

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WALTER WINCHELL

PART # 1 OF 13

PAGES AVAILABLE THIS PART 24



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FILES CONTAINED IN THIS PART

FILE # 62-44025 (Section 1) PAGES AVAILABLE 24

2

S
SAS:LL

June 1, 1936

88133

78

A

MEMORANDUM FOR THE TECHNICAL LABORATORY

Attached hereto are the following communications, which were recently received by Mr. Walter Winchell of the Daily Mirror, New York, New York.

Postal card postmarked at New York, New York, May 25th, and bearing the return address [REDACTED]

b
b7c

Communication written on a Western Union message form, beginning "Hell-O 8 - Walter or Mark", together with the envelope in which it was mailed, postmarked at New York, New York, May 25th.

It is desired that the above be searched through the file of anonymous communications and that any identification made be reported to Division One by memorandum.

It is not desired that the communications forwarded herewith be processed for latent fingerprints, inasmuch as they have been handled by an unknown number of individuals.

Very truly yours,

RECORDED

INDEXED

John Edgar Hoover, BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Director.

JUN 11 1936 P. M.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FILE

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Brughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Joseph	.....
Mr. Keith	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
JUN 11 1936
Inclosure No 1125109
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Eas J. H. S.

JHM

RK
3

6-17

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

10,255

Laboratory Report

Case: Re: Anonymous communication to
Walter Winchell.

Number: 62-44025-1

Specimens:

- 62-44025-1 A. Postal card postmarked at New York, N.Y., Sta. x, May 25, 2:30 AM
B. Western Union message form, beginning: "HELL - O U - Walter
or Mark--".
C. Envelope postmarked, New York----, Sta. x, May 25, 2:30 AM.

Examination requested by: Director

Date received: 6-12-36 jwp 11:00 AM

Examination requested: Document

Result of examination:

bK

Examination by: [REDACTED]

ANSWER BY MEMO. TO DIVISION ONE.

Bounced through, ana file and
compared with previous letters to Walter
Winchell, but no iden[t].

Phrasology indicates a possible connection
with post card to ~~W~~ Winchell postmarked May 6, 1936, 8 AM
9-1805-1A. Don't believe with of same
person though. The ~~post~~
instant specimens are somewhat incoherent

Ans. 6-17-36
J.F.P.

JAS:LL

88132

June 9, 1936

Special Agent in Charge,
New York, New York.

Dear Sir:

Inclosed herewith are photographic copies of the following communications recently received by Mr. Walter Winchell of the Daily Mirror, New York, New York.

A postal card postmarked at New York City, May 25, 1936, which bears the return address [REDACTED] and begins "Yes - You Birds".

A communication written on a Western Union message form, dated "5/25/36 time 12:40 Midnite", beginning "Hell-O U to Walter o. Mark", together with the envelope in which it was received.

You will note that this envelope bears the following printed return address in the upper left hand corner: "After Five Days Return To [REDACTED]

However, it is postmarked at New York City, May 25, 1936, and above the printed return address appears "Phone [REDACTED]" which is evidently a "Murray Hill" number, and below the printed return address appears the notation "Return add. on Back". On the reverse side of the envelope the following is written: [REDACTED] "o/o Landlord", which, it will be noted, is the same return address as given on the postal card. The following notation also appears on the reverse side of the envelope: [REDACTED] possibly refers to [REDACTED]

Stamped on the back of the envelope are certain words which apparently were made with a rubber stamp used by a Milwaukee service station.

It is desired that the writer of these communications be located and that he be vigorously interviewed to ascertain his purpose in forwarding such messages.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

62-44025-2
Very truly yours, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

INVESTIGATOR

JUN 11 1936 P. M.

John Edgar Hoover,
Director, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FILE

Inclosure No. 1125102

5

TO MR HOOVER THIS MAN SOUNDS NUTZ ANYWAY HE SIGNS HIS NAME AND
ADDRESS. ANYTHING BE DONE ABOUT IT JOHN?

88131

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Burroughs
Chief Clerk
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Farrow
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Joseph
Mr. Keith
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Schlesinger
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

Ack

Set. NYC 6ff.

Memo. Tech. Sec.

6/9/36. JAS

RECORDED

JUN 18 1936

62-44025-3

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
JL 15.936 A.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TOLSON	SAUNDERS
ONE	FILE

from Winchell, car

88130

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S
U
R
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ENCLOSURE

G-3-44025-3

PHONE

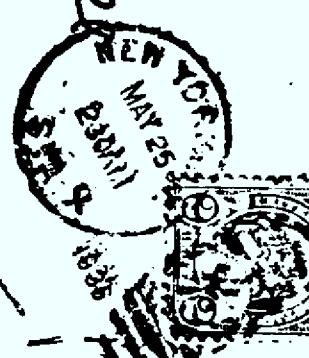
Return add. on back

Mrs. Walter Winchell

& Mark Hellinger

Daily Mirror

11/11/45



b6
b7C

P.P.S.

Both of U Rind's Read

this.

P.S.

b-6
b/c
They were at the Alg. Inclined Ball Room

I spoke - P.S. Catholic Boy just
friendly

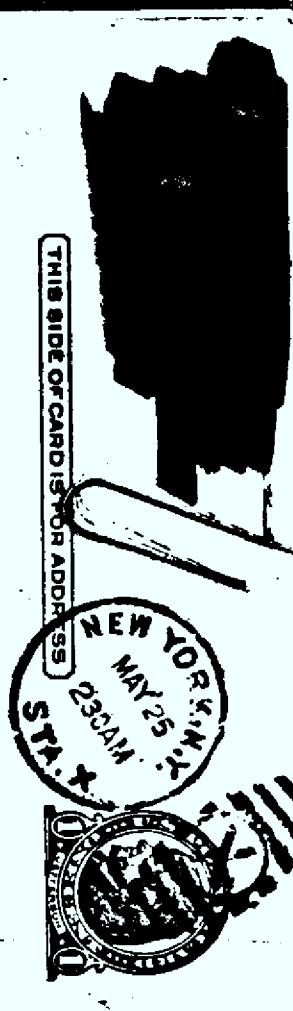
Borrowed my minor
argument.

Likes Giants Cleat & Det

4 Boys 2 Girls in same competition
Sam is changing. 1²⁰ after midnite

b6

Mr. Mark B. Walter
1000 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y. Daily subscriber
to the New York Times.
N.Y.C.



5/25/36 12⁵⁰
MIONITE

Yes — You Birds
Print my
letter W. V.
Paper.

I will &
pay for it
even if I am
Broke My
credit is good here in N.Y.

I will be down 5/25/36 to put aside your paper.
I don't know. But believe you are right.
P.S.

Written at
By a yellow feather

JASILL

88129

RECORDED

62-44025-3

JUN 11 1936

Mr. Walter Mitchell,
Ambassador Hotel, West
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Walter:

I am in receipt of your recent note with which you forwarded a postal card, together with a note written on a Western Union message form and the envelope in which it was mailed, both the postal card and the envelope being postmarked at New York, New York, May 25th, and bearing the return address [redacted]

[redacted] From examination, it appears that the postal card and note probably were written by the same individual.

b6
b7C

Appropriate investigation will be conducted to ascertain if there is involved in this matter any violation of Federal law under which this Bureau conducts investigation.

With best wishes and kind regards,

I am

Cordially,

Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Bingham _____
Chief Clerk _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Edwards _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Joseph _____
Mr. Keith _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. Quinn _____
Mr. Schilder _____
Mr. Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____



RECEIVED

JOHN EDGAR HOO
DIRECTOR

SPP:JM

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

June 17, 1936

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. EDWARDS.

Re: ~~Anonymous communications to
Walter Winchell. Bureau's
File #62-44025.~~

Reference is made to the memorandum of June 9, 1936 from the Director to the Technical Laboratory transmitting two communications recently received by Mr. Walter Winchell of the Daily Mirror, New York, New York. These specimens are listed as follows in the Laboratory's file:

62-44025-1

- A. Postal card postmarked "New York, New York, Station I, May 25, _____, 2:30 A. M."
- B. Western Union message form, beginning "Hell - Q U - Walter or Mark -".
- C. Envelope postmarked, "New York, _____, Station I, May 25, _____, 2:30 A. M."

These specimens have been compared with the various specimens in the anonymous letter file maintained in the Laboratory and with communications previously received by Mr. Winchell, but no identification has been effected.

[REDACTED] the examiner in this case, states that the phraseology of the communications indicates a possible connection with the postal card addressed to Mr. Winchell, postmarked May 6, 1936 and listed in the Laboratory's file as specimen 9-1805-1A. Attention is called to the rather incoherent nature of the instant communications as compared to the postal card previously received.

A photographic copy of this handwriting will be placed in the anonymous letter file.

Photographic copies of these specimens designated in the Laboratory's file as specimens 62-44025-1A, B and C are attached hereto.

Respectfully,

INDEXED

E. P. Coffey

E. P. Coffey

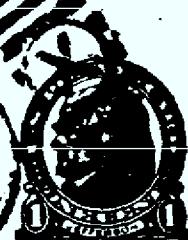
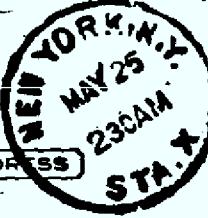
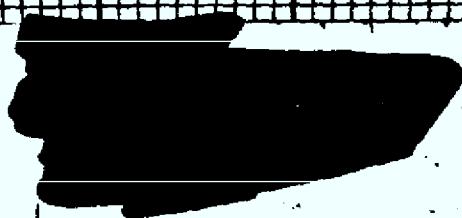
JUN 26 1936

62-44025-4

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED

14

Federal Bureau of Investigation U.S. Dept. of Justice - 62-44025 A.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

b-6
b7c

Mr. Mark S. Walter
N.Y. Daily Mirror
N.Y.C.

~~cc: F.B.I. Personal.
It is not for
any other
use.~~

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

Indicates desired class and rate of service.
Other than domestic messages will be
handled on a full-rate
basis if time permits.

R. M. WHITE

NEWPORT News-CHIEF,
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARDJ. G. WALKER
PRESIDENT

CHECK	
ACCTG INFO/M.	
TIME FILED	

TIME FILED	
------------	--

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, at the rates quoted to
W E S T E R N U N I O N

5/25/36 time 12 ⁴⁰₁₀ minutes

T.
Street and No. height - year am yellow a little RAT
Place So I believe you two chint killers

are - yes, I admit it, he was my blood
brother, don't you like it. If the gods
chosen people divorced him - now you
2 mugs do the same - yes, I believe you
will - if your paper isn't yellow
b6
b7c
Print this

Go see my sister at **[REDACTED]**

U - know No to **[REDACTED]**

Both

of you oh, I have a copy **[REDACTED]** to send

Sending address
for reference
THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND

IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE.

Sender's telephone
number

P.P.S. Both of V Birds Read
this.

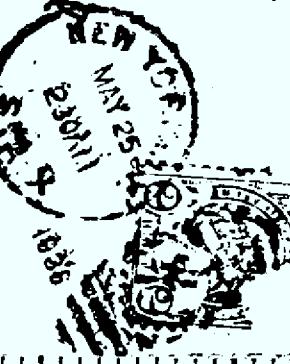
P.S. They were at the All Ireland Ball Room
Spoke friendly
argument. P.S. Catholic Boy just
Borrowed my mirror
likes Giants clew & Det
4 Boys 2 Girls in Sam's confectionery
Sam is closing. 12^o after midnite

Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Dept. of Justice - 62-44025-1 C.

PHONE

Return add. on back

b-6
b7C



Mrs. Walter Winchell
& Mark Hellinger
Daily Mirror
N.Y.C.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM NO. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY

N.Y. FILE NO. 9-218

REPORT MADE AT: NEW YORK CITY	DATE WHEN MADE: 6/25/36	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 6/15-17/36	REPORT MADE BY: [REDACTED]
TITLE: WALTER WINCHELL - Victim		CHARACTER OF CASE: EXTORTION	
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</p> <p>Wrote card to victim at stationery store of [REDACTED] New York City. [REDACTED] advised [REDACTED] home is in [REDACTED] On 6/25/36 [REDACTED] made ridiculous complaint to Police Hdqtrs., N.Y.C., and was committed to Bellevue Hospital for observation. Case diagnosed as manic depressive and manic psychosis. Transferred from Bellevue Hospital 6/5/36 to Manhattan State Hospital, Wards Island, New York, for treatment. Arrangements being made to return him to [REDACTED]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">C.</p>			
<p>REFERENCE: Bureau letter dated 6/9/36.</p>			
<p>DETAILS: The above reference letter with photographic enclosures reflects that subject had written nonsensical post card and letter on Western Union blank to WALTER WINCHELL and MARK NELLINGER of the Daily Mirror, New York. The number "M.H. 21006" appearing on the envelope was checked and found to be the telephone number of the New York Daily Mirror.</p>			
<p style="text-align: center;">DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>J.K. Whittier</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	62-44025-5 RECORDING AND INDEXING JUN 26 1936 CHECKED OFF JUL 14 1936 JACKETED	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO:		BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
2 - Bureau 1 - Atlanta (Information) 2 - New York		DEPARTMENT	FILE
COPIES DESTROYED 88 OCT 12		ROUTED TO	SEARCHED <i>JKW</i>

Winchell 7/13/36 JAS
Memorandum 7/19/36 JAS

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b-6
b7C
b7D

9-218.

The writer interviewed [REDACTED] New York, N.Y., at which address he conducts a soda and stationery store. [REDACTED] advised that he recalls that several weeks ago a young man entered his store at about midnight and sat at a table for about an hour that he purchased a postal card on which he wrote; that during the time he was writing on the card he was talking to himself, and [REDACTED] recalls that he mentioned something about the Daily Mirror and ABY GOREN, Editor of the Jewish Forward, a New York daily paper; that he also mentioned the name of ex-President Hoover. [REDACTED] stated that this man attempted to show him the card on which he had written, but that he [REDACTED] paid no attention to him as he believed he was crazy, judging from his actions. He advised that this was the first and last time that he had ever seen this man.

Agent interviewed [REDACTED] New York, N.Y., which address was the return address appearing on one of the cards. [REDACTED] stated that about three weeks ago a young man named [REDACTED] had stopped at her house for one night; that her husband met [REDACTED] through some friend, named [REDACTED] who formerly lived at [REDACTED] New York City. She advised that [REDACTED] who conducts a stationery store [REDACTED] near [REDACTED] New York City, could furnish [REDACTED] present address.

[REDACTED] further advised that [REDACTED] talked like a crazy man and that she had later heard that he was taken to Bellevue Hospital.

Agent interviewed [REDACTED] who advised [REDACTED] had stopped in his store on one or two occasions and had acted very peculiar; that he believed that he was mentally unbalanced. [REDACTED] furnished the present address of [REDACTED] as being [REDACTED] New York, N.Y.

[REDACTED] was interviewed by agent at [REDACTED] New York City. She advised that [REDACTED] formerly lived in [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] and her husband had known each other from childhood, as her husband originally came from [REDACTED]. She stated that about two years ago [REDACTED] met with an automobile accident and received a fractured skull and since that time he has been mentally unbalanced. She stated that he has been writing letters to various people, and that about three weeks ago the police had informed her that [REDACTED] had been taken to Bellevue Hospital for observation.

b-6
bx
b7D

9-218.

[REDACTED] identified the handwriting appearing on the card and letter addressed to victim as the handwriting of subject. She stated that her husband visited [REDACTED] at Bellevue Hospital and furnished the Hospital authorities with information as to the address of [REDACTED] relatives in [REDACTED]

The records reflect that on May 26, 1936, at 7:15 P.M., [REDACTED] called at Police Headquarters, New York City, and stated that the Western Union refused to accept a telegram which read as follows:

"Please send me 25 bills. Want to build a jail using me as the bottom."
whereupon he was taken to Bellevue Hospital by Police Officer [REDACTED] Badge No. [REDACTED] of the 5th Precinct, and was later committed for observation by Judge VALENTI. The records further reflect that subject's case was diagnosed as manic depressive and mania psychosative.

On June 2, 1936, [REDACTED] of Bellevue Hospital addressed a letter to subject's mother, [REDACTED]

advising her that subject was mentally sick and was presently confined at the Bellevue Hospital, but was to be transferred on June 5, 1936 to the Manhattan State Hospital, Wards Island, New York, for treatment. Inquiries at Manhattan State Hospital, Wards Island, New York, developed that arrangements were being made to send subject to his home in [REDACTED] but that no date had been set as yet for his departure.

Description of subject as obtained from the records of [REDACTED] is as follows:

Age:
Height:
Weight:
Eyes:
Hair:
Complexion:
Marital Status:
Born:

CLOSED

JAS:MC
62-44025-5

62-44025-5

July 3, 1936.

RECORDED

Mr. Walter Winchell,
Ambassador Hotel,
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Walter:

You will recall that by letter dated June 9, 1936, I acknowledged receipt of a certain postal card, together with a note written on a Western Union message form and the enclosing envelope, which had been forwarded by you. You will further recall that both the postal card and the envelope were postmarked at New York City, May 25th and bore the return address [REDACTED] and that the [REDACTED] was the [REDACTED] address of [REDACTED]

Investigation conducted in New York City has indicated that the communications received by you were written by [REDACTED] a young man twenty-three years of age who, on May 25, 1936, made a ridiculous complaint at Police Headquarters, New York City, and was thereafter committed to Bellevue Hospital for observation. His case was diagnosed as manic depressive and manic psychosis. Arrangements are being made to return him to [REDACTED]

Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Burroughman _____
Chief Clerk _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Edwards _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Forworth _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Joseph _____
Mr. Keith _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. Quinn _____
Mr. Schieber _____
Mr. Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____



22 89

It therefore appears that you will not
be further troubled by communications written by
this individual and that there is involved in
this matter no apparent violation of Federal law
under which this Bureau conducts investigation.

With best wishes and kind regards, I am

Cordially,

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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

JAS:MO
62-44025

July 3, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

Re: [REDACTED]
Walter Winchell, Victim; Extortion.

You will recall that on May 27, 1936, there was received from Mr. Walter Winchell a postal card postmarked at New York City, May 25th, which bore the return address [REDACTED] together with another communication written on a Western Union message form, dated May 25, 1936.

b-6
b7C
In the communications received Mr. Winchell was referred to in derogatory language.

Investigation recently conducted by the New York Office indicates that the communications mentioned were written by one [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] who was recently committed to Bellevue Hospital, New York City, for observation. His case was diagnosed as manic depressive and manic psychosis. Arrangements are being made to return [REDACTED] to [REDACTED]

Mr. Winchell is being accordingly advised.

Respectfully,

J. A. Smith Jr.
J. A. Smith, Jr.

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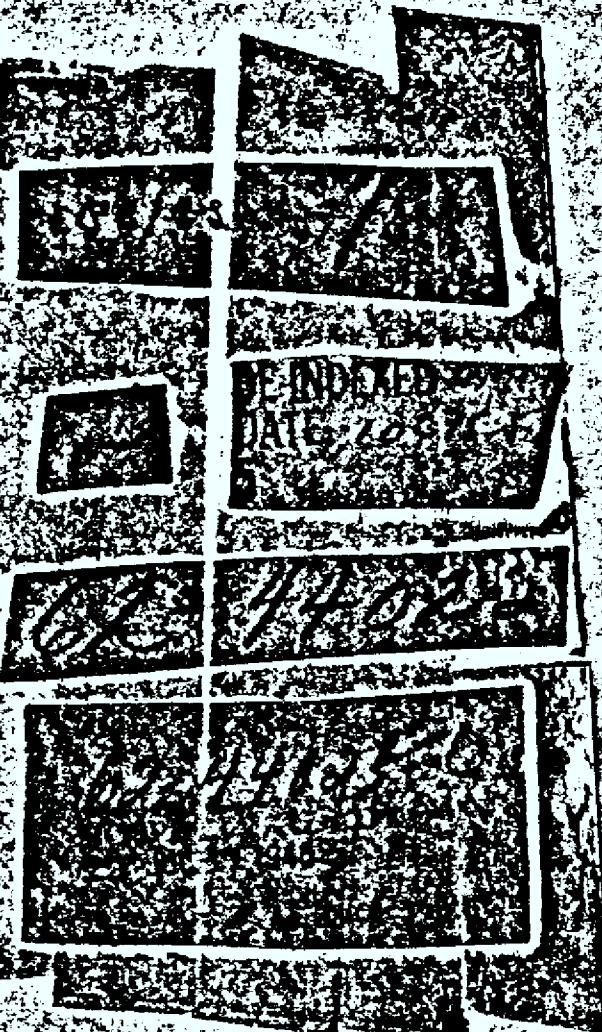
63 OCT 12 1964

RECORDED

JUL 13 1936

62-44025-5

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TAMM	24



ENCLOSURE



25

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

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

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

duplicate copies of serial 4

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- The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-44025-6

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4-528

62-44025-7
CHANGED TO
62-31615-738X

NOV 21 1963

Bui-Bau

C

27