He said that he and [REDACTED] discussed
37 the forthcoming rape trial of PARKER.

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39 [REDACTED] said he did not speak to WILLIAM
40 STEWART, Sheriff MOODY, or any member of MOODY's department
41 concerning PARKER and never asked anyone to see a photo-
42 graph of PARKER. He said that, if STEWART or MOODY claimed
43 that he did this, he would like to confront them and do
44 it. [REDACTED] said that the only person he contacted in the court-
45 he [REDACTED] in the Sheriff's Office and that
46 he had a short conversation with her, which conversa-
47 tion did not concern PARKER. [REDACTED] said that he did not know
48 to whom [REDACTED] may have talked while not in his presence
49 but [REDACTED] did not talk to STEWART or [REDACTED] while he was
50 with him.

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52 [REDACTED] stated that on the night of April 24,
53 1959, he visited in the home of [REDACTED] and watched the
54 fight on television. He said he stayed until 10:00 PM at [REDACTED]

later and then returned home where he remained the rest of the night. He said that sometime during the morning of April 25, 1959, he heard about the abduction of PARKER, possibly on a radio news program.

██████████ said that he knows nothing about the abduction of PARKER and has heard no pertinent comment on the matter since it happened. He said he had no personal interest in whether the persons responsible for the abduction are ever found.

On May 8, 1959, ██████████, advised SA's ██████████ and ██████████ that, on the night of April 24, 1959, at approximately 7:30 p.m., ██████████ came to his home. He and ██████████ watched the fights on television and, after the fights, they talked for a few minutes and ██████████ left his home between 10:00 and 10:30 p.m. He stated that M. C. PARKER was not mentioned that evening at any time nor was the rape case discussed.

██████████ and ██████████ advised SA's ██████████ on May 13, 1959, that he recognized J. P. WALKER and ██████████ among the group of men attending a meeting near Biggs and south of Poplarville on the night of April 24, 1959. This meeting was for the purpose of laying plans for the abduction of M. C. PARKER. ██████████ was unable to state how ██████████ left the meeting or where he went subsequent to the meeting. Complete details concerning the information furnished by ██████████ relative to this meeting are set out on pages ██████████

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On May 15, 1959, ██████████, advised SA's ██████████ and ██████████ that this is a photograph of ██████████ and stated that this is the person he previously mentioned to ██████████ whom he saw at the meeting. He said that ██████████ was wearing overalls with bib and shoulder straps, and he observed him only at the meeting and knows nothing further concerning his identity or activities. ██████████ recalled that ██████████ arrived after the meeting had commenced in one of the back cars to appear at the meeting.

On May 13, 1959, [redacted] was recontacted at [redacted] by SA's [redacted] and [redacted]. Upon approaching the house at approximately 8:00 PM, the Agents noted that there were no lights burning. [redacted] answered the door dressed in his underwear and invited the Agents in. He left the front room grumbling about being bothered by the FBI and returned in a short while, after putting on his trousers.

Upon being advised of the need to obtain photograph and fingerprint identification to eliminate him as a suspect in attendance at a meeting near the Wiggins Highway on the night of April 24, 1959, [redacted] denied he was at such a meeting on that night or any other night and repeated that he was at [redacted] house during the evening of April 24, 1959, where he remained until about 10:00 PM and returned home.

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At this point in the interview, [redacted] became antagonistic and stated he intended to see an attorney before he would discuss anything further with the FBI. He also stated he was tired of having the FBI bother his family at Lumberton, Mississippi, and that he intended to go to Lumberton in a few days and look after his interests. He stated that he was in a private home and that the Agents were no longer welcome, whereupon, the interview was terminated.

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H. NAME

L. C. DAVIS, also known as
Lewis C. Davis, Louis C.
Davis, "Colonel"

RESIDENCE

Route 2, Poplarville, Miss-
issippi

OCCUPATION

Farmer and carpenter

AGE

45

On May 8, 1959, L. C. DAVIS furnished the
following signed statement to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] b7c

"E.F.D. Poplarville, Miss.
May 8, 1959

"I, L. C. Davis, hereby make the following
free and voluntary statement to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] b7c
[REDACTED], who have advised me that they
are Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investi-
gation, U. S. Department of Justice. I have been
told that I do not have to make a statement and that
any statement that I do make can be used against me
in a court of law. I have been told it is a violation
of Federal law to make a false statement in connection
with this investigation.

"I was born 9/19/13 at Poplarville, Miss.
I married to Lois Davis and we have one child. We
reside at Route 2, Box 189, Poplarville, Miss. I
have had eight years in school.

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12 "I was at home in bed on April 24, 1959,
13 the night that the negro was taken from the
14 Poplarville jail. I was suffering from a tooth
15 that was aching. I attended no meetings that
16 night and had no visitors at my house. I did not
17 go to the Poplarville jail, and did not help remove
18 D. C. Parker from this jail.

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20 "I was advised that I am entitled to
21 have a lawyer advise me.

22
23 " /s/ L. C. Davis

24
25 "Witness:

26 [REDACTED], Special Agent, FBI,

27 [REDACTED], 5/5/59

28 [REDACTED] Special Agent, FBI,

29 New Orleans, 5/5/59"

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31 DAVIS stated that when in the Army he used
32 the name of LOUIS C. DAVIS. He said that he did not know
33 how "LOUIS" was spelled on the military records and believed
34 it could be either "LOUIS" or "LEWIS." He advised he has
35 always been known as L. C. DAVIS.

36
37 He identified [REDACTED] of Poplarville, as
38 the dentist who pulled his tooth on Friday, May 1, 1959.
39 He advised that he waited from April 24, 1959, to May 1,
40 1959, for the almanac to "show the signs in the teeth." He
41 stated that when the signs are right, there is very little
42 bleeding.

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44 [REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED]
45 [REDACTED] on May 9, 1959, that when
46 he finished work [REDACTED] approximately 2:00 PM, April 25, 1959,
47 he went to the home of L. C. DAVIS. It was his recollection
48 that DAVIS was suffering from a toothache when he arrived
49 and that he had the toothache the following day. He stated
50 that L. C. DAVIS made no comment to him at any time indicat-
51 ing any personal knowledge of the abduction of D. C.
52 PARKER.

On May 12, 1959, L. C. DAVIS was interviewed by SA's [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] b7c
At the outset of the interview he was advised as to the official capacity of the Agents; that he would not have to make a statement; that if he did it could be used against him in a court of law; and that he had the right to consult an attorney.

DAVIS maintained that he knew nothing of the abduction of M. C. PARKER, that he went to bed between 8:00 and 8:30 PM, April 24, 1959, and knew nothing of any meeting being held near his residence. He denied knowledge of or participation in any activities other than his usual day to day activities. He said that he knew of no one other than his wife and daughter who were in the vicinity of his home on the night of April 24, 1959. b7c

On May 9, 1959, SA's [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] searched a gravel road and the property to the west line of Highway 26. This fence line borders the property of L. C. DAVIS. The road is located to the left of Highway 26 running east from Mississippi Highway 66. DAVIS' house is located approximately two-tenths of a mile north of Highway 26 and approximately 5 1/2 miles from Poplarville.

The following items were located during the search:

- (1) A portion of a cellophane wrapper from "Day's Work Chewing Tobacco".
- (2) A label and price tag bearing the words "Buy Top Jerro Glove".
- (3) A Tampa Nuggett Cigar.

(4) A slip of paper with the handwritten name "L. C. DAVIS" with a line drawn under this name and the initial "L" underneath the line.

(5) A cellophane wrapper bearing the words "Red Bird Handkerchief."

(6) A slip of paper with the name [REDACTED] with a line drawn beneath this name and an illegible initial or mark below the line. b7c

(7) A small bottle of Dr. Wischner's Antiseptic.

On May 11, 1959, a search was made along the entire length of the gravel road which parallels the south line of the L. C. DAVIS property. The following items were located:

(1) A number of sheets of what appeared to be pencil tablet paper.

(2) A slip of paper with the handwritten name "L. C. DAVIS" with a line drawn beneath this name and an illegible initial or mark below the line.

(3) A Bar-B-Q bag.

(4) An empty half-pint bottle with the label "Old Taylor."

(5) A Bag Bee Tobacco Bag and cigarette papers.

In addition to the above items, numerous cigarette butts, gum wrappers, cellophane wrappers, a cigarette package, and other miscellaneous items were located. All of the above items were furnished to the FBI Laboratory for examination.

The Laboratory reported that no indented writing was found on the various slips of paper located in the search. It was not possible to definitely determine whether the writing on the slips of paper containing the names "L. C. DAVIS" and [REDACTED] were written by one person. Examination revealed that the initials below the name [REDACTED] and the initials beneath the name "L. C. DAVIS" may be the initials "S. M."

There were insufficient significant details to permit determination of the source of the tablet paper. The pieces of paper containing the names "L. C. DAVIS" and [REDACTED] are similar in size and thickness to the sheets of tablet paper but there were insufficient significant details to permit a definite opinion as to whether these papers came from the same source.

Due to their contaminated condition, the cigarette butts were not suitable for conclusive saliva grouping purposes.

No latent fingerprints were developed on any of the items submitted.

On May 13, 1959, [REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that he attended the meeting south of Poplarville near the residence of L. C. DAVIS on the night of April 24, 1959, with [REDACTED]. He stated at this meeting plans were made to lynch A. C. PARKER.

He stated that they drove from McNeill, Mississippi, to Poplarville on the night of April 24, 1959, in a 1957 red and white Oldsmobile sedan owned by [REDACTED]. They went to a cafe for coffee and then drove east out Highway 26 toward Wiggins, Mississippi, and proceeded to a location which he subsequently identified as the area near the residence of L. C. DAVIS.

Upon arrival they saw a group of men congregated on the right side of the road. [REDACTED] got out of his car and walked over to the group of men. [REDACTED] remained in the car for approximately thirty minutes, when he got out.

of the car and joined the group. [redacted] stated that the only man he recognized in the group was [redacted] and [redacted]

After standing with the group for several minutes, [redacted] and [redacted] went back to [redacted] car and another man, whose identity was unknown, got in the car with them. [redacted] was of the opinion that this unidentified individual resided in the area where the meeting was taking place.

[redacted] drove the car back to Poplarville, parked near the Grayhound Bus Depot, and left the car. [redacted] and the unidentified individual remained in the car. About twenty minutes later [redacted] returned to the car with [redacted]. [redacted] got into the car and sat in the back seat.

At this time [redacted] asked [redacted] if he knew about "getting the nigger out of the jail tonight." [redacted] denied that he had any knowledge this was going to take place. [redacted] then left the car and [redacted] drove back to the meeting place. At this time the car was occupied by [redacted] and the unidentified individual. [redacted] was not sure as to the time but believed that they arrived back at the meeting at approximately 10:30 PM.

When they returned to the meeting, [redacted] rejoined the group and more or less acted as spokesman and it was decided that they would use [redacted] car to transport PARKER from the jail. At this time [redacted] recognized [redacted] and [redacted] in the group of men. He subsequently identified [redacted] as [redacted].

At the conclusion of the meeting, the group began to break up and get into various automobiles. [redacted] was advised by an individual who appeared to him to get into a car which he described as a 1955 or 1956 Chevrolet which was occupied by three other men, none of whom were known to [redacted].

[redacted] stated that he had no idea as to the identity of the individuals who left the car at the meeting in [redacted] car nor was he able to describe the

number of persons who rode in the car. He observed that [redacted] and [redacted] left the meeting in [redacted] car.

The car in which [redacted] was riding proceeded to Poplarville and took up a position diagonally across the street from the south entrance of the courthouse. While parked in this position, [redacted] observed a group of men dragging the victim from the south entrance of the courthouse and placing him in [redacted]'s automobile. He was unable to state the exact number of men who got into the car with the victim.

After the victim was placed in [redacted] car, the car proceeded from Poplarville on Highway 26 and went to the Pearl River Bridge near Bogalusa. [redacted] stated that the car in which he was riding followed [redacted]'s car all the way to Bogalusa to a point just west of the Pearl River Bridge where the driver of [redacted] car made a "U" turn and proceeded east back onto the bridge.

At this point the car in which [redacted] was riding passed [redacted]'s car and proceeded about three-fourths of a mile further on into Bogalusa where the driver turned around and headed back toward Poplarville. This car proceeded to Crossroads, located at the intersection of Highways 26 and 43 and pulled into a Pure Oil station where [redacted]'s car was waiting.

At this point [redacted] got out of the Chevrolet, walked over to [redacted]'s car and got into the back seat after one of the men got out to let him in. [redacted] then slid over to the center of the back seat and the [redacted] back [redacted] [redacted] stated that the individual who got [redacted] let him in was the same individual who rode with him [redacted] from the meeting place to the cafe in Poplarville and back to the meeting place earlier in the evening.

[redacted] stated that upon getting [redacted] Oldsmobile, he recognized only one individual [redacted] that being [redacted] who was driving [redacted] from the Pure Oil station to Poplarville and back driving [redacted]

a short distance, recognized [redacted] car proceeding in the opposite direction. He turned the Oldsmobile around and followed [redacted] car back to the Pure Oil Station where both cars stopped.

At this point [redacted] got out of the back seat of [redacted] car and into the front seat. [redacted] got out of [redacted] car and entered his own car, sitting in the driver's seat. [redacted] and [redacted] then proceeded to [redacted] home.

[redacted] stated that prior to the time he left the Pure Oil Station, he saw the individuals who were previously in [redacted] car get into [redacted] car and he believes that they headed toward Poplarville on Highway 26.

A complete account of the information furnished by [redacted] is set out on pages [redacted]

On May 15, 1959, [redacted] was interviewed by SA's [redacted] and [redacted]. [redacted] identified a photograph of L. C. Davis as the individual who rode in [redacted] car from the meeting place to the Star Cafe in Poplarville and who was present in [redacted] car when [redacted] entered the car near the Star Cafe on the night of April 24, 1959.

On May 14, 1959, C. R. [redacted] furnished a signed statement to SA's [redacted] and [redacted] concerning his activities on the night of April 24, 1959, and the morning of April 25, 1959. The following portions of this statement were pertinent to the activities of L. C. Davis:

"Upon arrival at the meeting place I saw about eight cars and [redacted] pickup trucks parked on the right side of the road. There were no cars to my recollection on the left and I parked near a tree located almost in front of a house. I do not know who lives in this house. I didn't see anyone as I drove up to this place. I got out of my car and started walking back to where these cars were parked. I don't remember [redacted]

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12 "Smith got out of my car or not. As I approached
13 the cars I heard someone say 'there's a Crip'. I
14 did not recognize this person nor could I recognize
15 his voice. I asked what this meeting was all about
16 and someone said it concerns Parker. I talked to
17 these men a few minutes and would estimate there
18 were fifteen to eighteen people in this group. I
19 did not recognize any of them, and heard someone
20 say that all of the crowd was not there yet. I
21 then went back to my car saying that I was going
22 back to town. I do not recall whether Smith was
23 still sitting in the car or if he got in at the
24 time. As I was walking back to my car a man followed
25 me and said he would ride back to town and come back
26 with me. I cannot recall this man's name but I
27 believe he is a Davis. I would describe this man
28 as being about forty-five years old, approximately
29 six feet tall, and would weigh about one hundred and
30 sixty five or seventy pounds. He had a thin, hatched
31 type face and was slender build. I do not recall
32 just how he was dressed. The three of us returned
33 to Poplarville and parked at about the same place
34 I had parked before. I got out and went to the
35 star cafe alone. Smith and this man were still in
36 the car. I went to the cafe to get coffee and
37 stayed about twenty minutes. I recall speaking to
38 Mrs. Carroll who was working as a waitress at the
39 cafe.
40

41 "When I first came to the star cafe before
42 going to the meeting place it was approximately
43 9:15 PM. After going to the meeting and returning
44 to the Starcafe it was about 9:45 PM. I stayed in
45 the Cafe about twenty minutes after which I
46 returned to the car.
47

48 "Smith and the person who rode to town
49 with us were in the car when I returned. I got in
50 and we drove back to the meeting place. Upon
51 arrival at the meeting place this second time there
52 were cars parked on both sides of the road. I
53 parked on the left side of the road near a boat at
54 the head of the line of cars. I would say that
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there were [redacted] cars and [redacted] trucks
there [redacted] [redacted] I [redacted] [redacted] in [redacted]
opinion [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]
there in this group. I believe [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]
that rode out to town and back with [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]
got out of my car and I got [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]
over to where the group was standing...."

The complete statement of CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS
REYER is set out on pages 183-190.

On May 15, 1959, CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS REYER
was interviewed by SA's [redacted] and [redacted] b7c
[redacted] He was shown a photograph of L. C. DAVIS and
identified the photograph as being that of the individual
who had ridden from the meeting place on the Higgins road
on the night of April 24, 1959, to Poplarville in his, BARKER's,
Oldsmobile and who returned with him to the meeting place.

REYER then stated that when he had stopped
in the car of FRANCIS BARKER on the north side of the Pearl
River County Hospital at about 11:30 P.M. on April 24, 1959,
he observed L. C. DAVIS walking from behind a black 1956
Chevrolet to the courthouse lawn. REYER said that when he
stopped BARKER's car, he stopped next to his Oldsmobile and
a 1956 black Chevrolet was parked immediately to the rear of
the Oldsmobile. REYER stated he followed L. C. DAVIS across
the courthouse lawn to the front porch of the courthouse
where DAVIS disappeared from view behind a column.

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS REYER, May 16, 1959, b7c
advised SA's [redacted] and [redacted] that
he called following L. C. DAVIS to the front of the court-
house on the night of April 24, 1959, and rather than seeing
him disappear behind a column as REYER previously had stated,
he observed DAVIS go out to open a window of the Sheriff's
Office. REYER said that DAVIS commented the window was
stuck and they then walked around the north side of the
courthouse between the courthouse and the hospital and
returned to the cars parked on the north side of the
hospital.

REYER said that he then got into BARKER's
car and did not notice what action was taken by L. C. DAVIS.

He denied seeing L. C. DAVIS anytime later that night or in the early morning of April 25, 1959.

HAROLD PIERRE CARVER, 1414 Marshall, Poplarville, advised SA's [redacted] and [redacted] on May 14, 1959, that he had coffee at the Star Cafe, Main Street, Poplarville, at approximately 9:30 p.m. on the night of April 24, 1959. He stated that "CRIP" REYER was also in the Star Cafe and that after having coffee he saw REYER's Oldsmobile in the street near the cafe and this car was occupied by "CRIP" REYER, a person CARVER believed to be [redacted] and another individual who was unknown to CARVER.

CARVER stated that REYER called him to the automobile which he entered and sat with there men for a short time. REYER stated that someone was liable to get killed Monday "with them nigger lawyers in the court room." CARVER said he told REYER not to tell him anything about it.

CARVER stated that REYER also remarked something to the effect that they were thinking about taking "that nigger" out of the jail. CARVER at this point left this automobile and did not converse with them further. He stated he did not take REYER's statement seriously and did not believe that he was part of the plan to take FARMER from the jail.

On May 16, 1959, CARVER was interviewed and viewed by SA's [redacted] and [redacted] who showed him a photograph of L. C. DAVIS and one of the [redacted] who was in the Oldsmobile owned by "CRIP" REYER parked near the Star Cafe between 9:30 and 10:30 p.m. on the night of April 24, 1959.

On May 14, 1959, [redacted] Pearl River County Courthouse, [redacted] to SA's [redacted] and [redacted] his activities on the night of April 24, 1959. CARVER stated in part as follows:

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"...Sometime between 11:00 and 11:30 PM on 4/24/59 I heard a knock on my door. I got up from my chair, went to the door and opened it. [REDACTED] was standing in my yard about twelve or fifteen feet from the door. He said, 'Come out - my wife wants to see you.' At that point I think I then reached back into the house and picked up my shirt and put it on. I then went out of the house. I noticed that [REDACTED] was then standing beside an automobile parked at the curb directly in front of my house. He had the left rear door of the car opened and was standing beside it. The car was facing East which meant that it was actually parked on the wrong side of the street. I walked up to this car and stuck my head in the open door. At this time [REDACTED] either shoved me slightly from the rear with his hand or knee forcing me to fall forward into the rear of the car. At this time I heard a man in the car say, 'Get in.' I sat on the back seat in the middle. There was one man already seated on the right rear side and after I sat down [REDACTED] sat alongside of me on the left rear side. I saw two men in the front seat. I recognized the driver as [REDACTED] and the man in the passenger's side in front as [REDACTED]. I think I recognized the man sitting to my right as [REDACTED]. None of these men wore masks. I saw no guns and no gloves. After we all got in the car all the doors were shut. One of the men said 'We've come after the nigger and want the keys.' Another man said [REDACTED] 'we don't want any trouble, we just want the keys.' One of them said 'We don't want to tear up the courthouse or destroy any of the property.' At that time I said, 'I'll get the keys for you, but I'm not going to let you to get the nigger.' One of the men said 'We just want the keys.' I told them I would go get the keys at the Sheriff's Office and throw them on the Sheriff's desk in his office. One of the men said there was four or five cars parked around the courthouse. I told them to tell the persons in these cars to get away from the courthouse and that I then would get the keys...."

b7c
b7D

"I drove directly to the courthouse and parked my car at the curb directly in front of the sidewalk which leads to the street from the south door of the courthouse. As I parked my car I observed the car with the four men already parked on the street directly alongside the south side of the Public Health building. They were facing east...."

"I know the car in which [redacted] and the others were traveling was an Oldsmobile. I think it was about a 1956 model. I am not sure of the color, but have the impression that it was two tone color...."

The complete statement furnished by [redacted] is set out on pages [redacted]

[redacted] pointed out that while none of the men specifically threatened him should he not furnish the [redacted] he knew from their conversation that if he refused they would attempt to take them by force and from the past reputation of [redacted] he knew they would not hesitate to do bodily harm to himself and his family.

On May 15, 1959, SA's [redacted] and [redacted] exhibited a photograph of [redacted] to [redacted] identified this photograph as a photograph of one of the four individuals who had come to his home to obtain the keys to the Pearl River County Jail.

SA's [redacted] and [redacted] contacted [redacted] at his residence on May 14, 1959. [redacted] advised that he was too ill to be interviewed whereupon arrangements were made to interview him the following day.

On May 15, 1959, when contacted for interview by SA's [redacted] and [redacted] requested permission to visit his physician, Dr. W. J. STRINGER. He was taken to the physician's office at Poplarville.

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12 Upon completion of treatment, [redacted] accom- b7c
13 panied the Agents to the office where he consented to be
14 fingerprinted. After photographs were taken, he complained
15 of feeling ill and stated that Dr. SIKEMER had performed
16 a minor operation on him that morning. He was immediately
17 taken to his home and no attempt was made to interview him.
18

19 On May 16, 1959, DAVIS was interviewed at b7c
20 his residence by SA's [redacted], and [redacted]
21 [redacted]. He was advised of his right to consult an attorney,
22 that he did not have to make a statement, and that if he
23 did make a statement, it could be used against him in a
24 court of law.
25

26 DAVIS stated he knew C. C. REYER as a prize-
27 fighter a number of years ago and knows that he now works
28 as a barber in McComb, Mississippi. He identified a photo- b7c
29 graph of [redacted] as a turkey hunter he had seen during
30 the last hunting season but stated he did not know his name.
31 DAVIS advised he is acquainted with J. P. BARKER, FRANCIS
32 BARKER, J. P. LEE, JR., J. P. LEE, SR., and JESSE ALMOND.
33

34 DAVIS stated he had not attended any meeting
35 on the night of April 24, 1959; that he did not know in
36 advance that M. C. BARKER was to be taken from the jail;
37 that he was not in Poplarville on the night of April 24,
38 1959; that he had not been with C. C. REYER on the night of
39 his car on the night of April 24, 1959; [redacted] b7c
40 [redacted] to the home of [redacted] [redacted]
41 [redacted] emphatically denied that he had any part in REYER's murder
42 or his abduction from the jail.
43

44 DAVIS stated that he had indirectly received
45 [redacted] on his house and shoot him. He declined to
46 furnish information as to the possible source of the
47 threats other than [redacted] state he did not believe that they
48 came from local people. He added that he had been con-
49 tacted several days after the abduction of C. C. REYER and
50 stated that REYER came to his house seeking [redacted] [redacted]
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52 DAVIS was asked whether he desired to furnish
53 a statement. He stated "Take my knife, [redacted] just
54 well cut my throat." He further indicated, with references
55 [redacted]
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to giving a statement, that a person could be electrocuted for taking part in a murder.

DAVIS said that he did not desire to make a statement at his home and did not feel well enough to go to Poplarville but told the Agents that if he felt well enough at 8:00 PM on May 18, 1959, he would go to Poplarville for the purpose of making a statement.

On May 18, 1959, SA's [redacted] and [redacted] went to the residence of L. C. DAVIS and were met on the front porch by Mrs. DAVIS who stated L. C. DAVIS had "a fierce day and just took some case pills at 7:30 PM." She stated he was then asleep and in no condition to be interviewed.

On May 19, 1959, SA's [redacted] and [redacted] went to the home of L. C. DAVIS and were admitted to the house by Mrs. DAVIS who took them to the bedroom of L. C. DAVIS. When asked if he still desired to go to Poplarville for an interview, DAVIS stated he knew nothing concerning the abduction of PARKER and could see no purpose in talking to the FBI. He added that he had not been feeling well and that talking to Agents might bring on a nervous breakdown.

[redacted] advised SA's [redacted] and [redacted] on May 12, 1959, that when being driven home by [redacted] on April 24, 1959, she vaguely recalls seeing two cars parked on the road in front of L. C. DAVIS' residence but could not furnish a description of the cars.

[redacted] advised SA's [redacted] and [redacted] on May 12, 1959, that on the night of April 24, 1959, [redacted] was in Bogalusa with his sister [redacted] and they passed the L. C. DAVIS residence and he noticed [redacted] and two cars parked in the vicinity. He stated he saw no one in front of or around the residence.

On May 12, 1959, [redacted] and [redacted] advised SA's [redacted] and [redacted] that [redacted]

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13 [REDACTED] to their residence on the night of April 24,
14 1959, at approximately 11:15 PM. He stated he did not
15 observe any cars on the road on which the DAVIS home is
16 located. It is noted that [REDACTED] was
17 on the same road as L. C. DAVIS. b7c
18 b7D

19 On May 12, 1959, [REDACTED]
20 Poplarville, advised SA's [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]
21 [REDACTED] that on the night of April 24, 1959, she retired
22 early and knew nothing of any meeting taking place on the
23 gravel road on which she lives. She stated she is the
24 sister of L. C. DAVIS, who lives down the road from her
25 residence. She said that she has no information concerning
26 the abduction of M. C. PARKER and that L. C. DAVIS has not
27 mentioned anything concerning this abduction to her.
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I. NAME

[REDACTED]
also known as:

RESIDENCE

[REDACTED] Mississippi

OCCUPATION

[REDACTED]
Poplarville, Mississippi

AGE

32

On May 4, 1959, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Mississippi, furnished the following statement to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

"Hattiesburg, Miss.

"May 4, 1959

"I, [REDACTED], hereby make the following free and voluntary statement to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who have told me that they are Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I have been told that I do not have to make a statement and that any statement I do make can be used against me in a court of law. I have been told that I am entitled to have an attorney advise me. I have been advised that it is a violation of Federal law to furnish a false statement, per Title 18, Section 1001.

"I, [REDACTED], born [REDACTED] at [REDACTED], Miss., born [REDACTED] April 24, 1929, while at work at the Karp [REDACTED] Co., Hattiesburg, Miss., shortly before 11:00 A.M. was contacted by [REDACTED] is employed by [REDACTED] Miss., and I had [REDACTED] being employed by [REDACTED] Co. [REDACTED] did not buy anything from me. He asked me to [REDACTED] side. He took me to a parked car. The car was parked in [REDACTED]

back of the [redacted] Co. between the [redacted]
building and the [redacted] building. There were two
men in this automobile. I remember the automobile
as a light blue or green 57 Chevrolet two door. I
was not introduced by name to these men. I had never
seen them before and have not seen them since that time.
The first man, who was sitting on the right side of the
car did the talking. The first thing he said was, 'We
have something to talk to you about.' I asked him,
'What is it.' He said, 'Was driving by to see if you
wanted to get in on something.' I asked him what it
was. He said, 'We are going down there and drag that
nigger out of jail.' He did not mention M. C. Parker
by name, but I knew what he was talking about. I told
this man that I would not go, and that I did not believe
in violence. I also told him that, 'You guys ought not
go down and do that either.' I told the man that my
wife was not sure and had not identified Parker as the
man that raped her. He told me that he knew in his own
mind that they had the right nigger. Then he said, 'We
are going down there to get him, and we were just pass-
ing by and wanted to see if you wanted to get in on it.'
I told them that I did not want any part of it. He said,
'OK, we will see you later.' I turned and walked off,
and as I left I heard [redacted] say something to the effect
that he would see him [redacted] that night. I went to lunch
shortly after this contact, so I fix the time as being
between 10:30 and 11:00 A. M. The day of this contact
was the same day that M. C. Parker was taken from the
jail. I did not accompany these men and have had no
further contact with them.

"These men were seated in the automobile and
I talked to them through the automobile window. The
first man, the one that did the talking, stepped out
of the car for just a moment. The following is the best
description that I can furnish of this man: Hair-slightly
curly, gray at the temples and brown. He was about 40
years of age, or slightly younger. He was wearing a
dark green shirt and pants, uniform type. The shirt
and pants were the same color. The man was a big man.
I would estimate he was about 5'10" or 5'11" and weighed
about 180 pounds. I would describe the man as a [redacted]